

*Supply—External Affairs*

manner in which he pronounced his policy, because there was rather too much qualification in what he said. However, we shall see tomorrow what he actually said, and in the meantime I want to make it clear beyond the shadow of a doubt that what British Columbia wishes is to get rid of the Japs, dead or alive.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Now that my hon. friend is speaking on this question, I think this is an opportune moment to clear up exactly what I meant by stating that there should be consideration, in any policies we may have, of the policies of the United States. These are the exact words I used:

Moreover, we shall attempt in so far as it seems desirable to maintain a policy that can in a sense be considered as part of a continental policy in handling the Japanese problem. The situation in the United States is in all essentials the same as our own—

I believe I interrupted there and said, in most essentials.

—and to the extent which seems desirable we shall endeavour to ensure that our policy takes account of the policies which are being applied south of the border. There is no need for an identity of policy, but I believe there is merit in maintaining a substantial consistency of treatment in the two countries.

I stand by every word of that, because I feel that in relations with the orient this country cannot afford to do anything other than carefully to study the implications of policies in the United States towards the orient. Sooner or later their policies in relation to ours are going to affect, for better and for worse, the relations between our part of this continent and the orient, and the United States and the orient. What I have in mind is this: We have all in international affairs to take a long range view. I, for one, will say that I believe it will not be long after the war is over before the business community of this country, the manufacturers of this country and the producers of this country, will be anxious to secure all the markets that they can possibly get, and the markets in the orient will be among the markets that they will be seeking. I think that very few of them will hesitate to make sales in some parts of the Japanese empire, or what may be left of it, if there is possibility of securing a market. One thing I am perfectly sure of is that the Americans are not going to hesitate to seek to get into all the markets of the orient and to establish themselves firmly there. I believe a government that did not recognize that it was most important to see that we are, at least, as fair and reasonable in our treatment of the nationals of an enemy

[Mr. Neill.]

country as the very powerful country to the south may be, would not be taking the view that was in the national interest of Canada.

That is what I mean by saying that I feel that when the day comes that another effort will be made to bind up the wounds of the nations of the world, in establishing a new world order, we should be careful to see that meanwhile we have not taken positions which will not be forgotten even by our enemies.

Mr. NEILL: I might just say one word to that. I think the time for that logic is past. It is exactly twenty years this month, I think, since the United States passed a law prohibiting entirely the immigration of Japanese into that country. We did have and still have a limited immigration law allowing so many to come in. The same argument was used twenty years ago as is being used to-night that we could not afford to antagonize and lose the chance of getting the trade of the orient because, if we did, the United States would reap at our expense. The United States did take their courage in their hands and cut immigration right off. They said, "No more immigration". I remember using that argument to the Prime Minister in urging that we should do the same thing, that that was our opportunity and that it would make no difference. Time proved the truth of it. We did not get any more business because we allowed a certain amount of immigration. They did not cut off and boycott the United States on account of their action. Trade will go where it is most profitable. You may not like the kind of boots or the colour of the hair of the man in the grocery store at the corner, but you will go down there and buy rather than walk ten blocks farther down the street, particularly if the price is right. Trade will always follow that policy. Have we not been relying too much on that trade idea and thereby sacrificing our traditions of the white man and so forth, all for the fear of losing some trade? As I say, trade will go where it is profitable to go. Are we going to win a bloody war and then sit down and lose the peace by fighting for markets here or there? I am grieved indeed to hear the Prime Minister take the attitude he has to-night. I think the time has gone past for that.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: May I remind my hon. friend, if I wished to follow him in the matter of logic, that when their time for war came the Japanese declared war against the United States; they did not declare war against Canada until after this country was at war with them.