

JAPANESE

"The Japanese"—Not a Question of Race Prejudice—Simply Matter of Rights—Future Effect the Vital Problem Now.

The Oriental immigration problem is one of vital importance to Canada, not because of any racial pride or sentiment which may exist, but because the problem as to which is to be the dominating race on the North Pacific Coast of this continent, Oriental or Occidental, is one which must be solved. That it will be solved, is not to be questioned, but when and how? If met fairly now, it can be settled amicably, but if allowed to drift, it will become a subject of bitter and bloody strife at some future date.

The problem, while in some respects complicated (of which we will speak later) is comparatively simple, for, in its final analysis, it is simply a question of "right." Which race has a prior right to dominate the destiny of this country—Oriental or Occidental? Which race, according to the general rules followed in such cases, has the inherent right to govern and to possess? We repeat, that, at the present time, this question is so simple that it appears almost like folly to propound it; at once the answer is given—the Occidental, of course.

Some individual pedantic souls may dispute such a claim on the grounds that we are not the original race, etc., etc.; but we have neither time nor inclination to enter into academic arguments over theories, so vague and remote from the realm of practical politics. This is a problem intensely practical and imminent. At this present moment, it is seriously affecting the national life, and also the social and industrial future of the country.

In the term "Oriental" we must include Hindoo, Chinese and Japanese. It is our intention to treat them separately. This article will be devoted largely to Japanese immigration, reserving for future articles the other two. There is a tendency among some Anglo-Saxons to treat the Japanese as an inferior race and to patronize them; viewing their presence in the country as a picturesque element, simply another dash of variety to our already cosmopolitan population. Oth-