

Kong than San Francisco, it gives Canada an undeniable advantage, and again, Prince Rupert with a harbour equalled by few and surpassed by none in the North Pacific Ocean east or west (and I have visited all those of importance with the exception of Port Arthur and Vladivostock), Prince Rupert occupies the commanding position from the fact that the distance to the orient is 350 miles less than Vancouver, and nearly 1,000 miles less than San Francisco. Prince Rupert backed by the grain fields of Alberta and Saskatchewan equipped with elevators and terminal facilities is destined to command the trans-Pacific trade, irrespective of oriental restrictions.

It has, however, only taken a few months' experiment with this treaty to manifest the weakness of our position in so far as immigration is concerned, and it has been found necessary to send a plenipotentiary in the person of the Minister of Labour to Japan, with a view to more definite understanding. That our representative to Tokio will be firm, even to the verge of failure, is my hope for Canada at this time, thus leaving the government in a position to carry out their avowed policy of 1903, and I trust that legislation will be introduced this session with that in view. Canada should not and must not recede from the position that immigration to this country should be controlled from within and not dictated from without. Other self-governing colonies assume and maintain this position; that we, the connecting link, of British Dominions should do likewise is doubly imperative.

I notice in the recent press despatches from Tokio a statement credited to Baron Ishii, chief of the Bureau of Commerce of the Japanese Foreign office, who has just returned to Japan from a trip to the United States and Canada investigating the immigration problem. The essence of his statement is that Japan would bow with deference to the wishes of the United States and discontinue sending her labourers to that country, but would continue to send a limited number to Canada. If it be true that Japan has yielded to the wishes of the United States, disregarding the understanding with this government as expressed on the floor of this House, the position of Canada as a colony of Great Britain is indeed humiliating.

It has been charged that the whole question of oriental immigration was largely the result of labour agitators and labour unions. Speaking for myself the charge is absurd. The interest I have in this is a national interest. In my constituency I have not even a labour union, much less a labour agitator. I merely mention this matter of local interest to corroborate what I say. I have no sympathy with mob demonstration or mob violence. But I do sympathize with legitimate agitation, the recognized weapon of every free-born British sub-

Mr. SLOAN.

ject. Are we to stand idly by and see our Canadian national life degraded to the standard of a contract slave? Are we to saddle upon our offspring and the future generations of Canada the blighting prospect of everlasting competition with the outpourings of the Orient? Are we to allow our Dominion to be sacrificed to commercial and corporation greed or expediency? Why should we not agitate, agitate for the future of our country, agitate for a white Canada from the Atlantic to the Pacific?

It has been stated that this is a problem for the west. To that I must take exception. In my opinion it demands the highest consideration of statesmanship and diplomacy, both Colonial and Imperial. That this problem presents many difficulties no one can deny. Sir Wilfrid Laurier has solved many difficult problems with lasting advantages to Canada and the enrichment of his fame for statesmanship, and I trust that in this he will acquit himself also with dignity to his country and added honour to his name. This is not a question for the West, Mr. Speaker, it is for Canada and the Empire.

Mr. DUNCAN ROSS (Yale-Cariboo). Mr. Speaker, the problem of dealing with Asiatics is no new one; indeed, the question is as old as the sons of Noah. For many centuries, the people of Europe were threatened by what is popularly known as the Yellow Peril, and it was not until about five centuries ago that the ascendancy of the white man became clear and decisive. The Europeans went on voyages of discovery, and took possession of the vacant lands, and afterwards retained possession of those lands by a free use of gunpowder. As a writer in the 'Edinburgh Review,' points out:

The white man fails to realize that he has owed his ability to dictate terms to the men of other colours, far less to the mental superiority in which he prides himself, than to the restless spirit of dispute and inquiry, which led him from one discovery to another. The invention of gunpowder, about the same time, enabled the white man to obtain supremacy over his less fortunate neighbour, and that supremacy, although sometimes threatened, has been maintained until the present.

Under such conditions, a great disparity in the density of population, so far as the different races were concerned, was bound to come. 800,000,000 persons of the yellow races, occupy 7,000,000 square miles of the southern and eastern fringe of Asia. Of these 350,000,000 people, or over 20,000,000 square miles, are under white government. 600,000,000 persons of the white race occupy, to a greater or less extent, some 25,000,000 square miles in all parts of the earth; and control 13,000,000 or 14,000,000 more. In other words, the proportion in favour of the whites is about five to one.

Ambitious yellow men are determined to