

I cannot be absolutely sure of my facts, but I have fair warrant for saying that Hawaii is now a Japanese base; that it has been peacefully conquered by the Japanese: that there are at least six or seven Japanese in Hawaii for every European there; that they own some 60,000 acres of the best fruit land of California; that they dominate the fruit growing of one district, the peach growing of another, and the rice farming of Texas, whilst in British Columbia there are at least from 9,000 to 10,000 Japanese men, scattered amongst our sparse white population, and these men are of fighting age, fresh from a victorious war, drilled, trained and armed.

Ask any competent soldier what he could do with 10,000 well trained fighting men in such a country as ours, with such a fleet as Japan controls to support him.

Already, the Japanese have driven our fisher folk from the Fraser; they have beaten our Coast fishermen at their own trade; they have got a great deal of the boat building into their hands, and they are mining in a very large and independent way along our Coasts.

In every direction, they are intruding dangerously.

Can we afford to let them get control of our deep sea fishing, to the exclusion of those white men upon whom our future as a nation depends?

As they have done in other trades, they will do in the deep sea fishing. They will work for less than the white man until they have drawn the business into their hands. Then they will raise their prices, having killed competition.

It seems to me, that the deep sea fishing industry, of which in a few years' time Prince Rupert will be the centre, is the most important matter now upon our horizon, because it will be, if properly handled, not only an enormous source of wealth to us, but a nursery for those sailors without whom Ships are useless.