

# MESSAGE JAP QUESTION

## President Sends Communication to Both Houses of Congress.

The following communication has been transmitted to both houses of Congress by the President:

"I enclose herewith for your information the final report made to me personally by Secretary Metcalf on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. The report deals with three matters of importance: first, the exclusion of the Japanese children from the San Francisco schools; second, the boycotting of Japanese restaurants and third, acts of violence committed against the Japanese.

"As to the first matter, I call your special attention to the very small number of Japanese children who attend school, to the testimony as to the brightness, cleanliness and good behavior of these Japanese children in the schools, and to the fact that owing to their being scattered throughout the city, the requirement for them all to go to one special school is impossible of fulfillment and that they do not have school facilities. Let me point out further that there would be no objection whatever to excluding from the schools any Japanese on the score of age. It is obviously not desirable that young men should go to school with children. The only going to the exclusion of the children themselves. The number of Japanese children attending the public schools in San Francisco is very small. The government has already directed that suit be brought to test the constitutionality of the act in question, but the government is of the opinion that such suit will not be necessary, and that as a matter of comity the citizens of San Francisco should exempt these young Japanese children of education and will permit them to go to the schools.

"The question as to the violence against the Japanese is most admirably put by Secretary Metcalf, and I have nothing to add to the statement which is entirely confident that, as Secretary Metcalf says, the overwhelming sentiment of the state is for the protection of the Japanese in their persons and property. Both the chief of police and the secretary of the board of education, Secretary Metcalf, state that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese in the city. The present order of Secretary Metcalf to state that if there was failure to protect persons and property, then the entire power of the Federal government would be used promptly and vigorously to enforce observance of our treaty and supreme law of the land which treaty guaranteed to Japanese residents everywhere in the United States full and complete protection for their persons and property; and to this end everything in my power would be done, and all the forces of the United States, both civil and military, which I could lawfully employ would be employed. I call special attention to the concluding sentence of Secretary Metcalf's report of November 26, 1906.

"Secretary Metcalf's report is addressed to the President under date of November 26 last, and in part is as follows:

"In my previous report I said nothing as to the causes leading up to the action of the school board in passing the resolution of October 11, and the effect of such action upon the Japanese children, residents of the city of San Francisco, desiring to attend the public schools of that city. A report on this matter will now be made.

"It seems that for several years the board of education of San Francisco had been considering the advisability of establishing separate schools for Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, and on May 5, 1905, passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That the board of education is determined in its efforts to effect the establishment of separate schools for Chinese and Japanese pupils, not only for the purpose of relieving the congestion at present existing in the schools, but also for the higher end that our children should not be placed in any position where their young impressions may be affected by association with pupils of the Mongolian race.

"And on October 11 the board passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That in accordance with article X, section 1652, of the school law of California, principals are hereby directed to send all Chinese, Japanese or Korean children to the Oriental public school, situated on the south side of Clay street, between Powell and Mason streets, on and after Monday, October 15, 1906.

"The action of the board in the passage of the resolutions of May 5, 1905, and October 11, 1906, was undoubtedly largely influenced by the action of the Japanese and Korean exclusion league, an organization formed for the purpose of securing enactment by the congress of the United States of a law extending the provisions of the existing Chinese exclusion act so as to exclude Japanese and Koreans.

"The number of schools in San Francisco prior to April 15 was 78. Of this number 25 primary or grammar schools and two high schools were destroyed by fire, and one high school was destroyed by earthquake, leaving 55 schools. Since April 15, 27 temporary structures have been erected, making the total number of school buildings at the present time 77.

"The Oriental school, the school set apart for the Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, is in the burned section. There is only one Japanese student attending this school at the present time, and there are no Japanese children attending any of the other public schools. I visited the Oriental school in company with the Japanese consul and found it to compare favorably with many of the new temporary structures erected in the city. The construction of this school is exactly the same as at the other public schools, and competent teachers are assigned to the Oriental school. Nearly all of the pupils attending this school have to be taught the English language.

"I found the sentiment in the state very strong against Japanese young men attending the primary grades. Many of the people who expressed this opinion, in condemnation of this course, saying that they would take exactly the same stand against the admission of young men of similar ages attending the primary grades. I am frank to say that this objection seems to me a most reasonable one. All of the political parties in the state have inserted in their platforms planks in favor of Japanese and Korean exclusion, and the congress and state legislature passed a joint resolution urging that action be taken by treaty or otherwise to admit and employ the further immigration of Japanese laborers into the United States.

"The press of San Francisco pretty generally upholds the action of the board of education. Of the attitude of the more violent and radical newspapers it is unnecessary to speak. It is sufficient to say that their tone is the usual tone of hostility to 'Mongol hordes,' and the burden of their charges is that the exclusion of the Chinese call for the exclusion of the Japanese as well.

"The temper and tone of the more conservative newspapers may better be illustrated by an epitome of their argument upon the public school question. That argument practically is as follows: The public schools of California are a state and not a Federal institution. The state has the power to abolish those schools entirely, and the Federal government would have no right to lift its voice in protest. Upon the other hand, the state may extend the privileges of its schools to aliens upon such terms as it, the state, may elect, and the Federal government has no right to question the action in this regard. Primarily and essentially the public schools are designed for the education of the children of the state. The state is interested in the education of its own citizens alone. It would not for a moment maintain the exclusion of the institution to educate foreigners and aliens who would carry to their coun-

# RESUME OF THE WEEK'S DOINGS

## General Review of Important Happenings Presented in a Brief and Comprehensive Manner for Busy Readers—National, Political, Historical and Commercial.

A strike of New York railroad employees seems probable. The czar has fixed February 19 as the date for parliamentary elections. Millions are said to be on the point of dying from the famine in China.

The Oklahoma constitutional convention has adjourned for the holidays. Japan is in a position to put an army of 750,000 men in the field if necessary. Ten congressmen have gone to Panama for the purpose of viewing the big ditch.

Students at Annapolis college lynched a negro for an assault on a white woman. The Interstate Commerce commission will recommend a law to prevent car shortage. A captain in the notorious Twenty-fifth regiment of infantry has been shot by a negro private.

The president may issue an appeal through the Red Cross for aid for the Chinese famine sufferers. General Harrison Gray Otis, of Los Angeles, is seriously ill. The government has purchased a site for a Federal building at North Yakima.

The Chicago & Northwestern railroad will build a new \$20,000,000 depot in Chicago. The house of commons has voted to grant home rule to the Transvaal and Orange River colonies.

Governor Mead has appointed a special committee to investigate the shortage of coal in Washington. Charles G. Washburn has been elected congressman from Massachusetts to succeed the late Rockwood Hoar.

Senator Ankeny has urged upon the War department the necessity of improving the Upper Columbia river. There is little doubt in London circles but that James Bryce will be the next British ambassador to the United States.

A Montana man whose cereals won a gold medal at the St. Louis fair has found there is not a particle of gold in his meal. A new York woman before committing suicide directed that her two Angora cats be forwarded to the president. Her wishes have been complied with.

Testimony heard by the Interstate Commerce commission indicates that traffic conditions are much worse in the South than in any other part of the country. In its annual report the Panama Canal commission says preliminary work has been completed and actual construction of the canal will go forward rapidly.

Four rich Nebraskans have been convicted of land frauds. Oregon miners will ask the next legislature for a state mining inspector. Railroad men and shippers attribute much of the car shortage to excessive prosperity.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 30c/35c. Eggs—Oregon ranch, 35c per dozen. Poultry—Average old hens, 11c/12c per pound; mixed chickens, 11c/12c; spring chickens, 14c/15c; turkeys, live, 17c/17.5c; turkeys, dressed, choice, 20c/22c; geese, live, 10c; ducks, 15c/16c.

Fruits—Apples, common to choice, 50c/75c per box; choice to fancy, \$1/2.50; pears, \$1/1.50; cranberries, \$1.50/2.50 per barrel; persimmons, \$1.50 per box. Vegetables—Turnips, 90c/1 per sack; carrots, 90c/1 per sack; beets, \$1.25/1.50 per sack; horseradish, 9c/10c per pound; sweet potatoes, 2 1/2c/3c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2c/1.5c per pound; cauliflower, \$1.25 per dozen; celery, \$4/4.50 per crate; lettuce, head, 30c per dozen; onions, 10c/12c per dozen; pumpkins, 1 1/2c per pound; spinach, 4c/5c per pound; squash, 1c/1.5c per pound.

Onions—Oregon, 75c/1 per hundred. Potatoes—Oregon Burbanks, fancy, \$1/1.10; common, 75c/85c. Wheat—Club, 65c/66c; bluestem, 67c/68c; valley, 66c/67c; red, 63c. Oats—No. 1 white, \$2.56/2.60; gray, \$2.54/2.58. Barley—Feed, \$2.16/2.50 per ton; brewing, \$2.50; rolled, \$2.56/2.64. Rye—\$1.40/1.45 per cwt. Corn—Whole, \$2; cracked, \$2.7 per ton.

Hay—Valley timothy, No. 1, \$11/12 per ton; Eastern Oregon timothy, \$14/16; clover, \$7/8; cheat, \$7.50/8.50; grain hay, \$7.50/8.50; alfalfa, \$11.50; vetch hay, \$7/7.50. Veal—Dressed, 5 1/2c/8c per pound. Beef—Dressed hogs, 16c/20c per pound; cows, 4c/5c; country steers, 5c/5.5c. Mutton—Dressed, fancy, 8c/9c per pound; ordinary, 6c/7c. Pork—Dressed, 6c/8c per pound. Hops—1 1/2c/1.5c per pound, according to quality.

Wool—Eastern Oregon average best, 15c/18c, according to shrinkage; valley, 20c/25c, according to fineness; mohair, choice, 26c/28c.

# NOT READY FOR CITIZENSHIP.

## Congress Will Disappoint Porto Rico, With Roosevelt's Consent.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says: In spite of the president's recommendation no citizenship for the people of Porto Rico will be granted by the congress and probably not by the next one either. The leaders both in the house and senate have come to the conclusion that the time is not yet ripe for such action. They have presented the matter to the president, and he is now aware that his recommendation in this regard will not be acted upon. There are said to be grave matters of public policy involved which might be seriously complicated if citizenship should be granted at this particular time to the people of Porto Rico. A general understanding therefore has been arrived at. There is an understanding in congress that the president will acquiesce in this decision because it has been put up to him frequently by some of the strongest men at the capital.

Briefly stated, the objection to citizenship for Porto Rico is based upon the existing condition of the population of that island. A large percentage of the people are of mixed strain of Spanish and negro blood. The proportion of illiteracy is naturally large. Much progress has been made in the school system, but it is still approximately true that 75 per cent of the persons of school age are not receiving instruction.

Monday, of Wyoming, succeeded in passing the bill extending to May 15, 1907, the time in which entries may be made final settlement on the Shoshone Indian reservation. Then Payne, of New York, called up his resolution relating to the distribution of the president's annual message to the several committees in accordance with a custom that has existed since the foundation of the government.

The house passed the resolution and adjourned at 12:45 p. m. A hundred members waited to extend the season's greeting to Speaker Cannon.

# NAVY EYES TURBINE ENGINE

Will Not Finally Adopt Until Demonstrated the Best. Washington, Dec. 22.—The most important engineering problem of the present day affecting marine propulsion, in the opinion of Rear Admiral C. W. Rae, chief of the bureau of steam engineering, whose report was made public today, is that of the steam turbine. Involving such radical changes, Admiral Rae says, the bureau has preferred to wait before adopting it extensively, until it had been demonstrated as unquestionably the best system of propulsion for naval purposes.

It is expected that, when the three scout cruisers now building, two with turbine and one with reciprocating engines, are completed and their trials have been held, comparative data of the utmost value will be obtained. An officer of the bureau is now abroad making a thorough investigation of marine turbine installations already in operation and in contemplation and in addition the work of erecting at Annapolis, Md., experimental turbine engines, condensers, pumps, etc., is proceeding.

Washington, Dec. 19.—In the house today secured the promise of the senate public lands committee to amend the bill repealing the timber and stone act so that 20 per cent of the receipts from the sales of public timber shall be paid to counties in which the timber is cut. This is in lieu of taxes. The bill provides that hereafter public timber not in forest reserves can only be acquired by purchase at not less than its appraised value.

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# DOINGS OF OUR NATIONAL BODY OF LAWMAKERS

## Thursday, Dec. 20.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Senator Foraker occupied the attention of the senate in its last session before the holiday recess today in an extended criticism of the basis of the president's action in discharging the negro troops of the Twenty-fifth Infantry on account of the Brownsville raid. He was replied to briefly by Lodge, while Scott sustained the demand of the Ohio senator for a full investigation of the matter by the senate military committee. A resolution declaring for such an investigation is before the senate for action at its next meeting.

Washington, Dec. 20.—After being in session for three-quarters of an hour today, the house adjourned until January 3, 1907. Empty desks greeted the speaker when the house convened, and the desire to get away for the holidays was superior to the inclination for business.

Mondell, of Wyoming, succeeded in passing the bill extending to May 15, 1907, the time in which entries may be made final settlement on the Shoshone Indian reservation. Then Payne, of New York, called up his resolution relating to the distribution of the president's annual message to the several committees in accordance with a custom that has existed since the foundation of the government.

The house passed the resolution and adjourned at 12:45 p. m. A hundred members waited to extend the season's greeting to Speaker Cannon.

# Wednesday, Dec. 19.

Washington, Dec. 19.—President Roosevelt's message dealing with his action in dismissing from the army the negro troops of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth infantry furnished the one topic of interest in the senate's session today. A lively debate followed the reading of the message as to what should be done with it.

Foraker wanted it sent to the military committee with instructions to make further investigation, should the committee deem it necessary. He said that in reality much that appeared to be testimony was not testimony, as much of it was not under oath. On objection from Clay, the senate postponed action until tomorrow.

The pension calendar was cleared by the passage of more than 200 private pension bills. At the suggestion of Senator Lodge, President Roosevelt's Panama message will be printed for the senate in "normal" spelling. Kittredge secured the adoption of an order for 20,000 copies.

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# FOUND THEM ON THE ISTHMUS OF PANAMA

## Senator Foraker Occupied the Attention of the Senate During the Greater Portion of Its Session Today.

Printed copies of the message, handsomely bound, were placed on the desk of each senator and the reading of the document was closely followed. Preceding the Panama message, the president's recommendation respecting public lands and the naval personnel were received and read.

The senate agreed to the holiday adjournment resolution and will be in recess from the end of the session Thursday next until January 3.

Resolutions were agreed to directing an investigation by the department of Commerce and Labor of the International Harvester company to ascertain whether it effects restraint of trade; also directing the senate judiciary committee to report what authority congress may have under the commerce clause of the constitution to prevent interstate commerce in child-made goods.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The house began the last week before the Christmas holidays with a determination to dispose of as much legislation as possible, to make way for the more active work which will develop on it when congress again convenes. To this end several small bills were passed under suspension of the rules. The Indian appropriation bill was taken up and 15 of the 57 pages completed when it was laid aside for the president's message concerning the Panama canal, which consumed more than an hour in its reading, being listened to by a large number of members.

The pictorial feature of the message afforded an opportunity for good natured comment, the innovation of cuts in a state paper being looked on with favor. Messages from the president on public lands and the naval personnel were also read.

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