

Foreign Policy

cated as children can be by being given a toy as a means of getting them to think of something else.

British Columbia wants legislation to exclude Japanese. Vancouver is the third biggest city in Canada; probably one-quarter of the population of British Columbia is centred there. Well, did we not find the city council, composed of all varieties of political opinion, passing unanimously a strong and vigorous resolution, containing half a dozen whereases and concluding with the declaration, "We want the total exclusion of orientals from British Columbia?" That is what the city of Vancouver wants, and no eloquence from the Minister of National Defence, who is far more able than I am to smooth over these difficulties and troubles, will alter that bed-rock fact.

SUPPLY

FOREIGN POLICY—STATEMENT OF MR. MACKENZIE KING ON MOTION OF MINISTER OF FINANCE

The house resumed consideration of the motion of Mr. Dunning for committee of supply.

Right Hon. R. B. BENNETT (Leader of the Opposition): At six o'clock I was referring to the Lytton report as indicating the reason why I found it so difficult to follow certain aspects of the attitude of the government with respect to the present situation in China and Japan. It will be recalled that that report was made to the League of Nations and that after very careful investigation by a well qualified committee it was found that the action taken in Manchukuo by Japan was wholly unwarranted and was unprovoked. The effect was that in the end Japan left the League of Nations. Therefore we still continue to be a member of the League of Nations. Our signature still remains upon the Kellogg-Briand pact. Our signature still remains upon the Washington nine-power treaty, and we adopted the Lytton report, whereupon, as I say, Japan withdraws. And that country, which has dishonoured its obligation and its signature in the manner I have indicated, is bold enough to send to this country an emissary who a few days after he arrives makes a statement which is a far more offensive observation than that made by Sackville-West which resulted in his recall from Washington. I mention that because frankly I cannot understand it.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Perhaps my right hon. friend will allow me to say a word?

[Mr. Neill.]

Mr. BENNETT: Certainly.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: When my right hon. friend was speaking earlier in the evening, and took exception to the government's attitude, I was not aware whether he was referring to what I said in speaking on external affairs, or whether it was to what I had said in reply to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre (Mr. Woodsworth) this afternoon. I gather it is what I said in reply to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre.

Mr. BENNETT: It was not so much a question of reply, as the language itself.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: Well, what I want to make clear at the moment, and to have the house understand, is that my right hon. friend is not taking exception to what, in speaking on external affairs, I said in relation to the Sino-Japanese war, but rather to the remark I made or something I failed to say in reply to the hon. member for Winnipeg North Centre on the orders of the day. May I say at once that when the hon. member asked the question he did of me I had not seen, nor had my attention been drawn to the statement made by the Japanese minister. That was why I asked my hon. friend what statement it was he alluded to. He said he was referring to the Japanese minister having said he agreed with the statement I had made in this house, a statement of policy. I am prepared to stand by any statement of policy I have made in this house as to the attitude we should assume towards other countries.

Mr. WOODSWORTH: My criticism was not with regard to the Prime Minister's statement of policy, but rather that the Japanese minister had commented on what had been said in a debate in this house.

Mr. MACKENZIE KING: I was trying to find the particular point to which reference was made. However, I have since obtained the reported statement of the minister from Japan. It appears in the press as follows:

Baron Tomii, who is accompanied by his wife and eight year old daughter, expressed appreciation of a recent utterance of Prime Minister Mackenzie King with regard to the Sino-Japanese conflict.

"I don't remember the exact words, but they were to the effect that Canadian people should be very careful in making remarks concerning the hostilities now going on in China," said the Baron. "I do realize how difficult it would be for people living thousands of miles away to understand fully the situation that exists in the far east."