

IS A WHITE AUSTRALIA UNFEASIBLE?

NOT FOR A THOUSAND YEARS will Australia be fully populated if settlement there is managed on the basis of past policy, it is said, and while no one questions the right of the Australians to preserve the purity of the white race, it may well be asked whether a white Australia is a feasible proposition. This inquiry does not proceed from a Japanese organ, as might be surmised, but from the English *Singapore Straits Times*, which points out that what is known as the northern territory of Australia is sub-tropical, and many claim the white man can never flourish there, as he flourishes in cooler climes, as a manual laborer. He may guide other races and work them through his capital, and it may pay him well to do so, but "there is no other way in which the territory may be peopled and its potentialities of wealth developed." It seems to this Singapore daily, therefore, that lines of demarcation should be drawn and some parts of the continent should be held exclusively for the white races while others should be thrown open to the colored. The answer to this suggestion is, of course, that the colored races would soon outnumber the white enormously and so become a menace. This may be true, but it will be worth while for Australia to consider the opposite risk of non-settlement of the country, and *The Straits Times* proceeds:

"If colored colonists were welcomed in certain parts of the continent, the Chinese would be fine material. They settle down readily, as they have done in Malaya. They are content that others should govern as long as they get simple justice and liberty to follow their own customs. In a generation or two they might be loyal Australians, ready to fight for their country. One can speak with less knowledge of the Japanese. Like the Chinese they tenaciously preserve their racial identity, but we are not sure that they are as content to live peacefully under a government which gives them justice. We have a great many Chinese in Malaya who have become British subjects in the full sense of the term; but always one wonders whether that may not be explained by the comparative political impotency of China."

Suppose the "full awakening" of China, which is so often mentioned, were to take place, and suppose the new China pursued an aggressive policy, would the sympathies of the British Chinese be with the land of their origin or the land of their adoption? asks this Singapore newspaper, and it explains:

"That is one phase of the question that Australia will have to consider in relation both to Chinese and Japanese. They would have less anxiety, perhaps, if they offered great facilities for Indian settlement in the northern territory, yet it would be easy to state obstacles to that also. We have no kind of doubt that parts of Australia will have to be opened to Asiatic immigration, but the sovereign rights of the British founders of the country can never be called in question and will be guarded by the whole Empire, if Australian policy has, in the meantime, done justice to the natural land hunger of other races."

The Straits Times was drawn into these reflections by a statement in the *London Times* that "strategically Australia lost the war, and the map of the Pacific was changed to a disadvantage, giving a possible foe plentiful harbors within three days' sail of

her coast-line." The possible foe, of course, is Japan, *The Straits Times* reminds us, and the strategic loss results from the Japanese acquisition of the Marshall and Caroline Islands. Always bearing in mind that such discussions are "academic and imply no suspicion of the purity of Japanese motives," we are told that there are other islands nearer to Australia than the Marshall and Carolines, and it does not follow that Australia is "in danger, tho possible menace is brought much nearer to her." But one must look at the whole position in a broad human spirit, and, so considered, Australia's moral position is

not found to be very strong by this Singapore journal, which continues:

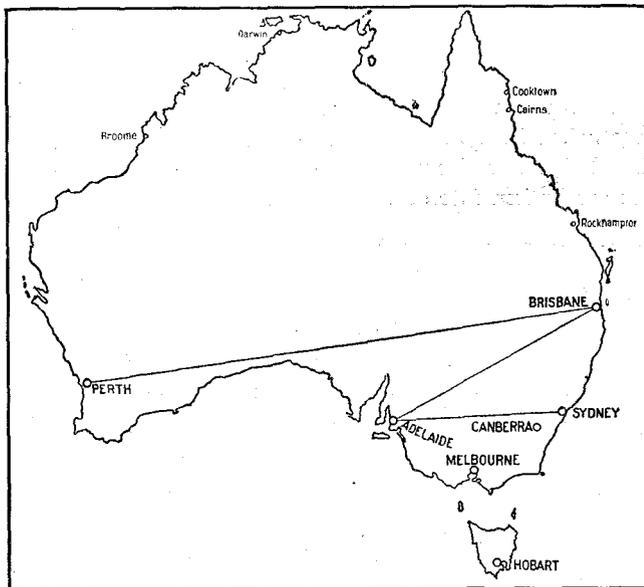
"She has a population of about six millions on a continent of nearly three million square miles—or roughly an average of two persons to the square mile. For contrast, Japan, including the islands close to it, has an area of 260,738 square miles and a population of 57,000,000, or substantially over 200 to the square mile. What one realizes is that no force tends more to the production of war than pressure of population upon the means of subsistence. Also, we think, it is necessary to bear in mind that the moral right to possession of any territory is the will and the power to use it advantageously. No race has a right to play dog in the manger at the expense of others. Australians are reminding us that they made great sacrifices and fought most gallantly in the Great War. Their service can never be forgotten, and they have a right to ask whether the Empire they fought for will stand by them if they are in danger.

Unquestionably it will if they make fair use of their vast country, but it would be impossible for the Empire to stand permanently in support of three million square miles being jealously held for the use of six million souls, while in other countries hundreds per square mile were gasping for the means of subsistence."

What is more, we read further, Australians have "not always been wise," and labor has passed laws in the country which "make it difficult for a white man, a citizen of the Empire, to enter Australia and do the best he can for himself." Immigration is invited but "so hedged with conditions" that the people who wish to immigrate—mostly those who find England, Scotland, or Ireland too crowded—have to turn their thoughts elsewhere." This daily adds:

"We realize, of course, that the Australians have a right to resist the dumping of thousands of penniless men and women in their country, because these would become a burden upon them or would so overcrowd the labor market that employment at pay which permits of a decent standard of life would become unprocurable. But the point is whether Australia has made the efforts to increase population which the vastness of its area demands, and which even the simple doctrine of self-preservation recommends. It is capable of becoming the greatest country in the world—greater, even, some believe, than the United States of America, tho the area of these States is about one-sixth more. There are a hundred million people in the United States, and when Australia has half as many it need fear no foe."

Meanwhile, we find the Australian press applauding Senator Millen's widely quoted statement that racial purity must be maintained "to the very point of death," and that "the White Australia Doctrine holds the world's respect, tho for the moment it offends the great and courageous nation of Japan, which does not understand it."



THE PERIL TO WHITE AUSTRALIA.

"This great country has six State capitals and a proposed Federal capital. All seven are south of the top line. Six are south of the middle line. Five, including the proposed Federal capital, are south of the bottom line. This is Australia's way of telling the world that the North and Center are quite unfit for a white man to live in, and are only suitable for brown or black settlement. And the black-brown world doesn't miss the point."

—*The Bulletin* (Sydney).

SCIENCE - AND - INVENTION

GUARDING THE CASH

THE BURGLAR has had to abdicate lately, in favor of the bandit. The opening or wrecking of the safes or vaults of large banks is rarely heard of to-day. There are daring bank-robbers, but they carry off cash from open vaults or from the teller's desks in broad daylight. Vault protection is now at a high degree of efficiency. A contributor to *Export American Industries* (New York) tells us that wealth is more adequately guarded than ever before in the history of banking, by ingenious electrical devices designed to give warning in various directions when the vaults are broken into or tam-

"The gong-box on the outside of the building is located at some point which is difficult of access and if reached can not be tampered with unless the gong is released. Within the gong are very small balancing plates which can be tipped by the slightest weight, thereby releasing the electric current. This is an advantage in case an attempt is made to deaden the gong by pouring in sand or some similar commodity. If the batteries run down, the gong is released, since it is controlled by a spring which is only held in check by a live magnetic attraction which automatically disappears the instant the strength of the current varies in the slightest degree.

"Like the central station or man-power guard system the wiring arrangements can be attached to all of the combinations on the door so that should these be turned to the slightest degree, the warning is given. The arrangement of the wiring in the vault walls is such that if any heat is applied, even in the smallest degree, the gong is released. This type of electric system requires an inspection each morning and should be tested at intervals to make sure that it is in order. Various devices for special wiring have been invented. Layers of tin-foil separated by very thin sheets of gutta-percha, which cause a connection to be made or broken, as the case may be, at the slightest application of heat or pressure, are one form, and various modifications of the principle are the basis of several of the systems most generally employed. Special batteries have been invented which will last without refilling for as long as ten years, and these do away with some of the risks."

Electrical protection is the final form of protection, but the construction of the vaults is of the utmost importance. Hard stone concrete for the protective wall is desirable. Concrete gains its strength not only from the mixture of materials but

from metal bars embedded in it. These bars or beams should be turned around the sides so that the metal in the top, sides, and bottom of the vault is all connected, but the bars connecting these rods should be so placed that it is impossible to get an explosive behind the reinforcement work and blow off the entire concrete side. A concrete vault should stand on its own base, which should go down to the very foundation of the bank building. To quote further:

"The steel vault itself, within the concrete protective walls, must be capable of resisting attack no matter how directed. To accomplish this, the vault has to be considered under two sections, the door and vestibule, and the general lining. The lining must first of all have sufficient metal in it to make it a difficult undertaking to break it open. Next it should be constructed with materials that will resist burning and drilling or tearing with crowbars and sledge-hammers. Linings are constructed by two methods to achieve this result: First, a laminated construction, that is, a number of layers of metal of different qualities screwed together. The other method is to use extra thick plates of special steel, such as manganese steel, which contains sufficient strength within itself. In the laminated construction the vaults are built up of alternate layers of open-hearth steel, which is a soft, readily drillable or cuttable material, and layers of five-ply steel. This construction is planned so that a drill will go through one layer rapidly at such a speed that when it comes to the next layer the force of the contact will dull the drill.

"In addition to guarding against drill attacks, a non-burnable



THIS NEW YORK BANK-VAULT DOOR WEIGHS THIRTY-EIGHT TONS.
And is so made as to "resist burning and drilling or tearing with crowbars and sledge-hammers."

pered with. Without the electrical warning systems, connected, in larger cities, with a central protective company, or in smaller towns, with the homes of bank officials or the police-station, the strongest bank vault is not secure against attack. We read:

"Electrical vault protection naturally divides itself into three classes. In one type, the general surface of the vault is wired and a protection placed over the face of the door which, if tampered with, rings a warning in the local police-station or in the homes of bank executives. This arrangement frequently depends upon making a circuit or connection between electric wires which could be easily broken by a skilful bank-robber.

"Another system is that in which the entire exterior, sides, top, and bottom of the vault are wired and a layer of wires put on the door itself, or a wood door placed outside the steel door, all connected to ring in a central station. If an alarm is recorded in the central station, two watchmen are at once dispatched to the bank, where they are admitted by the bank watchman or enter by means of access with which they have been provided. They make an inspection and frequently succeed in capturing the robbers or frightening them away.

"A third system consists of layers of wire preferably built into the concrete as the walls are constructed, also in the roof, the floor, and in the structure of the door, for which the current is supplied by suitable batteries. The batteries themselves are located within the vault. There is also an indicator on the outside of the vault together with a powerful gong which is kept from ringing only when the current is flowing through all these wires. As soon as this current is tampered with in any way, the gong is sounded. Some special advantages of this system are as follows: