

northern Australia, capable of so much, but actually and comparatively producing so little. I know the bravery of the Australians. I know they would do their utmost to resist the invaders. Let them, however, face facts with unblinking eyes and recognise that with their limited population, their scant armaments, and all their valour, they could not drive out the Japanese from the northern territories.

At present the natural increase of the population of Japan is 700,000 a year. The natural increase of Australia is 65,000 a year. Instead of resisting the coming of Asiatics by fighting, the sane policy is to turn all available parts of Australia to productiveness and to draw millions of capable workers to the land so that no Power could say to the Commonwealth: "You have no right as a nation, unable to develop this land to its full powers, to lock the doors against the rest of the world. You claim as justification in taking Australia from the black-fellows, the aborigines, that they were not utilising it for the benefit of mankind. Neither are you."

Not only the most immediate, but the greatest of all problems facing the people of the Commonwealth, is how they are going to populate the continent which they now possess. I have mentioned the limited amount of immigration into Australia. It should be remembered that there is also some emigration from Australia. Some years ago the well-known Australian writer, Dr. Fitchett, was subjected to attack in the Commonwealth Parliament because he dared to inform the world that there was what he called a "ripple" of emigration.