

CONSISTENCY OF THE JAPS

Demanding Preference in This Country But Discriminate Against Foreigners in Japan.

(New York Herald.)

The Herald has received from Japan a letter, the writer of which says he is an American citizen, a Republican in politics, and that he has been in business in Japan for more than 20 years. In that time, he says, he has made numerous trips to the United States, and has kept in touch with affairs here. He asserts there would be more letters of a similar nature sent from Japan to the United States if it were not for the constant espionage which foreigners resident in the island empire have to endure. Foreigners, he says, are well aware that their servants keep constant watch on their movements and report to the authorities. The letter says: "There are but few of us out here, and at times we feel as though our mother country was making a great mistake when dealing with Oriental propositions. One must live with these people to really know them and understand what their thoughts are for the future."

"Now that the San Francisco school question is before us, kindly permit me to place before you the position of Americans in Japan. The Japanese demand equal rights. Here is our position in Japan:

"We are here for business. Therefore, knowing the people, we do as we are told. Otherwise it is wise to leave the country.

"We are not allowed to own real-estate property or to have any mining rights. We can only buy certain securities. We cannot hold Japanese on certain mortgages. When in order to do business we place certain properties or securities in the name of a Japanese, and the said Japanese absconds, the courts will not even consider his act a criminal one.

"We are not allowed to attend Japanese schools, old or young.

"We are only permitted to reside in certain sections.

"Such a thing as sailing a private pleasure boat is restricted. We cannot leave a treaty port, unless with a permit, and it is next to impossible to secure such a permit. The Japanese go anywhere desired, but a foreigner cannot enter any port of Japan (except the regular open ports) from the water front.

"At the theatres the Japanese rate is 60 sen. No foreigner is admitted under 2 yet (200 sen).

"The hotels are on a similar basis.

"It is a known fact that justice cannot be had except in the higher courts, and every case against a foreigner is carried to the Supreme Court before justice is given. The Legation at Tokio knows this point only too well.

"In taxes foreigners pay double the rates paid by the Japanese.

"The treaties state positively that foreigners shall not be subject to war taxes or duties. They were levied at the same, and we did not think it wise to raise an objection. But this is as stated.

"The simple fact is that the Japanese do not want foreigners here, and are doing everything within their power to drive them from the country. The reason the true facts are generally known is that every foreigner resident is watched and it is not policy for him to state such facts for publication.

"Permit me to repeat a conversation heard several days ago, which really prompts this letter. On the last steamer for San Francisco, the Nippon Maru, about 80 soldiers embarked. Dining at a tea house I happened to occupy a room adjoining the banquet room, where about 100 Japanese had assembled. During the dinner a major of the regiment the soldiers belonged to made a brief speech, part of which I jotted down as follows:

"I joyfully stated that while his countrymen were leaving the land of the East, they must always remain

loyal to their Emperor and they must remember that the late war had given them a grand education in how to handle an enemy. They were told not to forget that Hawaii was but a stepping stone to the mainland, and when they reached the mainland they must not forget that the Pacific belonged to Japan; that while the United States pretended to be friendly with Japan at present it was only because they were afraid of Japan. In conclusion he adjured them to remember that a good soldier in the land of the enemy was worth ten at home.

"It is needless to write more. This expresses the thoughts of these people.

"It is common talk that the Japanese will ultimately control Hawaii, even without military conquest. They can, if necessary, wait until enough children born in the islands become of age to vote, if Japanese are not allowed the right of citizenship before-hand. If allowed the right of citizenship, with privilege of voting, they will then send coolies over by the thousand.

"I might take up other points, such as the house tax, recently decided in favor of the foreigners. The United States decided not to enter this dispute, stating they considered the Japanese were right. But the Japanese press wrote many uncomplimentary remarks about us when The Hague finally decided in favor of the other countries and the United States then came in and asked for equal rights under the favored nation clause. The other powers went to all the expense of fighting, and had it not been for their stubbornness we would now be paying upward of 200,000 yen annually that would have been contrary to treaty.

"Please do not decide this Japanese question too soon. The United States within the next 20 years will realize that Japan has upward of 50,000,000 of people, and that it can spare half of them. If we leave our doors open to them it will mean a loss to us of the entire Pacific Coast.

"A copy of this letter has been sent to Washington. It will be endorsed by the majority of the foreign community residing in Japan, not as showing their dislike for the Japanese, but of the one-sided manner in which the Japanese are acting. Foreigners in Japan stand all of these inconveniences, while the Japanese 'kick' when they have the least provocation.

"One point seems to be misunderstood in the United States. There is as much difference between the Japanese of the Eastern States or those in the universities and those who are crowding to the Pacific Coast as there is between the well-bred negro of the North and the common roustabout or field hand of the South, who is worthless and filled with debased ideas.

"The above is written purely from a patriotic standpoint, from one who knows these people only too well and their inborn dislike for anything foreign, unless it means something to their own benefit."

The Strikebreaker.

Of all the freaks upon this earth No greater one ere had a birth, Nor better illustrated Darwin's plan Than that of the strikebreaking man.

At another's job he will stay Like a leech in the month of May, For a few shining grains in pay Of the golden sand.

Shylock's collar he loves to wear; He'd lick the hand that put it there. Judging by the way he acts, True manhood he certainly lacks, Or he would never stoop to trade His brother's job for a nickel's sake, And defeat his efforts to make. An insult off his back.

Now hangs his lovely photograph— Enough to make a monkey laugh— In a very conspicuous place, To which he submits with the grace

And cheek of a government mule; Obedient to Shylock's rule Of which he's the strikebreaking tool Ever hugging the trace.

Does he come from the West or East? He's peculiar to say the least; For if he'd get of his brother's seat, From which he earns his bread and meat, So that he could the battle win Against the rogues' gallery sin, Saint Peter yet might let him in, By paying his fare complete.

L. A. T.

It is reported that all the non-unionists at fourteen colliers in Wales have joined the British Miners' Federation, and out of 2,200 non-unionists in seventeen other colliers all but 440 have become unionists.

UNION MEN SMOKE UP

Trades Council Holds Jollification and Discusses the Local Street Car men's Strike.

The most successful smoker of the many given by the Portland Federated Trades Council was held last Friday evening at Union Hall. President Ledwidge called the meeting to order and in welcoming the guests explained that the Federated Trades Council believed that the striking car men should be given an opportunity to set their case fairly before the union men of Portland, and accordingly the union men had been invited to the smoker and mass meeting for the purpose of hearing from the car men themselves, the progress they are making in the struggle they have been engaged in for the past month. The first speaker introduced was Organizer Burton of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees who briefly stated that whenever a local became involved in a dispute with a company the Amalgamated Association always sends a representative to the scene of the controversy to remain as long as difficulty exists, it is his duty to advise the strikers, and to disburse the strike funds that are sent here every week by the Amalgamated Association. Mr. Burton claimed that he had as much right to represent the organized employees of the Portland Railway Light & Power Co. as Mr. Fuller had to represent the eastern stock holders of the same company.

Messrs. Elliot, Moreer, Burdett, Fisher and Wright representing the strikers, each in turn spoke on some phase of the hardships the car men must endure if they wish to remain in the employ of the company, the fact that the company denied to its employees the right to organize was severely condemned by several of the speakers. Secretary Burdett reported that hardly a day passes but that some one left the cars and joined the ranks of the strikers.

Mr. C. A. Foster of the committee on parade was introduced and reported that in order to allow the union people to show their interest and sympathy for the car men a monster parade had been arranged for Saturday night. As Mr. Foster read the names of the unions that had signified their willingness to participate in the demonstration the enthusiasm reached a high pitch, as each union's name was announced the great crowd would rise and cheer vociferously and this continued until the report was finished.

J. J. Price of the Labor Party spoke on the political situation and dwelt on the fact that when labor learns to strike at the ballot, then no longer would a corporation like the Portland Railway Light & Power Co. be able to arrogantly defy the laws or control the police force.

W. E. Pitschke spoke on the ballot, a weapon the workingman should make use of. He urged that all union men should see to it that they are registered and their votes cast for those candidates that stand for labor interests.

Messrs. Gram, McDonald, Radding and Trummer were called for and all spoke enthusiastically of the determined fight the carmen are making.

The entertainment was furnished by Jos. K. Thompson of the Lyric Theater, which consisted of illustrated songs and moving pictures. Professor Newman presided at the piano and their offerings were of a high order.

It was nearly eleven o'clock before the last number was rendered and the crowd departed. The Trades Council is to be congratulated on being able to arrange a smoker so complete in every detail; only one thing was to be regretted, that was that the hall was not large enough to accommodate the hundreds that could not gain admission.

Cigarmakers Elect Officers.

On the evening of the 14th inst. Local No. 202, Cigarmakers International Union, elected and installed the following set of officers for the ensuing term: President, Steve Spain; vice president, Norman Samuels; recording secretary and label custodian, W. F. Sage; financial and corresponding secretary, W. H. Fitzgerald; treasurer, Duncan Stewart, sergeant-at-arms, August Thorneskra; extra member executive board, Ray Johnston; trustees, T. L. Banes, Robt. Schultz, L. A. Helbock; finance committee, A. Cheyenne, H. A. Duke, A. C. Moffatt; delegates to Federated Trades, W. H. Fitzgerald, A. C. Moffatt, Norman Samuels; Labor Press trustee, W. F. Sage; delegates to Labor Party, Lyle Dryfuss, W. F. Sage, Barney Vermeire.

A workman to be a man must be a union man.

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