

into this country, or to bring in skilled labour of any kind, unless these contracts are authorized and supervised by responsible officers of the government. I hope the government will give some consideration to that opinion. These contracts do not constitute a voluntary agreement between free and independent men, but between an irresponsible company and corporate wealth in Canada. I do not think that any financial company ought to be authorized to bring in servile labour to Canada. Who compose the Wellington Coal Company? The Wellington Coal Company is presided over by Mr. Dunsmuir, the present Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia. I am not associating that position with the company, I am simply stating that the Dunsmuirs were the principal owners of this enterprise. Now the Wellington Coal Company has been enormously subsidized company for the purpose of building a railway from Victoria to Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. It has received a cash subsidy of \$750,000, and 1,900,000 acres of land, free for ever from taxation. The Wellington Coal Company entered into negotiations with certain Japanese who were at the head of an organization called the Canadian Nippon Supply Company, to bring in 500 Japanese labourers to work in the coal mines.

Now, Mr. Speaker, I want to say that while there is an intense feeling in British Columbia against the coming in of Japanese, there is a special objection to the employment of Japanese in coal mines. Every piece of restrictive legislation in the provincial legislature has been particularly directed against the employment of orientals in coal mines. No man who knows anything about coal mining can be ignorant of the cause of this legislation. Twenty years ago there were many serious disasters in the coal mines on Vancouver Island, which were traceable to the employment of orientals. The Wellington Coal Company and the Nanaimo Coal Company came together twenty years ago and made an agreement that they would never again employ orientals in their mines. But here is a contract made to bring in 500 orientals, for five years, to pay their wages over to this Canadian Nippon Supply Company, who will in turn pay them over to the labourers. Here are conditions in this contract making the company responsible for consequences if the white men strike against any unfavourable conditions the contractors must be responsible for keeping the Japanese at work, thereby bringing Japanese labour directly into competition with white labour. Then the Canadian Pacific Railway Company made the same contract for the same period, to bring in 2,000 Japanese. I want to say that I am entirely opposed to the possibility of such contracts being made in this country, under any circumstances, or unless, as I have already said, they are entirely supervised by

the government. I think also that this principle should apply to the contracts regarding all kinds of labour. I hope the government, in framing their immigration policy will exercise more discrimination in allowing immigrants to come into this country under contract. I think legislation should be immediately passed forbidding the making of contracts in Canada to bring in labour from other countries.

Now, I will come back to the treaty. The British treaty was ratified by this parliament because it was thought it would be in the commercial interest of this country. It was not a question between Liberals and Conservatives, every member in this House agreed that it was a treaty commercially in the interest of Canada, and was likely to develop trade connection with Japan. It has been said, my hon. friend the leader of the opposition said in Victoria, that the British Columbia members said nothing about it, that the hon. member for New Westminster (Mr. Kennedy) was the only man who said anything about it. My explanation has been given that we were acting under an agreement with Japan at that time and the treaty was endorsed by us on that understanding. I was as anxious as any member of this House to make arrangements whereby trade between this country and Japan could be fostered and increased, because I thought it was in the interest of the Pacific coast. I do not fear the result; I am prepared to meet the political effects of that assertion. I say that if the full development of British Columbia is to take place, we must have a share of oriental trade. The prosperity of that country, the development of its trade, require a market in the orient. Canada as well as the United States have goods that we are anxious to send to the orientals, and they have goods that we desire to purchase. What we need is a treaty which, while securing to both countries the benefits of commerce, will give each country reciprocal protection in regard to the immigration from one country to another if we cannot make such an arrangement then we must abandon oriental trade relations. I do not see, how, by diplomacy, a principle like that cannot be developed and worked out. Now, Sir, the trade with Japan, in my opinion, is tremendously important, and I have gone to the trouble of making a statement or two about it.

Exports to Japan.

	1897.	1906.
United States	\$13,000,000	\$35,000,000
Canada	65,000	500,000

The total increase of the export trade of the United States in ten years was \$22,000,000 while the total increase in the export trade of Canada for ten years was \$435,000. The export of Canadian goods to Japan is on the increase for in 1905 Cana-