

*Supply—External Affairs*

o'clock and cross the road to a Japanese school where they learn the language, and the culture they call it, but they mean loyalty to the Japanese emperor whom, as you know, they worship as their god. We asked this man about this thing. Some of the younger Japanese there had rather soft pedalled on it, said there was not much of that schooling going on now, and I asked this older man, who had been out of the country for some time, what he thought about it. He said there had been a suggestion made among some of the older men to do away with this dual school business because they felt that it excited indignation among the whites, and he said—it is on record—that “we the older ones thought of doing away with it, but the younger ones, the second generation, were against it; they wanted to keep on their association with the old country.”

Then I asked him about this system of two nationalities at once. They can get naturalized here, and at that time, some years ago, they still remained Japanese. Those who were born here in Canada had to register with the Japanese consul and they could go back to Japan and still be Japanese. We made so much talk about it that they introduced a rule that under certain conditions and by getting the consent of the Japanese government a Jap could actually get naturalized here and really alienate himself from Japan, but it was on one or two conditions. One was that he had done his military service—and when they have done that they have pretty well got him. Also, if he went back to Japan for a certain period, it may have been three months—no, it was less than that—if he stayed there for that period he actually became a Jap again. I said, “This is kind of convenient, isn't it, having two nationalities?” He said, “Yes, it is quite handy.”

I have here an extract from the House of Commons debates in the old country. It is always held up to us that we must not take any definite stand against the Japanese for fear they might not like it and it might cause embarrassment to the old country. But this is what took place in the British house on October 10, 1940. A man named Mander asked the under-secretary of state for foreign affairs—

—whether, in view of the approval recently given by the United States government for the export of cargoes up to one million barrels of oil to Japan he will consider the advisability of making representations to the American government for concurrent action between the British and American governments to prevent the further supply of oil to Japan.

The under-secretary of state for foreign affairs, Mr. Butler, said:

[Mr. Neill.]

His majesty's government understand that the prohibition placed by the United States government on the export of oil relates only to certain grades. They are and have been in touch with the United States government on this matter.

Mr. Mander: May I take it that both governments are determined to refrain from supplying to Japan everything that they possibly can which is of a warlike nature?

And someone else said:

Can my right hon. friend assure us that the same sentimental policy which was adopted towards Italy will not be repeated in the case of Japan?

And Mr. Butler replied:

His majesty's government can be relied upon to adopt the best policy as each circumstance arises.

There was more of the same thing. But they have no hesitation in speaking quite frankly in the British house regarding the Japanese situation, and I do not think we should be so afraid of doing it here. It is generally found, when we have spoken up, so to speak, that it has had a favourable repercussion.

I must join with the other members from British Columbia, with the single exception of the hon. member for Vancouver East, and say that I am absolutely convinced that those hon. members have voiced the sentiments of the great bulk of the people of British Columbia. That is what we are here for. They talk about its being a political question; the Japs have no votes, but the white people are absolutely opposed to giving further concessions. We are all pledged to that. Take a bold stand and it will stand us in good stead not only with the Japanese but with every native race in the world.

Mr. MacINNIS: I do not wish to prolong this discussion. The last part of it is a sad commentary on itself. I am wondering what we are fighting for in Europe to-day. The hon. member for Fraser valley and the hon. member for Comox-Alberni stated that the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation lost votes in British Columbia because of the position we took with regard to orientals. I never asked anyone to vote for me because of my racial prejudices. I would not appeal to anyone for his franchise on his racial prejudices. I have not the least doubt that before Hitler got his people into the reichstag, many of them got there by demonstrating their hatred of the Jews on the public platform. Our friends from British Columbia are doing that to-day. They say that we are losing and have lost ground. As a matter of fact, at the last federal elections in British Columbia we polled more votes than ever we did before. Let me tell my hon. friends this, that after I brought the oriental situa-