

ANTI-ALIEN BILL IS AHEAD

Four-hour Hearing Develops Heated Debate—Portland Chamber Comes.

A four-hour hearing, in which the argument became heated at times, was given by the Judiciary committee of the senate Friday night on the Bailey-Huston anti-alien bill. Hearing was requested by the Portland Chamber of Commerce, which has a formidable array of speakers against the bill. They were aided by several farmers. The American legion, which is backing the bill, had a number of speakers present, and was supported by C. E. Spence, master of the state grange.

Senator Ellis explained that the hearing had been called at the request of the Portland Chamber of Commerce. Representative Bailey stated that the bill had been introduced by himself, and Representative Huston at the request of the American legion. He introduced former state Senator Wilbur of Hood River, who explained that the purpose of the bill was to prevent any more land in the state from being acquired by any alien not eligible for citizenship and that it did not apply to any land already acquired.

Mr. Wilbur declared the bill is constitutional. He quoted Senator McNary as having said that he was in favor of the legislation and to have said that his telegram to the Oregon legislature in 1921 to which was due largely the fact that the bill was beaten in the Oregon senate was misunderstood. He quoted Senator McNary as having said, when a possible initiative anti-alien land ownership measure was mentioned that he would come to Oregon and campaign for it if he could leave his duties in Washington.

"The American legion, which I represent," said Mr. Wilbur, "believes that Americans own this country because we inherited it from our forefathers who fought for it. We do not want aliens to have it. Either we are going to keep it or they are going to get it. And as far as the organization to which I belong is concerned we are going to keep it as long as we are able to fight for it."

The American legion stated its case with the conclusion of Mr. Wilbur's speech. W. D. B. Dodson, representing the Portland Chamber of Commerce, averred that there is no man who will not be a Japanese menace. He said the opposition to the bill was not entirely on a dollar and cents basis.

Mr. Dodson declared that both California and Washington had given Oregon the laugh, the former because Oregon had not made use of Japanese in its canneries, while California was welcoming them as laborers with open arms, and the latter because it had gained a tremendous advantage over Oregon in shipping because it had extended a welcome to the Japanese.

Because of the comparatively small Japanese population of Oregon, Mr. Dodson said that, no matter what had happened in California, Washington or Hawaii, there was no occasion for alarm in Oregon. In Hood River county he said he had been informed that the Japanese population had decreased from a maximum of little more than 500 to 353 at present. He emphasized the importance of American trade relations with Japan, particularly through ports of Oregon. Immigration from Japan, he declared, had been on the decrease.

Mr. Dodson declared that because of the disturbed international relations of the world it is not a time to increase the disturbance by making an enemy.

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J. W. Ganong, chairman of the importing and exporting committee of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, in opposing the bill, declared that farmers who are selling their wheat to the Orient are getting 5 and 6 cents a bushel more for it than those who are selling it to Europe.

"That," he said, "is putting it on a dollars and cents basis, and that is exactly where I stand. Why should we jeopardize this trade by passing this bill."

"We are selling the Oriental people about 12 times as much in commodities as we are buying from them."

"I speak," said Mr. Ganong, from 40 years experience in the grain business. This is not a matter for state legislation, and I feel sure that there is going to be a new treaty with Japan in the very near future."

In reply to a question, Mr. Ganong said that as soon as the Washington state law was enacted one of the Oriental grain agencies that had offices in Seattle moved its offices to Portland.

Senator Garland wanted to know what had been the effect of the California law on ocean shipments from San Francisco to the Orient. Mr. Ganong replied that shipments from San Francisco have always been largely overland cargoes from across the American continent and that California never has had much to send to Japan.

Charles S. Holbrook, representing the building industry, made an argument against the bill on the point that Portland is on the eve of a great expansion as a port and the Orient is its nearest neighbor.

J. W. Norton, a land owner of Hood River, declared the bill would subvert the treaty between the United States and Japan and would be considered an unfriendly act. He said he believed the bill unconstitutional.

"I own more than a half section of land in Hood River county," said Mr. Norton, "and it is leased to Japanese for 10 years. I tried to lease it to white men but they would not pay me nearly what it was worth. I am well satisfied with my tenants."

Mr. Wilbur asked Morton if he was not in favor of Japanese exclusion in 1917, so much that he asked Wilbur to introduce a bill in the legislature. Morton admitted that he asked Wilbur to introduce a bill, but said he was not opposed to leasing.

Another Hood River farmer named Parmelee declared Japanese had cleared land for him that white men couldn't have cleared, that he had put it in orchard and that he had been offered \$2,000 an acre for one season.

Chairman Ellis of the Judiciary committee of the senate put the question whether, if the pending bill is not passed, the Japanese may not be led on by false hope that similar legislation may not be enacted in the future, settle on Oregon land and then be thrown into extreme discomfort by such legislation later and there was no definite answer to his question.

"Your attitude seems to be," said Representative Bailey to Mr. Jones, "to let down the bars and let the Japanese come in."

"I don't think it would be possible," said Mr. Jones, "to bring into Oregon too many men who are willing to work."

He declared that many American legion members are not for the anti-alien bill. This information he said he had obtained from talking with many of them.

W. H. Farmer of Portland said he had found Japanese far more desirable as tenants than white men.

"Only yesterday," he said, "a big operator told me he had removed the last of his white tenants and put Japanese in their places because they were better tenants than any white men he had ever seen."

Mr. Farmer averred that this of all times is not the time for legislation against any country. Sanderson Reed of Portland called the bill "an anti-Japanese bill and nothing else."

"This bill," said Mr. Reed, "originates with the American legion. I don't belong to the legion, but two of the men in my family came home wrecks from Europe and I belong to that legion which originated with the Revolutionary war. Our boys have been in one war. Do they want to go into another? This bill if enacted would be an unfriendly act. Why pass it now when we can smell the war clouds over the world?"

Mr. Reed declared the proper thing for the legislature to do, if any action is taken is to send a memorial to the president asking treaty arrangements. He submitted a resolution to the committee which he had prepared. He declared that all the legislation attempted on the subject since 1917 had been without foundation.

Former Senator W. W. Banks declared that certain members of the legislature had committed themselves on the bill without ever having studied it or read it.

This caused Senator Klepper to express resentment of what he interpreted as an intimation that the members had committed themselves for political advancement.

Chairman Ellis emphasized that the committee was not framed for the bill.

Mr. Banks suggested that the effective date of legislation, if it must be enacted, should be deferred to July 1, 1924.

Former State Senator Louis Lachmund of Salem cited the career of George Shliva, Japanese who developed a tract in the San Joaquin valley, worthless when he acquired it, and added \$2,000 to the tax payments of California. He said Shliva had attempted an even bigger development in central Oregon but his party was compelled to leave because of prejudiced feeling. Had Shliva been allowed to develop the land, he said, millions of dollars would have been added to the taxable wealth of Oregon.

Representative M. J. Lee spoke in favor of the bill, declaring the white man had driven the Japanese out of Oregon City.

"We will drive them out again," said Mr. Lee, "and we will not be intimidated by any threats."

Representative Huston read extracts from Japanese newspapers printed in San Francisco containing boasts that the Japanese would arise and sweep away all laws. He branded as a "fine bunch of bunk" the claim of the Portland Chamber of Commerce representatives that if the bill is passed the Japanese will go to Canada or Australia for their grain.

"Why do they say that," shouted Huston, "when Canada has stronger restriction laws than any of the states and Australia will not allow a Japanese to set foot on Australian soil or a Japanese ship to enter an Australian port."

He explained that the bill would not prohibit white farmers from employing Japanese to clear their land.

C. E. Spence, master of the state grange, presented the stand of

85 ARE ADDED AT HIGH SCHOOL

Second Semester Promises to Be Much Crowded in Local Institution.

With 85 new graduates of the junior high schools coming in to demand a place, the Salem high school is now jammed to a pulp the second semester of the year. The juniors may be relieved somewhat, though they are still full enough that the loss of only 85 pupils will not be very much of a relief; but it will add more than 10 per cent to the already terribly over-crowded high school, and where they are to put them they haven't yet figured out.

One of the Chamber of Commerce speakers who has been presenting the city school building program to the various dinner clubs of the city, says they're hanging out of the windows and using the outdoors for living rooms. That will be really almost true, with these new 85 pupils. Only five are being released for graduation. The net gain is exactly 80 pupils. The school already had a total enrollment of 315, and this makes the total for the year 401, with these five going out.

When the present high school building was built, nobody really visualized this vast number of children in the one school. That was before the junior high school divisions, too, when the ninth grade was to be in the high school course and building.

There may be a few more students to register the coming week, the first of the new semester. The schools had vacation on Thursday and Friday, to allow the teachers in all the grades and the high school to mark up their examination papers and determine on the promotions. As the new semester has not yet opened, there might be a considerable outside registration, though the transfers from the junior to the senior high school grades in the city are definitely known.

that organization with the American legion against the Japanese. Mr. Dodson disputed the statement of Mr. Huston that Japanese ships do not land at Australian ports, declaring that in his opinion regular service is maintained. He promised to submit an authentic statement.

**GOVERNOR ASKS THAT HE HAVE FREE HAND**  
(Continued from page 1)

and insurance commissioner to be disappointed by the governor. Abolition of state board of vocational education and transference of its duties to state superintendent of public instruction.

Abolition of state bond commission, state emergency board, state desert land board and world war veterans state aid commission, and transference of their duties to state board consisting of governor, secretary of state and state treasurer. The securities commission remains as now constituted. The bureau of mines and geology is placed under the commissioner of agriculture.

Provision is made in the compromise bill that the labor commissioner, whose office is placed under the new office of commissioner of welfare, shall continue in office until the expiration of

his term. The bill carries also a similar provision with reference to the dairy and food commissioner, whose department is placed under the commissioner of agriculture. The salaries of the two commissioners are fixed at \$4,000 a year.

The compromise measure also carries a provision that in order that the executive may have control over the fees collected and determine what portion of them shall be used for administration and what portion shall go into the federal fund, the following boards shall make annual reports to the governor:

**Boards Are Checked**  
Board of pharmacy, board of registration of graduated nurses, board of examiners in optometry, board of chiropractic examiners, board of barber examiners, board of dental examiners, board of medical examiners, embalmers' examining board, board of accountancy, board of engineering examiners and board of architect examiners.

This provision is in compliance with Governor Pierce's recommendation. All these boards are appointed by the governor.

Under the bill the state game commission and commercial fish commission continue under the jurisdiction of the executive. The personnel of these two commissions is not disturbed.

It is in the abolition, consolidation and grouping of departments that the measure re-

sembles the Hare program. The compromise measure is diametrically opposite to Senator Hall's supercommission bill, tabled in the senate last week, and the provisions of which Governor Pierce has endorsed.

The Hall bill created a subcommittee at government, the governor at its head, the secretary of state, state treasurer and four commissioners appointed by the executive as members. It made mere political figureheads

of the secretary of state and state treasurer both of whom are elective officials, and gave the governor and his four appointive commissioners absolute control of the state's political machinery and its patronage.

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