

Quebec and Ontario, whose waters flow into Hudson Bay, or roughly approximating the area of the ancient Laurentian plateau and all of Canada west of Hudson Bay, I made a study of the prevailing climatic conditions and the nature of the soil—first from my own personal observations extended through several thousands of miles of travel through the Canadian sub-Arctic beyond the frontier, and supplemented by a consideration of all the authentic sources of information known to me from travellers, traders, Hudson Bay employees and North-West Mounted Policemen, together with the principal libraries of Great Britain and Canada, and the Congressional Library at Washington D.C., but more than all else from the records of the splendid corps of scientists and experts operating under the auspices of the Canadian Geological Survey—I have come to the deliberate conclusion that Canada, north and west, as I have described it, contains an area of arable land, reckoned on a wheat-growing basis, with a wheat climate, which will fall not far under an area twice as large as that which furnishes all the wheat grown in the world to-day.

There are other cereals which may be grown several degrees further north than wheat, and the root crops may be grown still further north, so that the agricultural possibilities of the great Dominion are by no means confined to this area of arable land of something like five hundred million acres.

A very large proportion of this vast domain is entirely empty and wholly undeveloped, and some of it unexplored. The question for the British people to decide—and it must be decided pretty soon, and I take it this Institute will have much to say in the decision—is whether this last great opportunity of the Anglo-Saxon race shall be occupied by an Anglo-Saxon civilisation, or be overrun with the hordes of alien and unassimilable peoples. The problem of the white or yellow occupation of Western Canada is both a local and Imperial question. In its local aspect in British Columbia it is a vital one, for we are now face to face with the possibility of being completely overwhelmed by the innumerable surpluses of Asia's billion of people, which more and more, with their own awakening powers and ambitions and knowledge of the wealth to be acquired abroad and, incidentally, starvation to be avoided at home, are bound to pour out in increasing numbers to encroach upon the empty places of the earth. It is rather an easy matter for the unthinking to settle off-hand those questions which grow out of the alien occupation of some part of the Empire, six thousand miles away from the seat of government, but when everything else has been said one fundamental principle remains, and must remain as the basis of every political arrangement, and that is that the people of any part of the Empire—such as British Columbia, or South Africa, or Australia—will have to settle the matter as to who shall and who shall not be admitted to share the riches and blessings of their home domain, and that on the basis of the indisputable right of self-defence. Those people must decide what races shall be admitted within their gates who have got to live with them. This is a fundamental proposition.

Therefore I say that we in British Columbia have determined that so far as we can accomplish it the Pacific Ocean must be a white man's ocean. The Western Hemisphere must be a white man's hemisphere. Let Asia have Asia—indeed, Asia has Asia—but we propose to keep Australasia and the Americas white from Vancouver to Melbourne, from the Horn to the Arctic Archipelago. We shall see to it that the shores of the New Pacific shall be at least half white, and that the islands and continents which lie within her immeasurable waters shall be kept as white as possible. We shall show that the civilisation we have given to the world is one we believe in, and we shall see that it does not yield to the ideals of the yellow man.