

serious problem also because it may mean a tremendous oriental invasion. Let me draw a picture for this House; let me look at two aspects of the question. Some philosopher in British Columbia, not confined to the man on the street, has prophesied that it may mean a military invasion by the Japanese on the Pacific coast. That has never bothered me for one minute. It is stated in British Columbia that Japanese spies have been making observations of the British portion of the Pacific coast, laying out their plan of operations and finding out, with minuteness and completeness, the whole situation. This has been interpreted as evidence of a spirit and a disposition on the part of the Japanese authorities to look to a military invasion of Canada. Well, Sir, so far as I am concerned, that is too remote, too far off, to enter into the domain of practical politics. I have neither the time nor the mind to deal with a theory of that kind, and personally I do not believe there is any such contemplation in the minds of even the Japanese themselves.

But, I want to remind this House that whilst there may not be a military invasion contemplated, a labour invasion is easily within practical accomplishment. Let me mention two things—in the orient are eight hundred millions of starving, competing people, without the spirit (except within these few later years) without the spirit of enterprise connected with the full development of their own country. It is not sufficiently enterprising to provide labour and to afford a livelihood for its own people. That is a picture of the orientals at home. On the other hand Asia is easily accessible to the Pacific coast of Canada; it is within a few days reach of what? It is within a few days reach of a land in their imagination to be flowing with milk and honey, a rich country sparsely settled, a country of tremendously large areas beginning to be populated, a country where men are becoming rich by labour, in comparison with conditions of remuneration in Japan and China, and these depressed, and impoverished, and starving millions have heard of this prosperous land. Can we wonder that they come to this country, and can we not see that if unrestrained; if the barriers are thrown down, or if the present restrictions are not raised, that within sight there is an easy possibility of an overwhelming labour invasion from the orient into the Pacific province of Canada? Now, Sir, I contend, as I contended in reference to the Chinese question, that an argument on a question of national importance is not good if when driven to its logical conclusion it is defective in any degree. If it is good that we should have 25,000 orientals in British Columbia for the purpose of developing industrial enterprise, why should it not be good if that principle were absolutely unrestrained and unlimited, and that these eight hundred

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millions of starving labourers be given an opportunity to come to all of Canada to develop her resources? If it is a good thing that the industries of British Columbia should have the benefit of the immigration of the Asiatics into that province, why is it not good for the Northwest, why is it not good for Ontario? Why should the mill operator in Ontario, or Quebec, or Nova Scotia or any other province, be deprived of the supposed benefit of the oriental labour if it is good for the mill operator in British Columbia? If it is good for British Columbia to have this partial invasion of Asiatics, then drive the argument to its logical conclusion and say it would be good for all Canada. If that argument holds, then, where you have a labour market of 800,000,000 why should we not bring in orientals to develop and make Canada a prosperous and enormously rich country; why should we not go to the logical extreme and say: let the orientals spread over all Canada; they will open up the country, they will develop enterprise, they will enrich the country; let us bring them in?

Therefore I say, Mr. Speaker, in my opinion, under existing conditions it is absolutely necessary at this present minute that we should consider effective and permanent methods of restricting the invasion of oriental immigrants, and especially of Japanese immigrants into British Columbia. Now, I anticipate difficulties with regard to this phase of the question no matter what policy we may pursue. If this immigration is absolutely restricted it is quite possible that European and American capital will organize and enter the countries of the orient to develop them, and to promote commerce within them. Japan is in a position of great advantage in that she is able to supply every want of her own markets. The probability therefore is that European and American capital will seek a field in that country, and will develop its great resources so that in the next decade we may expect a mighty competition in the commercial markets of the world, and a reversal of the existing commercial relations between the west and the east. British capital invested in that country with its tremendous resources and with an inexhaustible supply of the cheapest kind of labour, is going to present to Canada in future years a tremendous commercial competition, and that in my mind will be the aspect in which the question will have to be considered in years to come. Old ideas of Asia have to be modified to-day; we cannot regard her in the same light as we have been accustomed to in the past. Asia has awakened, and she is in competition with the United States and with Canada in every respect. We are forced to realize that fact. Now, whenever the commercial interests of Canada are in jeopardy we