

"NO" VOTES RECORDED TO SAVE

Judge Webster Points Out That if Prisoners Go Into Control of Sheriff, the Rockpile System Will Be Rendered Practically Useless.

Because the work of the prisoners at Kelly's Butte and the fine road system which is being developed from the present establishment as a beginning would be crippled under the proposed act giving the sheriff the custody of the prisoners, members of the county court are a unit in opposing it and in urging the voters of the state to defeat it next Monday.

After the act was passed by the actuary a coteries in the last legislature, Judge Webster and the county commissioners were active in invoking a referendum on the subject. The act in the form in which it now comes to the people for their approval or rejection, Judge Webster, speaking for the county commissioners, stated his reasons for opposing the proposed law this morning, saying, in substance:

Friction Invited.
"The bill proposes to establish a divided authority in a manner that invites friction and defeat for all the painstaking efforts of the county clerk in building up a road system—a system that is only begun, and will extend through adoption of an amended through the state, not in a manner that is ill-advised legislation. It is a matter beyond argument that where any great work is to be carried on there should be one head, one authority, and only one. The law gives the county court the care of road matters, the prisoners good roads can be built and are being built.

When, then, the chief end in view at the rockpile is the making of good roads, the guarding of the prisoners, while necessary, is incidental. It is essential that the men in charge shall be part of the road-making machinery of the county, selected with a view to their capacity for working with the men, treating them humanely, guarding them securely, and directing the work in such manner as to obtain the greatest results in the least time.

"That is the kind of a force the county court has been building up, and I believe we have done well. Mistakes have been made, but we now have a trained lot of men who know how, when and where the work should be done. If the sheriff had the appointment of the guards the court would virtually lose its control over the direction of the work. It is idle to say that the sheriff can be given the custody of the men and the county court at the same time can direct the work. This division of authority is unnatural, and it would be fatal to any kind of business. It invites disaster at the beginning.

"The certain interference with road work is the greatest objection of any to the proposed bill, but there are many other reasons, some of which reach far beyond the things that appear on the face of the question. The engineers and blasters employed at the rock quarries are employed by the county court, and it is not proposed to place them under the sheriff. Here also, in the making of regulations and the ideas that might prevail among the guards as to their going in and out and their manner of work, there would be additional opportunity for friction.

Too Profitable to Sheriff.
"Then the matter of expense should be considered. At the butte the county court is now feeding the prisoners for not more than 3 cents per meal. The proposed law authorizes the sheriff to furnish meals for 12 cents, without saying anything about what kind of meals. The cheaper fare, the greater the profit of the sheriff. The county court believes that men engaged in hard labor on the rockpile should have good meals, and we are seeing that the men working on the rockpile with a sort of bill of fare that we arranged in advance. Figuring out the difference in cost between 3 cents and 12 cents, the profit to go into the pocket of the sheriff would be \$4,000 or \$5,000 per year. But we have no assurance that the meals furnished through our county kitchen at the butte would continue to be as good as they are now, and if they were not so good, the profit would be greater. It

would be matching the cupidity of one man against the necessity of many.

"The county court has taken the position that there should be no profit in feeding the prisoners. We are not attempting to discount what the sheriff might or might not do, and we are not insisting on any one man's idea that is a mistake. We did believe that a measure that threatens increased cost without benefit and probably a loss of plans for roadbuilding that we have cherished should not be allowed to become law without the people having an opportunity to pass on it, and for that reason the referendum was invoked.

More Jobs, That's All.
"There is absolutely no reason for changing the existing system of the road system that has been begun. If the law is adopted a few paltry jobs will fall to the sheriff. Those are the last things we should think of. So far as I am concerned I would be only too glad to shift the burden of the road system to the sheriff, but the county court is entrusted with the duty of roadbuilding, and to carry out that duty successfully we must control the instruments for doing it. There is no other way.

"It has been said that the sheriff should have the custody of the prisoners because he is liable for them in the event of escape. The sheriff is not liable for them. If every man at Kelly's Butte got away today he would not be liable for them. The sheriff is not liable for them. If every man at Kelly's Butte got away today he would not be liable for them. The sheriff is not liable for them. If every man at Kelly's Butte got away today he would not be liable for them. The sheriff is not liable for them.

Give Healthy Employment.
"At the same time we will be improving the law. The law as it is and we will employ the city jail as well as the county jail. We will give healthy employment to men who are serving sentence and when they finish their terms they will have brain and muscle, so they can get a job. We don't want them, but we can give them another job on the roads unless they are satisfied to go to work or go somewhere else. When we have accommodations for all and men who come here as professional loafers and many of them will dodge us. Many of them are making wide detours now.

Other Counties May Benefit.
"The example set here will reach to other counties, and we may expect like action there. I hope to see the next legislature pass a bill that will transfer prisoners to a county where there is a rock pile. The smaller counties can send their prisoners to Portland, Clatsop, Pendleton, to Albany, to any county that have the rock pile, avoiding the expense of transporting them to the state penitentiary. While the larger counties can actually profit by the man's labor, the smaller counties are clouded with uncertainty by such a measure as one I am discussing. There is no reason for and no benefit to be derived from the proposed law. It would be voted down by a large majority. The good of the county should be considered. Mr. Lightner and Mr. Barnes and myself have spent much time devising the best methods for this work. We have the most expert workmen, and we are in position to expand the work in a way that will surprise those who have not closely investigated it. It would be extremely discouraging to have a friendly legislation at this time to break in and wreck what we have been building.

A vote of "no" on the first measure under referendum ordered by petition of the people will show that you agree with Judge Webster.

JAPANESE IN CALIFORNIA

By Frederic J. Hankin.
(Copyright, 1908, by Frederic J. Hankin.)
Fresno, Cal., May 24.—Fresno is the greatest raisin producing place on earth, and the thousands of cars of dried raisins sent out from here each year are produced and handled largely by oriental labor. In fact the industry practically depends upon the 5,000 or 6,000 Japanese laborers in Fresno county. They came several years ago, they worked faithfully, and they worked cheap. The growers believed that in the Japanese they had found the solution of the vexing labor problem, which all California fruit growers are continually struggling to solve. After a time the Japanese came out of competition. Then they changed their attitude. They had their employers at a disadvantage and demanded increased wages and all sorts of privileges.

Japanese farm laborers are by no means content to remain in their position, and they invariably attempt to establish colonies which will give the community a bad name with white people. This is the case in the Vacaville estate, and the Japanese enter upon possession of the land by leasehold or purchase. Whenever the Japanese farmer comes in force he drives out the white man from the community. His presence is as surely depressing upon real estate as the presence of the colored man in a southern city.

The Japanese farm laborer in the small fruit sections of the state can find employment at wages of \$1.25 to \$1.75 a day. In the great prune growing district of Santa Clara valley they can make as much as \$3 a day during the picking season. They live on next to nothing, and save their money. To their savings they add money advanced from Japan, or they did until the panic cut off the supply from home, then go out to buy or lease a farm.

1,000 farms, an aggregate of more than 100,000 acres. There can be little doubt that many of the farms were acquired with money advanced from Japan by the financial agents of the all-grasping imperial household. A Tokyo banker is responsible for the statement that the imperial household is interested in land holdings in California, Texas, Louisiana and Colorado. The Japanese believe they can prevent aliens holding land in California grows out of the general dislike for the Japanese, and the increasing fear of their encroachment upon agricultural industries.

A Japanese colony in the Sacramento valley was started in 1890, and it has grown, succeeded in obtaining leases on a large part of the land. Two years ago they attempted to corner the California potato market. They failed and lost large sums of money. Last year they renewed the attempt and were successful. They controlled practically the entire output of potatoes in the state, doubled the price and made back their losses of the previous year with a handsome profit besides. This spring the farmers in various sections of the state are protecting themselves from the Japanese potato monopoly by planting larger fields in more widely separated sections. The berry crop of Santa Clara county is controlled in similar fashion by the Japanese farmers.

Large Orchards.
Vacaville is a Japanese town. It is said that a traveler in the Vacaville valley will meet a Japanese man, or a white man. The fruit orchards in this valley aggregate about 15,000 acres, of which more than half is controlled by Japanese under lease. A small section is owned by the Japanese outright. The Japanese stores in Vacaville control three-fourths of the business of the town. In this section the farmers welcomed the Japanese with enthusiasm, provided accommodations for white laborers at all, and rested on oriental help. It was but a few years until the Japanese became masters of the situation, and the white farmers were driven out of the land and outnumbering the whites in population. Land values have shrunk one-third since the Japanese invasion. Efforts are being made to bring in white farmers by cutting up the land into small holdings, offering to lease the land to white farmers with families at reasonable figures, and encouraging the raising of garden truck and poultry along with the fruit.

The greed and superficiality of the Japanese is proving his own undoing in this particular section. He has been here fifteen years and for half of that time has been in practical control of the situation. He has had time for the most part to perfect his methods of cultivation, and he has proved him an incompetent horticulturist. In view of the excellence of the Japanese skill in tree culture, this may be surprising. But the fact is that the Japanese here have been content to rest on their laurels, producing immediate results, have looked to the penny of today rather than to the dollar of tomorrow.

They still retain one great advantage over the white fruit grower, their organization is such that they are assured of a sufficient labor supply during the picking and packing season, while the white grower must trust to luck for his help.

In Fresno County.
Here in Fresno county there are also a goodly number of Japanese leaseholders, and there are about 20,000 acres of vineyards, two of them large ones. The Japanese laborer in the raisin grape section has a physical advantage which places him beyond fear of competition. He has been used to squatting on his heels beside the low vines. The raisin pickers are paid by the quantity of grapes they gather, and a Japanese can easily earn \$1 a day while the white man alongside can make but \$1. The full Japanese population of Fresno county during the picking season is about 6,000. Half of this number stay here the year round, while the others wander through the state until the next season comes around.

The Japanese are also trying to get control of the fruit industry of the Inyo and Mono valleys. The farmers here suffered from a lack of labor and the Japanese were welcomed with great acclaim. It is true that they were treated with the utmost consideration, but as time went on the people discovered that there were radical differences between the Japanese and the Chinese, with whom they had been familiar. For several years one bank in Watsonville, the center of the valley, was operated by a Japanese, and a Japanese, although the same bank welcomes business with the Chinese, the Japanese turned to the order department of the postoffice for banking facilities. The result was that the postmaster soon introduced extraordinary requirements for identification when dealing with Japanese.

Southern Citrus Belt.
In southern California, where the citrus fruits are the principal crop, the experience with the Japanese is the same so far as his qualifications as a laborer are concerned. The extremely high price of land and the conditions here operate to discourage the Japanese from attempting to secure extensive holdings in the south. Not nearly so many laborers are needed in small fruit sections, and the labor question is not so acute. The citrus growers, however, for the most part agree that the Japanese is unsatisfactory because he is unreliable, and is quick to take advantage of his superior position as a laborer. The Japanese are in the southern California, as the people in other parts of the state, are loud in their praises of the Swiss, Portuguese and Spanish laborers. They also consider the Italian more desirable than Japanese, although the vendetta and its deepening into a strong dislike of the southern Italians.

A curious feature of the labor question and its accompanying racial issue in California is the changed attitude toward the Chinese. The employers in California always did like the Chinese, but the influx of a great number of California practically joined in the demand for exclusion. Now that the Chinese immigration has been stopped for 20 years, California seems almost to regret it. Certain it is that whenever a Japanese is seen or heard, the Chinese are quick to compare him with the Japanese, which is infinitely to the advantage of the Chinese. The sober thought of the state however, fears the coming of any oriental people and it looks to Europe to supply its demands for labor, and to the rest of the United States for settlers and farmers. The Asiatic is not wanted.

Racial Differences.
In rural California the opposition to Japanese is based more on racial than economic reasons. The Japanese laborer is the best the California farmer can find in that he is reasonably efficient and reasonably cheap. But for all of that, even under conditions that permit the white man to absolutely control the Japanese, there is a fear and distrust which is born of innate racial antagonism. The presence of the Japanese in any considerable number demoralizes the natural conditions of life in the community. Not even a large negro settlement shows as great racial differences. For the negro eats the same kind of food, has the same religious habits as the people among whom he lives.

A California village 10 years ago welcomed Japanese labor. It was a typical village inhabited by Americans with its school, its churches and its stores. There were the usual dissensions between the Methodists and the Baptists. These Japanese laborers continued to come in. One of them became a merchant. Others leased land. Later they bought land and worked about the village. The invasion was silent and gradual. But now, what a change has come over that village! Methodists and Baptists sit alone together, their dogmatic differences forgotten, in wondering contemplation of a Buddhist mission. Republican and Democrat bury the political hatchet and declare that "this shall be a white man's country." This Japanese village in California is a living prophecy of the actual danger to American civilization on the Pacific coast if it is not protected by Asiatic exclusion laws. California complains that the Japanese does not understand. It is always the same with race questions—they cannot be understood at long range.

HOW ASTORIA WILL HONOR THE HEROES

(Special Dispatch to The Journal.)
Astoria, Or., May 28.—Cushing Post, G. A. R. and the Woman's Relief Corps will hold Memorial day services Saturday as follows: At 10 a. m. Cushing Post and the Woman's Relief Corps will assemble at Flavel's dock and strew flowers upon the river in remembrance of the departed heroes of the navy. They will then take the train for Ocean View cemetery, where they will decorate the graves of their departed members and hold services at the grave of the wife of Comrade A. Scherneck. Returning they will proceed to Greenwood cemetery and decorate the graves of the fallen of Oregon City, and himself a veteran of the late war. A number of the pupils from the Astoria public schools will deliver short patriotic recitations.

Seaside House Open.

N. F. Sargent, the well known caterer and hotel man, has taken charge of the Seaside house at Seaside, Oregon, and it is now open to entertain its guests. A new feature this year is the running of the trains to Holiday station which is very close to the hotel. The house is thoroughly renovated and the cuisine which will be made a chief factor, will be an attraction such as Mr. Sargent alone knows how to make and reservations apply to Nichols F. Sargent, Seaside, Oregon.

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- \$1.00 Pair for a nice assortment of ladies' \$2.00 and \$2.50 Kid Juliets, strap slippers and oxfords, spring styles; just the shoes for every day and housewear; all sizes go at, pair... \$1.00
- Misses' and children's shoes in an almost endless variety of popular styles for dress or school wear, in oxfords or high shoes, on sale at the following low prices; tans, blacks and patents:
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 - All \$1.25 and \$1.50 grades, now, pair... 75c
 - All \$1.00 and 75c grades, now, pair... 45c
 - All 50c and 60c grades, now, pair... 29c
- Men's black or tan lisle silk finish seamless half hose 5c pr
- Men's \$1.50 and \$1.00 Gait Dress Shirts, samples, "Neustadter Bros." "Standard" and "Mt. Hood" brand, all sizes, now 39c pr
- Children's 75c and \$1.00 Barefoot Sandals, extension soles, all sizes, now 39c pr
- \$1.00 Pair for a big lot of boys' \$2.00 solid calfskin school shoes, blucher cut, in all sizes; bring the boys—per pair... \$1.00
- \$1.45 Pair for 500 pairs of the famous "Excelsior" line of boys' \$2.50 and \$3.00 fine dress shoes and oxfords in patents, vicis and gummetal, in all sizes, at, pair \$1.45
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