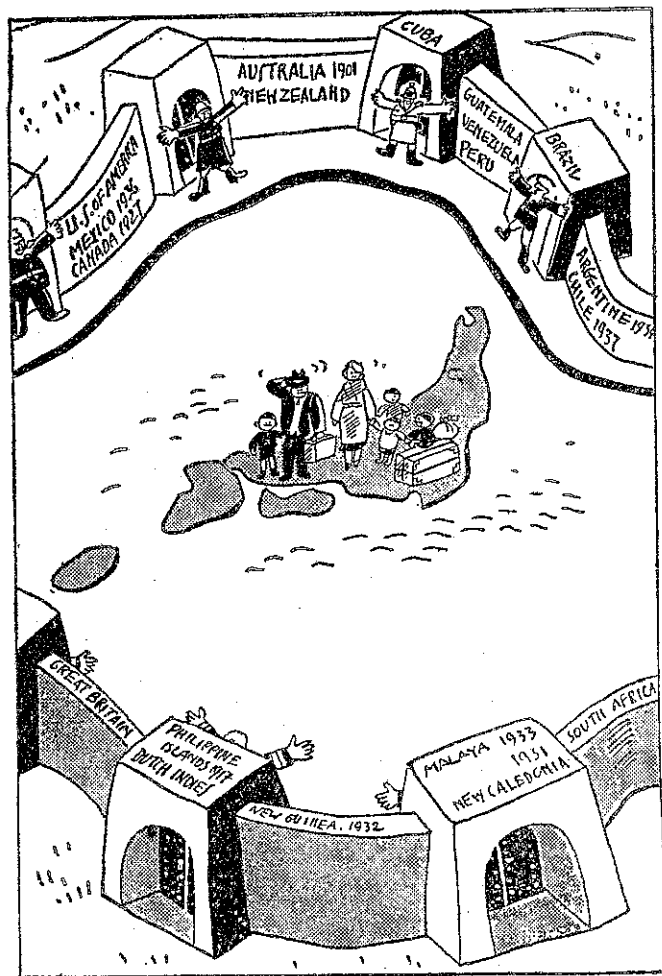


# STARTLING PROPOSAL

## *Japanese Consul-General creasing Race That Seeks To In Its Own*



—Japanese Cartoon.

... Shut in their small islands they turn to trade.

**T**HEN why, as a fresh, bloodless and altogether satisfactory means of defence, having in view, for example, such a possible and powerful enemy as the Japanese, why not offer them room in a land like this, which we cannot possibly people?

"And look at the waste in New Zealand. Miles and miles of land that our scanty population cannot possibly make use of. Why not offer large tracts to the Japanese? It is quite possible to make regulations acceptable to both sides for our peaceable living in the same country. If only 5,000,000 were admitted, New Zealand would not know itself for the wealth that would

### Bishop's Bombshell

**I**NTO the calm and prosperous city of Hamilton, where the main problem of the inhabitants, up till now, has been little more than that of wondering where to park their cars in the main street, the Rt. Rev. C. A. Cherrington, Bishop of Waikato, last week dropped his bombshell. It immediately caused a tremendous explosion of elemental feelings.

The verdict of the majority of people in New Zealand, on the Bishop's suggestion, would be an immediate negative. Of that there is no question.

**O**N the morning after the Bishop's statement appeared in Wellington, I asked three men of standing in the community what they thought of it. The first said:—"What an extraordinary statement! It would be

simply inviting the Japanese to come over and take the country without opposition."

The next man said slowly: "Well, you know, it is what a good many people are thinking, though they are not saying it."

The third man said: "I don't think the Bishop really understands this country or its inhabitants. For instance, I believe when he was giving an address at Otorohanga, practically the home of the Maori race, he referred to the Maoris as 'the blacks.'"

When, two days later, the cables flashed back a message from Tokio informing the people of New Zealand that Mr. Iguchi, a Japanese Government spokesman, had politely said that the idea was "very fair" and that Japan was quite prepared to export 5,000,000 people, New Zealanders had the horrified sensation that somehow the Bishop had "let the cat out of the bag." What had been merely an airy, fanciful and somewhat irresponsible theory had been rather abruptly brought down to the hard world of reality.

### Questions to a Consul

**M**EANWHILE, interested in the Japanese reaction to the Bishop's suggestion, the "Record" had already interviewed Mr. Kiichi Gungi, the newly-appointed Japanese Consul-General to New Zealand, stationed in Wellington. He replied to a number of questions.

"Does Japan want this too?" the "Record" asked. "It is an interesting topic," said the Japanese Consul. "I heard almost the same story lately from an English Bishop who called at Auckland on his journey round the world. He made the same statement regarding Australia and its unoccupied spaces.

"Divorcing the Bishop's statement from the question of New Zealand politics, and considering the general principle underlying it, I do not think anyone can find fault with it. Every country aims at the policy of giving comfort to the individual. If it is right that the policy should be applied to individuals, it should also be right to apply it nationally. As a principle it can hardly be denied that one country should not live miserably while others live in comfort.

"It is not, however, the policy of the Japanese Government to force other countries to take their people, unless it has Treaty rights."

### Where They Go

**"A**RE the Japanese good colonisers?"

In Brazil, said the Consul, there are 180,000 Japanese settlers and some thousands in the Argentine. In Honolulu, there are 200,000 Japanese, about half the population, and they have their representatives in the governing body of Hawaii. In California there are 100,000, in Mexico 6000, and settlers in the South Sea Islands and in the Philippines. In almost all these countries, however, there were now restrictions against Japanese immigrants and strict forms of limitation so that the main outlet for Japanese colonising is in Manchukuo and China.

"Are the Japanese immigrants good farmers, or do they not tend to become business men in the towns of the new countries?"

The Japanese were good agriculturists, said the Con-