

out delay as far as Canada's part therein is concerned. We also think we are right in asking that what is known as the Lemieux agreement, a more or less secret arrangement regarding immigration from Japan to this country, be denounced as well. We believe that an open, above-board agreement excluding absolutely from our shores all the labouring classes from that country is the only remedy that can be satisfactorily applied. That is the spirit and the intention of this resolution.

No one who has given any attention to it can begin to speak about this subject at all without a thousand different aspects of it surging into his mind, and if he gave free rein to his thoughts he could discourse upon it to an almost unlimited extent. But recognizing that many speakers have preceded me and that many are still to follow, I have no intention of speaking at any further length. I can only add that in my humble judgment it is not too much to say that the future of this country depends to a very large degree upon the fate of this resolution to-night.

Mr. E. A. MUNRO (Fraser Valley): Like other members who have spoken on this subject, I also consider it the most important that has engaged the attention of this House so far this session or that may engage it in the future.

The question involved means to the people of British Columbia in particular, and to the people of Canada in general, their right to develop the highest type of manhood and womanhood with a great national destiny after the best traditions of the British race in their own country. These rights, Mr. Speaker, no one will dare to challenge, nor will a Briton ever dare to forfeit.

It has often been said that Great Britain is generous to a fault. Modern history furnishes us with some examples in our own country where this generosity has worked a hardship on some of the members of this great confederacy. We have performed the filial duty of self-abnegation with more or less grace for the good of the Mother Country. When one considers the length, strength and alacrity of the British arm of justice in succouring even a single British subject from danger or distress, or demanding full restitution for foul play, we must confess after all that the seeming injustices done have been accompanied with the best intentions, and have grown out of her multiplicity of cares and her non-acquaintance with the peculiarities of the case rather than of maternal neglect.

The position in which we find ourselves in British Columbia with respect to orientals has grown out of lack of knowledge of the real conditions there on the part of the Mother Country, and also on the part of Canadians generally. No sane Canadian knowing, as we British Columbia men know, by actual observation and experience, could be cold or indifferent, as we see day by day, year by year, one industry after another, one farm after another, one locality after another, change ownership, character and colour from white to yellow.

A councillor in our country told me last fall how the Japanese acquire land and cultivate it. He said that if a Japanese is able to buy five acres of land, he can send to Japan and get a man to come over to this country under contract for two years at a wage of only fifteen or eighteen dollars per month—I have forgotten the exact amount. Each man is employed during those two years on a berry farm. A great many Japanese run small fruit farms in the province, and during the summer months their men under contract work on these farms, and in the fall they go into the mills and take away the jobs of white men, drawing down good pay. Next summer those contract men are back on the berry ranch again, and at the end of two years they have learned the berry industry and are in very good shape to start themselves. If a Japanese owns ten acres he gets two men under similar terms.

It is not necessary for me to repeat the reasons why we will not and cannot meet oriental competition, or why we cannot assimilate the oriental, more than to say that it is largely a matter of rights and standards. Rights are measured by certain standards, and the higher the civilization the higher the standards. We in this country recognize a standard of decent living conditions; we recognize a standard working day of so many hours for so much pay; we recognize a standard of individual obligation to the community and the state; we recognize a standard of education; we recognize a standard of morality based on the Ten Commandments. How many of these standards do the orientals we get conform to? Not one. Where are the men and women in Canada who are prepared to live and raise their children under any other standards? These standards cannot be maintained and are not being maintained where orientals dwell in sufficient numbers.

This Parliament is on a hill almost three thousand miles away from British Col-