

unreasonably proposes, whether we will or no, to take the ground we walk on, the fields we till, the waters we fish, the mines we dig, the forests we cut, and the very earth in which we bury our dead. Japan will not allow a foreigner to own or even work a mine in Japan, but she unreasonably demands for the Japanese the right to work in the mines and to own and exploit the mines of Canada and the United States—one small syndicate of coolies having now possession of a copper mine in British Columbia worth nearly a million pounds. She allows no foreigners to engage in fisheries in Japanese waters, but she demands the right of the Japanese to fish in American and Canadian waters; and, as a consequence, all the fisheries of British Columbia, which are 30 per cent. of the fisheries of Canada, which are the largest and most profitable in the world, are now wholly in Japanese hands, yielding 10,500 Japanese labourers from £100 to £600 a year apiece, the most of which is sent in cash to Japan, and alienated from the British Empire for ever. It is a well-known fact that Japan will not tolerate our workmen on her soil except those skilled labourers we have been simple enough to send over to teach Japanese coolies how to make goods cheaper than we can make them. There is not a nation in the world which would resent more quickly and more efficiently any such sweeping influx of foreigners as she demands that we gracefully accept from her; but she continues to pour cheap labour into the Western Hemisphere and proceeds to raise a hue and cry if we object, notwithstanding the fact that wherever the Japanese labour market is congested—and that is everywhere in Japan—she does not hesitate a moment to exclude an element so undesirable. She does this in the interests of the Japanese and frankly states it. But if another nation in its own interest declines Japanese labour, Japan objects with a half-veiled threat of an arbitrament of arms. Japan is gradually taxing, or legislating, or expropriating every Western interest out of Japan, Korea and Manchuria, and as far as possible out of China, but she demands equal rights and opportunities for the Japanese workman, merchant, financier, farmer, in the business opportunities and potential wealth of the New World, and more—those safeguards and protections which the Japanese themselves cannot grant to their own people on their own soil—equal rights in the privileges of an Anglo-Saxon democracy. If Japan wants something on the American Continent, Canada and the United States must give it. If Canada and the United States want something in Japan, Korea or Manchuria, it is inimicable to the interests of Japan and they cannot have it. Whatever is prejudicial to the interests or the pride of Japan must be yielded by Canadians and Americans. Whatever is prejudicial to the interests of Americans and Canadians must be accepted because of the imperious demands of Japanese pride and national interest, and the power of Japanese warships. If any foreign people want equal rights and opportunities, economic or political, in the Japanese Empire, Japan utters an emphatic and peremptory “NO.” But if Canada and the United States dare indulge the desire to refuse to share their incomparable heritage with the impecunious and appalling overflow of Oriental millions, Japan says to us “Come now, this is none of your affair. We will legislate on this subject in Tokio and our legislators shall decide how much of your homeland and your vast wealth we want and how much we propose to have. You shall have nothing to say further than is compatible with our interests and our dignity as a State; and we are putting half of our Imperial budget, which is mostly your money, and as much more of your money as you are simple enough to loan us, into the cunning instruments of destruction you have been good enough to show us how to make and furnish the capital to make them, and it is with these we will show you how it will be brought to pass.”