

Montreal Daily Star, Dec. 22/32.

'Hon. C.H. Cahan, K.C., Secretary of State for Canada, who represented the Dominion at the Assembly of the League of Nations in Geneva, called to deal with the Sino-Japanese dispute over Manchuria, set forth Canada's views as follows:

"Mr. President, and gentlemen: as the delegate of one of the two North American States which are members of this Assembly, it is perhaps befitting that I should crave the indulgence of my fellow members while I presume to discuss certain of the grave issues with which we are now confronted.

"Owing to the distance now separating me from the seat of my Government and the difficulties in communicating fully to my Government, the views of the several delegates who have addressed this Assembly, the opinions which I am about to express are more or less personal, but nevertheless, I think they are opinions in which my Government will concur.

"It seems to me that the institution and maintenance by the Chinese Government or with its passive approval of attempts at intimidation against the citizens of any state which is a party to that treaty or any attempt by unilateral action to abrogate or diminish the treaty rights of any other state in or in respect of China, must be regarded as a grave infringement by China of the existing rights of other states and manifestly provocative of emergency action by such other state for the purpose of protecting such rights. In our law, we affirm as an invariable maxim of good conduct that he who seeks equity must first do equity.

"But even if the Japanese Government felt impelled to deal suddenly and temporarily with similar conditions in a great emergency, it would now be impossible to justify the development, out of its own emergent action, of a permanent occupation of any part of a neighboring State, or the permanent extension of its own territorial rights therein.

"It seems to me that this Assembly may not wholly disregard the emphatic statement made at the opening of this discussion by M. Matsuoka the delegate of Japan, that the Japanese Government has not at any time allowed itself to be connected with the independence movement in Manchuria, that it did not then and does not now want Manchuria, but that it only desires the preservation of its rights and interest therein.

"In applying Article X. to the present issue care must therefore be taken not to establish a precedent which in the future may be deemed to exceed the terms of this Article as already construed by competent authority. In attempting a solution of these very difficult and delicate problems it appears to my Government desirable that the Assembly should first exhaust the possibilities of conciliatory settlement under Paragraph 3 of Article XVI. Any discussion of sanctions or actions against a party unwilling to accept settlement would be out of place at this stage of our proceedings.

"These principles embodied in the Lytton Report appear to constitute the framework of a permanent settlement. Their detailed application would depend upon the development of the situation, but on the whole the recommendations made in this report appear useful and reasonable.

"It appears to my Government very desirable as a life-long friend of Japan, that the Government of that country should not take up