

ed? Why, with precipitate haste, with unseemly haste, the Ottawa Government went into this treaty with Japan, and in January, 1907, the treaty was ratified by Parliament without this saving clause. By the first of October, 8,125 Japanese had landed upon our shores—twenty times the increase of the white population. If that ratio was to continue, in ten years the population of this fair province of British Columbia would be three parts Asiatics and one part whites. (All Japs.)

Then, on 7th September, last year, we had the anti-Asiatic riots. The Ottawa Government professed to get busy, and they sent Mr. Lemieux over to Japan, to drink Japan's tea and wine, and to get a most marvellous letter from Count Hayashi. (Laughter.) That letter was most interesting. He came back telling us that he had secured a *modus vivendi*, as he called it, but, with a little change in the wording I would call it a *modus moriendi*, a 'mode of death' for Canada. (Laughter.) He thought it would be interesting to read this letter which the Laurier Government valued so much and treasured so highly from Count Hayashi. Here it is. It is dated at Tokyo, 23rd December, 1907, and says:

'In reply to your note of even date, I have the honor to state that although the existing treaty between Japan and Canada absolutely guarantees to Japanese subjects full liberty to enter, travel and reside in any part of the Dominion of Canada.' (Cries of boo.)

Yes, gentlemen, according to this *modus vivendi*, thirty millions of Japs have full liberty to come over here and live in British Columbia. (Shame.) And that notwithstanding the Immigration Act. This Laurier Government, these friends of labor, these leaders of Mr. McInnes, have not only a treaty with Japan, but also an immigration act. By that act a deaf Englishman coming from England will not be permitted to land in Canada. But by that treaty a deaf Japanese has full right and liberty to land in Canada. By that act a diseased Englishman coming to Canada will not be allowed to land. By that treaty a Japanese, although afflicted with the most loathsome disease, has full right to enter, travel and reside in Canada. By that act an English pauper must stay out of Canada, and every English immigrant coming into Canada must have fifty dollars in his pocket as a guarantee against his becoming a public charge. By the treaty Japanese paupers, without money and without price, are invited to enter

Canada. Worse still, while English criminals are by that act forbidden entry to Canada, the Japanese criminal, on the other hand, finds that this much lauded treaty of Sir Wilfrid's is the open sesame, is the charm which opens the fertile plains of British Columbia to him.

That is the position of the Laurier Government. You have a perfect right to ask what is the position of Mr. Borden on this question, and if I cannot point out to you that his position is in harmony with the best interests of British Columbia you have a perfect right on the 26th of October to register your vote against me.

On the 23rd of September of last year Mr. Borden appeared on the public platform in this city and said:

'The Conservative party which brought this splendid province into our great Confederation will ever maintain one supreme consideration to which all material considerations must give way; and it is this: British Columbia must remain a British and Canadian province inhabited and dominated by men in whose veins runs the blood of those great pioneering races which built up not only Western Canada but Eastern Canada; and while we recognise our duty to the great empire whose flag shall float always above us, we respectfully and loyally maintain that Canada, in a matter so vital and essential as this, must be accorded a freedom of judgment as perfect and unfettered as that exercised, not only by the other self-governing communities within the empire, but by Great Britain herself.' (Cheers.)

That was Mr. Borden's position.

A voice: "What did Mr. Borden do about the treaty?"

Mr. Cowan: "I will be glad to answer that. Mr. Borden, when the treaty was taken up by Canada, drew attention to the fact that his party, in 1895, required that Canada should retain to herself the right to keep out Japanese laborers and artisans, and in that, I think, he was right. (Cheers.) He has been hectoring and badgered and reproached for coming out to British Columbia—"

A voice: "Did he vote against the ratification?"

Mr. Cowan: "Let me answer that. There are so many things one might miss, if questions were not asked. I don't want to be misunderstood. I will not mislead any man to my knowledge. When the treaty came up for ratification in January, 1907, Mr. Borden said: This treaty does not retain to Canada