

there like brute beasts, slaves of the most greedy and heartless of corporations, and then to say, This is sufficient evidence that these are people not fit to be admitted to our country much less to become citizens, and to make of this case a sufficient cause for condemning four hundred millions of the inhabitants of China—I say, to do this is the height of folly and injustice.

The following item is from to-day's paper:

“ CHINA, IN FAMINE, ASKS AID.

“ GOVERNMENT WILL APPEAL FOR \$1,250,000 TO RELIEVE STARVATION.

“ Victoria, B.C., Dec. 28.—Advices by the steamship *Tosu Maru* say that China has decided to appeal to Europe and the United States for \$1,250,000 for relief of famine sufferers in Central China, where 10,000,000 Chinese are facing starvation this winter.

“ The famine threatens to equal the appalling one of thirty years ago which destroyed hundreds of thousands of people. From one point the outlook is worse than then, as the districts are now more thickly populated.”

No doubt Canada will be asked to assist, and no doubt she will readily grant a sum of money for such a worthy purpose. But, let me ask, could we not go further—could we not say to these starving millions, or to some of them, “ Come over to our great Far West, and there you will find work in plenty and sustenance in plenty for twenty—fifty—one hundred thousand men who are willing to work.”

In view of the wants of the great railway systems under construction, on the one hand, and the starving millions on the other, who are crying to strangers for help, would it not be the most natural and reasonable thing to do? Would it not also be the true, sane policy under the circumstances?

If I were to ask General Sir W. F. Butler to-day for his opinion of what the true policy of the Government of British Columbia would be, as well as that of the Government at Ottawa, on this subject, I am almost certain that he would reply: “ Let British Columbia open her doors, reach out across the Pacific Ocean and shake hands with Japan and with China. Let trade and commerce be encouraged to the fullest extent between us. Let meaningless social barriers be thrown down. Let prejudice of