

Oriental Immigration.—The immigration to Canada of labourers belonging to the Asiatic races, able because of their low standard of living to underbid the white man in selling their labour, is fundamentally an economic rather than a racial problem, affecting most of all those portions of the country which are nearest to the East and the classes which feel their economic position threatened. As a result of the influx of Chinese into Canada, legislation was passed in 1885 (48-49 Vict., c. 71) providing that thereafter Chinese of the labouring class should be required as a condition of their entry into Canada to pay a head tax of \$50 each; on January 1, 1901 (63-64 Vict., c. 32), this amount was increased to \$100 and on January 1, 1904 (3 Edw. VII, c. 8) to \$500. This tax is paid by Chinese immigrants, with the exception of consular officers, merchants and clergymen and their families, tourists, men of science, students and teachers, a record showing the number of Chinese admitted who paid the tax, the number exempt from it, and the revenue realized being given by years from 1886 in Table 27. In recent years the number of Chinese immigrants entering Canada has been much reduced, owing to the operation of Orders in Council (renewed every six months from December 8, 1913, and replaced by an Order in Council of June 9, 1919) under which the landing in British Columbia of skilled and unskilled artisans and labourers is prohibited.

Japanese immigration to Canada was comparatively negligible prior to the Russo-Japanese war of 1904-5, but thereafter assumed considerable proportions, no fewer than 7,601 Japanese immigrants entering Canada, largely from Hawaii, in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1908, and settling mainly in British Columbia. In that year an agreement was made with the Japanese Government under which the latter undertook to limit the number of passports issued to Japanese emigrating to Canada, while the Canadian Government agreed to admit those possessing such passports, while prohibiting others from entering. The statistics of Table 28 show that in this way Japanese immigration has been effectively limited.

Hindoo immigration to Canada, like Japanese, is shown by the statistics of Table 28 to have been negligible down to 1907, when no fewer than 2,124 Hindoo immigrants arrived. However, as a consequence of the operation of section 38 of the Immigration Act of 1910, Hindoo immigration has since that date been comparatively small. A resolution of the Imperial War Conference of 1918 declared that "it is the inherent function of the Governments of the several communities of the British Commonwealth that each should enjoy complete control of the composition of its own population by means of restriction on immigration from any of the other communities." However, it was recommended that Indians already permanently domiciled in other British countries should be allowed to bring in their wives and minor children, a recommendation which was implemented, so far as Canada was concerned, by Order in Council of March 26, 1919. However, in the fiscal years ended March 31, 1921 and 1922, only 10 and 13 Hindoo immigrants respectively were admitted.