

A SPECIAL MESSAGE

President Sends Communication to Congress on Jap Question.

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

"I inclose herewith for your information the final report of my personal secretary, Secretary Metcalf, on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. The report deals with three matters of controversy—first, the exclusion of the Japanese children from the San Francisco schools; second, the boycotting of Japanese restaurants, and, third, the 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 means that they cannot have school facilities. Let me point out further that there would be no objection whatsoever to the admission of schools any Japanese on the score of age. It is obviously not desirable that young men should go to the exclusion of the children themselves. The number of Japanese children attending the public schools in San Francisco was 1,257 in 1905. The government has already directed that suit be brought to test the constitutionality of the act in question, but my earnest hope is that such suit will not be necessary, and that as a matter of comity the citizens of San Francisco will consent to 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 his statement. I am entirely confident that, as Secretary Metcalf says, the overwhelming sentiment of the state of California is for law and order and for the protection of the Japanese in their persons and property. Both the chief of police and the acting mayor of San Francisco assured Secretary Metcalf that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese in the city. I authorized and directed Secretary Metcalf to state to the Federal government within the limits of the constitution to protect persons and property, then the entire power of the Federal government within the limits of the constitution to enforce the observance of our treaty, the supreme law of the land, which treaty guaranteed to Japanese residents everywhere in the United States full and perfect 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 your attention to the concluding sentence of Secretary Metcalf's report of November 26, 1905: '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 arrest of about 400 Japanese children, residents of the city of San Francisco, desiring to attend the public schools of that city.' My report on this matter will now be made.

"It seems that for several years the board of education of San Francisco has been considering the advisability of establishing separate schools for Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, and on May 6, 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, Japanese pupils, not only for the purpose of relieving the congestion at present prevailing in our schools, but also for the higher and better 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 1662, of the constitution of California, the board hereby directs to send all Chinese, Japanese or Korean children to the Oriental public school, situated on Clay street between Powell and Mason streets, on and after Monday, October 15, 1905.'

"The action of the board in the passage of the resolution of May 6, 1905, and October 11, 1905, was undoubtedly largely influenced by the activity of the Japanese exclusion league, an organization formed for the purpose of securing enactment by the congress of the United States of a law excluding the Japanese and Koreans. 'The number of schools in San Francisco prior to the earthquake of 1906 was 22, of which 12 were primary and two high schools were destroyed by fire, and one high school was destroyed by earthquake on March 27, 1905. Since April 18, 27 temporary structures have been erected, making the total number of school buildings at the present time 72. '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 other public schools erected in the city. The course of instruction is exactly the same as at the other public schools, and competent teachers are assigned for duty in this 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 were outspoken in their determination to prevent the Japanese from attending the primary grades, and they would take exactly the same stand against American 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 on March 7, 1905, the state legislature passed a joint resolution urging that action be taken by treaty or otherwise to limit and diminish 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 further than to say that their tone is the usual tone of hostility to 'Mongol hordes,' and the burden of their claims is that Japanese are no better than Chinese, and that the same reasons which dictated 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

lish 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 its action in this regard. Primarily and essentially the public schools are designed for the education of the citizens of the state. The state is interested in the education of its own citizens alone. It would not for a moment maintain this expensive system to educate foreigners and aliens who would carry to their countries the fruits of such education. Therefore, it is held that the state has no discrimination operating in violation of the treaty with Japan in the state's treatment of Japanese children, or even in a new treaty, which should be framed which would contain on behalf of Japanese subjects the 'most-favored-nation' clause, this could and would be done by the state, without that exclusion from the use of its public schools all alien children of every nationality and race. The children of the Japanese are children of its own citizens, for whom the system is primarily designed and maintained, and if the state should exclude the Federal government and not complain, since no treaty right could be violated when the children of Japanese parents are treated precisely as the children of all foreign nations.

"The feeling in the state is further intensified, especially in labor circles, by the report on the conditions in Bulletin 56 of the Bureau of Labor, Department of Commerce and Labor. The claim is made that the white labor has been almost entirely driven from the Hawaiian islands, and that the Japanese are gradually forcing even the small amount of white labor out of business. 'Many of the foremost educators in the state, on the other hand, are strongly opposed to the action of the San Francisco board of education. For example, are admitted to the University of California, an institution maintained and supported by the state. It is also admitted, and is gladly welcomed at Stanford University, San Francisco, so far as known, is the only city which has discriminated against Japanese children. I talked with a number of prominent labor men, and they all said that they had no objection to Japanese children attending the primary grades, provided they wanted Japanese children now in the United States to have the same educational privileges as the children of other nations, but that they were unalterably opposed to Japanese young men attending the primary grades.

"The objection to Japanese men attending the primary grades could very readily be met by a simple rule limiting the ages of all children attending those grades. All of the white labor men I talked with in San Francisco spoke in the highest terms of the Japanese children, saying that they were among the very best workers and pupils in their persons, well behaved, studious, and remarkably bright.

"The board of education of San Francisco declined to receive the resolution of October 11, claiming that, having established a separate school for Chinese, Japanese and Korean children, the original intent of section 1662 of the political code became mandatory.

Resume of Japanese attending public schools in San Francisco as mentioned in Secretary Metcalf's report: Number of pupils 93 Number of schools they attended 23 Number of pupils attending: 2 years old 2 3 years old 2 4 years old 2 5 years old 2 6 years old 2 7 years old 2 8 years old 2 9 years old 2 10 years old 2 11 years old 2 12 years old 2 13 years old 2 14 years old 2 15 years old 2 16 years old 2 17 years old 2 18 years old 2 19 years old 2 20 years old 2 Number of pupils born in— Japan 65 United States 25 Number of— Girls 28 Boys 55

"A boycott was maintained in San Francisco from October 3 to October 24 by members of the exclusion league, a Japanese business in that city. Nearly all of the leaders of labor organizations in San Francisco interviewed on this subject disclaimed any knowledge of any formal action being taken for the boycotting of these restaurants. 'As a matter of fact, the most effective boycott was maintained against nearly all of the Japanese restaurants located in San Francisco for three weeks. Pickets were stationed in front of these restaurants and every effort was made to prevent people from entering the premises. In many instances the windows were broken, and in one or two instances the proprietors of the restaurants were struck by these pickets. I am satisfied, from inquiries made by me and from statements made to me by the Japanese restaurant keepers, that the throwing of stones and breaking of windows was not done by the men picketing the restaurants, but by young men and boys who had no connection with the restaurants as soon as the boycott was instituted.

"Assaults have from time to time been made upon Japanese subjects residing in the city of San Francisco. For example, on March 2, 1905, in favor of the Japanese exclusion act, a law was informed by the chief of police that upon receipt of a communication from the Japanese consul he at once made an effort to stop these assaults, and, if necessary, to assign men in citizens' clothes to accompany the police for this purpose. 'These attacks, so I am informed, with but one exception were made when no policeman was in the immediate neighborhood. Most of the attacks were made by young men; many of them were vicious in character, and only one appears to have been made with a view of robbing the persons attacked. All these assaults appear to have been made subsequent to the fire and earthquake in San Francisco, and my attention was called to them by an assault made prior to the 18th day of April, 1906. 'I know that these assaults upon the Japanese are universally condemned by the citizens of California. For example, the citizens of San Francisco and Oakland have been terrorized by numerous murders, assaults and robberies, both at day and night. The police have been powerless. The assaults upon the Japanese, however, were not made, in my judgment, with a view of robbing, but rather from a feeling of racial hostility, stirred up possibly by newspaper accounts of meetings that have been held at various times relative to the exclusion of Japanese from the United States.

"While the sentiment of the state of California, as manifested by the numerous utterances of the Japanese and Korean exclusion league, by articles in many of the newspapers in the state, by declarations of the political parties in their platforms, and by the passage of a joint resolution by the state legislature on March 7, 1905, in favor of the exclusion of Japanese coolies, yet the overwhelming sentiment in the state is for law and order and for the protection of Japanese in their persons and their property.

"The chief of police of the city of San Francisco, as also the acting mayor of the city, assured me that everything possible would be done to protect the Japanese subjects in San Francisco, and they urgently requested that all cases of assault and all violations of law against the Japanese be at once reported to the chief of police. 'I am very strongly upon the acting mayor of the city, as also upon the chief of police, the gravity of the situation, and that, as officers charged with the enforcement of the law and the protection of property and person, you looked to them to see that the Japanese subjects in San Francisco were afforded the full protection guaranteed to them by our treaty with Japan. 'If, therefore, the police power of San

Francisco is not sufficient to meet the situation and guard and protect Japanese residents in San Francisco, to whom under our treaty with Japan we guarantee full and perfect protection for their persons and property, then, it seems to me, it is clearly the duty of the Federal government to afford such protection. All considerations which may move a nation, every consideration of duty in the preservation of our treaty obligations, every consideration prompted by 50 years or more of close friendship with the empire of Japan, would unite in demanding, it seems to me, of the United States government and all its people, the fullest protection and the highest consideration for the subjects of Japan.

The Chinese famine is growing worse. There is a move to put a British prince on the Serbian throne. All Italian shipping has been tied up by the general strike of seamen.

At Norfolk, N'eb., the temperature is 3 below zero with coal at \$20 per ton. Japanese warships will avoid San Francisco for a time lest the Maine disaster recur. A mining exchange has been organized in Chicago in connection with the board of trade.

Germans are confident of a tariff agreement between their country and the United States. A fuel famine is on at Phoenix, Ariz. There is no oil and the gas and electric plants have shut down.

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.

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 medal.

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. A general strike has been declared at all the ports of Italy and as a result there is serious injury to commerce.

The Japanese ambassador to the United States declares it useless to think of war between his country and ours. Representative Hardwick, of Georgia, would compel railroads to install the block signal system and license all railway telegraphers.

A million bushels of wheat are being allowed to rot on Northern Pacific platforms in Central Washington, while sidings are crowded with empty cars. An influential Japanese paper says the solution to the present trouble in the United States would be to allow the Japanese to build their own schools and if necessary to get aid from the home government.

There is an upward tendency in the hop market. Russian terrorists tried to kill Admiral Doubasoff. Hill has abandoned his Great Northern-Burlington merger.

John Barrett, United States minister to Colombia, is in Portland. Negro convicts in Mississippi revolted and several were severely hurt. Chicago has arranged terms for ownership of the street railway systems.

Cardinal Gibbons defends King Leopold's government of the Congo state. The pope says French political freedom does not compare with that existing in America. President Smith, of the Louisville & Nashville railroad, says political leaders threaten to confiscate their property and denounce Roosevelt and the judges who fined the railways.

The Interstate Commerce commission will start at Minneapolis in January and work West investigating the car shortage. The Mexican minister to the United States says his government assumed control of the railroads to prevent American ownership.

There is little hope of King Oscar's recovery. The president will endorse ship subsidy in a special message to congress after the holidays. Two lake steamers collided off Duluth and it is feared one of the vessels is lost together with 31 men.

The Northern Pacific announces an increase in its capital stock from \$155,000,000 to \$250,000,000. All copper properties in the United States and Mexico are now controlled by Standard Oil interests. An amendment to the rate law has been introduced allowing newspaper publishers and railroad companies to exchange tickets and advertising.

The kaiser is in conflict with the Clericals and Socialists, and a more bitter church war is promised in Germany than that now on in France. North Dakota and Minnesota are without fuel and a severe blizzard is raging. There is much suffering and death is expected as a result of the cold.

IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, December 18. Washington, Dec. 18.—The senate today devoted nearly four hours to consideration of unobjectionable bills on its calendar. The result was the passage of a number of measures of minor importance. Among those passed was one authorizing a government loan of \$10,000,000 to the Jamestown Tercentennial Exposition company, and another providing for an investigation of the industrial, social, moral, educational and physical condition of women and child workers in the United States by the department of Commerce and Labor. The urgent deficiency appropriation bill was also passed.

Washington, Dec. 18.—During the session of the house today the Indian appropriation bill was passed practically as it came from the committee on appropriations. The early morning session was devoted to the consideration of District of Columbia business. The exodus of members has already commenced for the Christmas holidays.

Washington, Dec. 17.—A pictorially illustrated message from President Roosevelt portraying conditions as he found them on the isthmus of Panama during his recent visit occupied the 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.

Washington, Dec. 14.—But for the cowardice of 100 members of congress, the house today would have adopted the amendment to the legislative appropriation bill increasing the salaries of senators and representatives from \$5,000 to \$7,500 per annum. Practically every man who voted against the increase did so from fear that his vote would react and result in his defeat two years hence, and nearly every man who voted negatively saw a grab in the legislation proposed. The legislation was entirely meritorious.

The three congressmen from Washington voted for the increase. Binger Hermann voted against it, but he would not be a beneficiary. French, of Idaho, was not present. Representative Jones, of Washington, today introduced a bill proposing to increase by 20 per cent the salaries of all civil service employees of the government on July 1 next.

The first salary amendment to the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill today was moved by Littauer, of New York, and was as follows: 'On and after March 4, 1907, the compensation of the speaker of the house of representatives and vice president of the United States shall be at the rate of \$12,000 each.' By a vote of 214 to 51 the amendment was adopted. Littauer also introduced a bill to increase the salary of the chief justice of the United States to \$15,000 per annum.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The senate today confirmed the nominations of William H. Moody, of Massachusetts, to be an associate justice of the Supreme court of the United States; Charles J. Bonaparte, of Maryland, to be attorney general; Victor H. Metcalf, of California, to be secretary of the navy, and Oscar S. Straus, of New York, to be secretary of commerce and labor.

The feature today was a speech by Senator Rayner upholding the states' rights doctrines as involved in the present Japanese question on the Pacific coast. Resolutions were agreed to calling upon the president for information regarding the seizure by Mexico of the fishing schooner Silas Stearns, and directing the secretary of war to furnish information regarding alleged experiments with cholera virus at Manila resulting in 10 or more deaths.

The senate in executive session ratified the general act by the delegates of the powers represented at the conference which met at Algiers, Spain, in April last, to draft a treaty concerning Moroccan affairs. Opposition by the Democrats compelled the adoption of a resolution disclaiming responsibility for the participation of the United States in the program arranged by the conference as to the future of Morocco.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The president yesterday sent to congress a special message strongly recommending changing the laws as to the personnel of the navy. He urges the necessity of such legislation as will cause officers of the line of the navy to reach the grades of captain and rear admiral at less advanced ages and will give them more experience and training in the important duties of their grades. Under the present system of promotion captains are commissioned at the average age of 56 and rear admirals at the average of 60.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The Tillman bill, forbidding national banks and other corporations authorized by congress, as well as corporations in general from contributing to election funds, was considered yesterday by the committee on elections of president and vice president, which decided unanimously to report the matter favorably, with the addition of an imprisonment clause as well as imposition of a fine for offenders.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The senate today listened to the second speech which has been made this session against the continuance of Reed Smoot as senator from Utah. It was delivered by Dubois, of Idaho, who, after reviewing in detail the workings of the Mormon hierarchy and Smoot's prominent connection therewith, concluded with the charge that President Roosevelt used the weight of his administration to assist the Republican Mormon vote in the last election. A bill was passed providing regulations for fishing vessels to prevent collisions at sea. Adjournment was taken at 4 p. m. until Monday.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The house today, on the request of Representative Pollard, of Nebraska, adopted a resolution directing the judiciary committee to investigate the legal questions involved in the much-criticized payment of a sum of money to Mr. Pollard for the period between March 4, 1905, and July 18, 1905, at which time Mr. Pollard was elected to the 59th congress, to succeed Hon. E. J. Burkett, who was elected to the senate. A resolution was adopted calling upon the secretary of the Interior for a complete description of all public lands which have been withdrawn or reserved from entry since July, 1906, together with the reason for such action. The report is desired that congress may pass upon the president's recommendations for the withdrawal of coal lands.

Representative Lacey, of Iowa, introduced a bill making \$12 the minimum monthly pension to be paid veterans of the war of 1861. Washington, Dec. 12.—The house of representatives today went on record in opposition to the new spelling as recommended by the president. By a vote of 142 to 25 the following was adopted as a substitute for the item reported by the appropriations committee in the executive, legislative and judicial appropriation bill: 'No money appropriated in this act shall be used in connection with printing documents authorized by law or ordered by congress or any branch thereof, unless the same shall conform to the orthography recognized and used by dictionaries of the English language.'

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SLOW AS OX TEAMS.

Freight Cars Travel but an Average of 23 Miles a Day.

Chicago, Dec. 18.—'Car shortage and traffic congestion are more serious now than they ever have been in the history of this country. Already a number of schools in the Northwest have been forced to close because coal shipments could not be had. Business all over the United States is being injured vitally by the existing conditions, and remedy must be had quickly, if chaos in commerce is to be prevented.' The foregoing statement was made by Interstate Commerce Commissioner Franklin Lane, who, with Commissioner James S. Harlan, arrived in Chicago over the Pennsylvania road from Washington on the way to Minneapolis, where a hearing will be given the railroads and shippers of Minnesota.

'When you come to think of the freight car problem, it is one of the biggest in this country,' said Mr. Lane. 'Do you know that the average speed of freight cars is only 23 miles a day? Just think of it! With the big business interests of Chicago and other cities crying out for more cars, the 'empties' are leisurely making their way across the country.

'Something is wrong, or this condition would not exist. If the average speed made by a freight car is only 23 miles a day, we might as well have the old wagon trains and oxen back. They made as good time as that, and there were no rates or rebates or wrecks. What is the cause of this state of affairs? Well, that is for us to find out, and we hope to do so in a very short time.'

Mr. Lane said a number of commercial organizations had suggested and advocated a reciprocal demurrage law that would compel the railroads in the event of unusual delay, to make good the damage.

LARGER SALARIES. Movement to Pay Members of Congress More Gains Force.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The time is not far distant when congressional salaries will be increased, this despite the faint heartedness shown by members of the house in the vote on the amendment to the legislative appropriation bill last Friday. It is the universal opinion of senators and Representatives that the present salary of \$5,000 is entirely inadequate, and that view appears to be generally indorsed by the people. Just how large an increase will be made is yet to be determined. Some are contending for \$7,500, others for \$10,000. The chances seem to favor the smaller amount.

There is a great deal of merit behind the movement for increased salaries for senators and representatives. In time past \$5,000 went farther than it does today; it was a larger salary, as salaries went, and was more of an inducement than it is at the present time. The time was when the average congressman could save money on a \$5,000 salary. But that time is past. It is doubtful if a dozen men in congress are able to save a single cent of their present salary; a vast number of them expend much larger amounts each year, and in a perfectly legitimate way.

NO ENGINES TO HAUL CARS. Nearly 3000 Empty Are Idle in Kansas City Yards.

Kansas City, Dec. 18.—The Journal today says: A systematic inspection of the terminal railroad yards here shows that there are 3,000 empty freight engines standing idle in the Kansas City yards because the railroads have not sufficient motive power to move them. The engines are not less than 1,000 loaded and standing in the yards here and waiting for dates of loading some of them show that they had been ready to move for two weeks. There is no shortage of cars here, but a shortage of engines. At Sedalia, Mo., there are 261 empty freight cars by actual count and at Springfield there are 379. At Topeka there are more than 300 empty cars in the yards; at Wichita about 200 and Hutchinson about 50 cars.

Grip on Coal Land. Denver, Colo., Dec. 18.—Investigation into the Union Pacific coal land frauds in Wyoming will not be productive of any good to the public if the company will not only be permitted to retain possession of the \$60,000,000 worth of coal land which it is to have gained illegally, but no effort of the Union Pacific company will be made to return the coal to the state. This, Denver men interested in the coal industry say is the plan which has been prepared by Harriman railroads.

May Change Coal Land Order. Washington, Dec. 18.—The secretary's attention has been called to the fact that his order withdrawing the 64,000,000 acres of public land supposed to contain coal deposits is operating to shut off legitimate coal land which is not believed to contain coal. It is probable the order will be modified, permitting entry of such land under any exempt coal land law showing that it does not contain coal.

Torpedo-Planting Boat for Coast Guard. Washington, Dec. 18.—The secretary of war today approved the recommendation of the chief of artillery in the appropriation of \$175,000 for the construction of a torpedo planting vessel for use in the harbors of the United States. They deem the construction of such a vessel highly important.