

habits of life, he more readily falls into the vices of the white man than the Chinaman does. . . . He comes without wife or family, and on a passport which requires him to return within three years, for which he has to give bonds before leaving."

They Have Information.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I earnestly hope that it is quite clear, from the portion of their report that I have already read to this House, as I hope it will also be equally clear from the additional extracts taken from this report, that I propose to read, that, as far as the Dominion Parliament is concerned, they had the plainest possible knowledge from the report of the Commission which was appointed by themselves for the express purpose of looking into this subject, of how very dangerous this question of Japanese immigration really is, as far as the people of British Columbia are concerned, and consequently it is no longer in the power either of any member of this House or of any member of the Dominion Parliament to stand up in his place in public debate in the Legislative halls, and say that they were not told in the clearest and in the most unequivocal language by the people of British Columbia themselves, exactly how they felt upon this great and most vital question. (Cheers). I am able to show by our past legislation, and by the report of their own Commission, how very dangerous the question of Japanese immigration into this Province is, and having dwelt sufficiently on this part of the case, I will now proceed to read further from the Commission's report.

Mr. Chamberlain's Suggestion.

But before doing so, I will refer to the fact that the celebrated despatch of the Right. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, with reference to passing the "Natal Act," had been received by the authorities at Ottawa. That despatch suggested and, in fact, advised, that if the people of British Columbia were not satisfied with the immigration laws which existed at the time, the duty was thrown upon the Dominion Parliament, as this was well within their jurisdiction, of passing such a measure as the "Natal Act"; and if the right hon. gentleman's suggestion of passing an Act along the lines of the "Natal Act" had then been taken, it would undoubtedly have been allowed to become law in the Dominion of Canada. (Cheers.)

Recommend Dominion Act.

After referring in their report to this despatch, which had been sent to the Governor-General by the Right

Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, the Commissioners go on to say:

"The Commissioners desire to express their earnest hope that in the continuance of this friendly policy, legislation on the subject by the Canadian Government may be rendered unnecessary. Should, however, a change of policy be adopted in this regard by the Japanese Government, whereby Japanese laborers may again be permitted to emigrate to Canada, the welfare of the Province of British Columbia imperatively demands that effective measures be adopted to take the place of the inhibition now imposed by the Japanese Government. Your Commissioners recommend that in that event an Act be passed by the Dominion Government on the lines of what is known as the "Natal Act," made sufficiently stringent and effective to accomplish the desired result."

What Greater Mandate?

Now, Mr. Speaker, what greater mandate, as a matter of fact, could the Dominion Government have than the report which was laid before them by their own Commission, which had come to this Province, gone into the whole matter thoroughly, considered it from every conceivable point, and come to the conclusion that if Japan allowed more of its people to come to this Province, it was clearly the duty of Parliament to see that their report and the suggestions which it contained were carried into effect, namely, that the Dominion Parliament, not this Parliament, should apply the educational test of the "Natal Act," and make it the statutory law of this great Dominion? (Cheers.) And consequently it cannot be claimed by the political friends of Sir Wilfrid Laurier and of his Government in this House, that there exists any excuse whatever for the plea of ignorance upon this subject. For on several occasions, as is now perfectly clear, it has been pointed out, not only by this Legislature, but further, by the members of their own Commission, that there was only one possible way of dealing satisfactorily with this important question; and that was along the lines of the "Natal Act." (Cheers.)

But, sir, what do we find to be the case? We find, sir, that notwithstanding all the information that had been received on this subject, notwithstanding the Acts passed by this House, and notwithstanding the report of this Commission, we find, sir, that these same people, who still control the Liberal majority in the Dominion House, bringing down in the session of 1907 a treaty which plainly sets at open defiance, not only the solemnly expressed wishes of this Legislature as contained in Acts crystallized into