

no later figures), nearly an eighth of the population of Vancouver was Oriental, with that of the New Westminster district larger. But the Orientals are practically all male adults. If they had their families with them their numbers would have been about five times as great, and this would represent permanent population; and this would have given over half the population of Vancouver as Oriental, while giving one Oriental male adult to every three and a half whites of the male adult population of the Province. Ten years ago the fisheries of British Columbia were in the hands of about 10,000 native Canadians of British Columbia. Now there are 10,500 Japanese and hardly a white man in the trade.

It is hardly more than a significant coincidence, or perhaps an accident, that the fifty-dollar prize offered by the Grand Trunk Pacific for the first child born in Prince Rupert has been given to a Japanese.

The first principle of sound Imperial politics and sound Canadian patriotism is that our fertile areas of incomparable promise be never surrendered as a dump-heap for the overflowing population of a hundred millions over half the human race. To open once the gates to these nameless hordes is to be lost—these ominous hundreds of yellow millions, these countless alien numbers to whom there is no end!

But if Canada surrenders her choicest possessions to a race which in coming will bring nothing to her, but take everything away—bring nothing but an element of ineradicable and eternal discord—leave nothing but the impossibility of a homogeneous people—that will be Canada's fault as well as yours, and all the aeons of future ages can never rectify it, nor will they ever forgive it.

It is impossible to over-estimate the momentous nature of this issue—first, to British Columbia to whom it is so immediately a vital issue; second, to Canada—which Japan is coolly occupying unbidden and unwelcome—Canada, a prey to the disloyalty of a few unpatriotic manufacturers and corporations, which will have cheap labour at the price of Canadian homogeneity; third, to Great Britain—which has given away without recompense her position and prestige in the Pacific and the twentieth century—is giving away her commerce and shipping in China and allowing the loyalty of India to be undermined—giving away the Pacific gateways of Canada of which she and Canada will some day have need, whose key she is just now handing over to Japan.

Over and above all this, Japan is pursuing an unreasonable programme and plainly it is one we cannot accept. Not satisfied with having absorbed the whole Western civilisation, which she has had no part in creating, and which she is using to drive the Westerner out of Asia, she now crosses the Pacific and demands on our own shores what she denies us on her own. She is working feverishly towards a policy of Pan-Asiatic imperialism and exclusion while she is laying claim to equal rights with the white man in his own white world. She has decided that white competition shall be driven out of Asia and off the Pacific, but she has already driven the yellow wedge in many places into the American Hemisphere from Alaska to Cape Horn. She denies all foreigners the rights of land tenure in Japan and yet she demands the right of the Japanese to own land on the Western Hemisphere, and they do own already large tracts of the best land on the North American Continent. Allowing neither an American nor Canadian to own an acre of soil in the Japanese Empire, except possibly in a restricted way in a few treaty ports, she demands that the vast areas of opportunity on the Western Hemisphere shall be thrown wide open to Japanese pre-emption and colonisation. While Japan is crowding every white man, as far as possible, and every white interest off the continent of Asia and the islands of her Empire, she