

markets to our prosperity. Japan is even more dependent on external trade than we are for unlike us she must import a high percentage of her foodstuffs, as well as most of the essential raw materials to maintain her industries. Our foreign trade is vital but we could maintain life, granted at a low standard, without it. The Japanese cannot. Deprived of trade many of the islands' 83,000,000 population would be condemned to death by starvation.

Japan has in the past been a good customer of Canada and most of her purchases have either been British Columbia products or were shipped from British Columbia ports. Last year that nation was our fourth best customer and purchased almost \$73,000,000 worth of Canadian goods. Provided that Japan can maintain a supply of dollars to make future purchases there is no reason why that trade should not continue to increase, for Japan needs the products of our mines, our forests and our grain fields to keep her industries rolling and her people fed.

Part of Japan's ability to maintain her purchases from us will depend on our willingness to buy from her now that her source of dollars gained from American occupation forces will be reduced.

In connection with our import trade with Japan, there have been suggestions in Canada recently that Japan is threatening to flood our markets with cheap goods. While Japan in the past has been accused of unfair trade practices such as dumping, there is good reason for believing that this will not be the case in the future. The preamble to the Peace Treaty which was ratified overwhelmingly by the Japanese Diet, states that it is Japan's intention "in public and private trade and commerce to conform to internationally accepted fair practices". If Japan adheres to that undertaking, I am sure that Canada will not wish to place obstacles in the way of Japanese trade.

A particular matter which we are interested in, in relation to Japan, and which those who live in British Columbia are vitally concerned about is the fisheries problem.

Canada, the United States and Japan have negotiated a Convention for the High Seas Fisheries on the North Pacific Ocean. In that Convention we have, we hope, worked out a scheme whereby certain types of fish-salmon, halibut, herring - which mean so much to the livelihood of many people who live in British Columbia will not be taken by the Japanese in the Eastern Pacific near Canadian shores. Our Marine and Fisheries Committee in the House of Commons has unanimously recommended that the House approve the Convention and we propose to submit this legislation to Parliament at its next session.

We Canadians maintain that we want to see a better standard of living for the masses of Asia and yet the protectionists among us, and they still exist, cry that we will be ruined by the competition of "cheap foreign goods" on our domestic markets, although, of course, to them, cheap foreign raw materials are quite another matter. I tell you that if we really want to see the Japanese people and the people of India, Ceylon and Pakistan and the other countries of Southeast Asia, improve their standard of living then we must be prepared to buy our