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GOVERNOR JOHNSON
SIGNS LAND BILL

Three Elements Likely to Invoke
Referendum—Act Becomes
Operative August 10.

Sacramento.—California's alien land bill was signed by Governor Johnson against the protests of Japan and the representations of President Wilson and his personal envoy, Secretary Bryan. The governor signed the bill and 90 days after the adjournment of the legislature, which will be August 10, the act becomes operative.

Within California the act has encountered triple hostility which may delay its actuality until November, 1913. In the first place, the democrats opposed state legislation at this time, as a matter of party regularity. The Asiatic Exclusion League, an organization of which the president is Olaf Tveitmo, recently convicted of complicity in the national dynamite plot originating in Indianapolis, announced that it would invoke the referendum purely because it opposes the bill as faint-hearted.

Thirdly, the powerful Panama-Pacific International Exposition company, backed by many chambers of commerce, has placed itself on record in opposition to the bill on the ground that it is a violation of faith.

JAPAN STILL SHOWS FAITH

Likelihood of Estrangement of Peoples, However, Admitted.

Tokio.—Faith in the American people to see that justice is done the Japanese is the dominating note in the discussion of the California alien land ownership legislation.

War talk is denounced as ridiculous and only calculated to embarrass the two governments, which are laboring for a peaceful settlement by diplomacy.

It is conceded, however, that failure on the part of the Americans to respond to the Japanese appeal for a discontinuance of the alleged discrimination would be likely to lead to some estrangement of the peoples. The Japanese public generally is convinced that the land bill is a racial and not an economic measure and hence a blow to national pride, and the people feel that the world must be taught the necessity of equal treatment for the whites and non-whites.

Bill More Drastic Than California's. Phoenix, Ariz.—An anti-alien land ownership bill far more drastic than the bill recently passed by the California legislature has been signed by Governor Hunt, following its passage by both houses of the state legislature.

The new law makes it impossible for aliens of any color to hold land unless they have declared their intention of becoming citizens. Non-citizens now holding land will be compelled to dispose of it within five years. Mining claims or property necessary to the working of mines alone is exempted.

GOVERNMENT MUST PAY

Treatment of Ill, Waiting Aliens Not Steamship's Duty.

New York.—A decision handed down by Judge Mayer in the United States district court will cost the United States government about \$1,000,000 a year from now on. It holds that the government must pay for medical aid to aliens brought to this country and found after their arrival at Ellis Island to be suffering from some temporary contagious disease.

The government sought to collect from the Holland-American Steamship company \$2167 for such treatment, but the court, in finding for the defendants, declared that the immigration laws make no provision for the steamship company to pay for medical treatment for ailing aliens. Unless overruled by a higher court, the decision will apply to all steamship lines.

Borah May Be President. New York.—Harper's Weekly makes the following editorial forecast:

"We predict that the next republican candidate for president of the United States will be William E. Borah of Idaho."

More than a year before Woodrow Wilson's nomination Harper's made a similar prediction, which fact is referred to editorially by the New York Sun.

Cuban Makes Flight Across Strait. Havana.—Domingo Rosillo, the Cuban aviator, made the first flight ever accomplished by a Cuban airman across the Florida Straits from shore to shore. He started from Key West, making the passage to Havana of 90 miles in 2 hours and 25 minutes.

Dynamite Cruiser Rent by Torpedo. Newport, R. I.—The torpedo boat Vesuvius was struck by one of its own torpedoes and was beached on Hope Island, Narragansett Bay, when the lives of those on board seemed imperiled by the waters which rushed in through a two-inch hole astern.

NEWS FROM OUR
NATIONAL CAPITAL

Democrats Grant Concessions
Regarding Publicity of
Tariff Hearings.

Washington.—Announcement by Chairman Simmons, of the finance committee, that sub-committees considering the various schedules of the Underwood tariff bill had determined to grant more time to protesting manufacturers than at first was intended, aroused considerable interest at the capitol.

Although the effort of senate Republicans to force public hearings was defeated by a vote of 36 to 41, the minority leaders see in the changed tactics of the Democrats a concession which they assert resulted from the denunciation of secret consideration of the bill.

Two Democrats, Senators Ransdell and Thornton, of Louisiana, voted for the Republican amendment. Senator Poindexter, of Washington, Progressive, voted with the majority. Senator Jones, of Washington, Republican, who previously had determined to vote against public hearings, announced just before the rollcall that he had changed his mind because the finance subcommittees were giving private hearings to some interests which he thought should be public.

President Wilson came out strongly as the champion of free wool and free sugar-in-three-years, as provided for in the tariff bill recently passed by the house.

He announced emphatically that he was not considering compromises of any sort; that he stood squarely behind the measure as it passed the house and he regarded it as the duty of the Democratic majority in the senate to fulfill its platform pledge by enacting the house bill into law.

Tariff Bill Not in Favor Abroad.

While democratic senators are wrestling with home manufactures, protesting against numerous rates in the Underwood bill, they are confronted also by protests from foreign countries against administrative features of the bill and the provisions that would grant a 5-per-cent reduction of the duty on imports in American bottoms.

Protests from England, Germany, France, Italy, Australia and other countries have been lodged with the state department and communicated to the finance committee.

From many countries have come protests against that new provision in the bill which would give the secretary of the treasury the authority to exclude from entry goods of merchants or manufacturers who refuse to submit for inspection by United States agents their accounts pertaining to valuations or classification of merchandise whenever disputes arise.

Bryan Replies to Japan's Protest.

Secretary Bryan handed Ambassador Chinda the reply of the United States government to the Japanese protest against the California alien land legislation. The ambassador immediately cabled it to Tokio. No indication as to the nature of the reply was given out.

On learning through press dispatches that Governor Johnson had signed the Webb land act, Secretary Bryan telephoned Viscount Chinda and invited him to come to the state department to receive the reply which he had been anxiously awaiting since the presentation of his note May 9.

The negotiations between the two governments are now expected to proceed in regular fashion without further reference to what takes place in California.

National Capital Brevities.

Secretary Lane, of the interior department, has placed himself on record as favoring a railway system in Alaska constructed, owned and operated by the government.

Senator Chamberlain's resolution proposing a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution has been favorably reported by the senate committee on woman suffrage.

One thousand financial experts will be asked a series of questions prepared by Senators Owen of Oklahoma and Hitchcock of Nebraska, bearing upon the proposed Democratic currency reform measure.

On the night of March 4 there were stolen from the navy department the plans showing the general arrangement of the decks and hatches and complete method of electric wiring and control of firing guns of the new battleship Pennsylvania. A few days later, what are described as "duplicate plans" were missed from the navy department. Neither theft was made public until recently.

Secretary Redfield's broad intimation to business that the federal government would investigate cuts in wages that looked like reprisals for the passage of the tariff bill brought out a sharp crossfire of speech in the house between Chairman Underwood, of the ways and means committee, and Representative Mondell, Republican, of Wyoming.

POLAR CONTRASTS

The Arctic Is a Deep Cup, the
Antarctic a Huge Bulb.

FORMS OF LIFE DIFFER ALSO.

In the North Are the Eskimos, and Plants and Animals Are Relatively Abundant, While the South Has No Human Beings and Little Vegetation.

The earth whirls around an invisible axle, one end of which turns the deep cup of the Arctic ocean, while the other spins the huge white button of the antarctic continent.

In the north the ice floats on the sea like a moving floor. In the south it rests like a bossy shield on a vast dome of uplifted rock.

Close around the edges of the ice world, both north and south and even within it, animals and plants are found living. But in their species these inhabitants of the opposite poles are as different as the poles themselves.

On and around the antarctic continent there are several species of birds, notably albatrosses, petrels and the strange, upright walking penguins, with their black coats, white waistcoats and ludicrously polite bearing. There are also whales and seals, but the human form is absent, except so far as it is mimicked to the eye of fancy by the stately penguins. The plants are scanty in number, although some bear flowers.

Within the arctic circle the scene is more animated. There are many arctic plants, some bearing brilliant flowers. Yellow buttercups and arctic poppies warm the heart of the explorer.

The saxifrage puts out its starry blossoms within 7½ degrees of the pole. There are so many other species that a very attractive bouquet of arctic flowers may be formed. The animal life of the arctic is also relatively abundant. In the sea is the world circling whale, the walrus with his curious tusks and the various species of seals. On the land and snow and sometimes on the icepacks are large and remarkable animals often in abundance. The great polar bear alone would suffice to make the lands that he tenants famous. Then there are reindeer, musk oxen, foxes, wolves, hares and lemmings. Among birds are grouse, ptarmigans, snow buntings, falcons, puffins and auks. But man is there, too, in the person of the hut dwelling, fur clothed, fish spearing Eskimo.

The reason why the life around the two poles is so different and so contrasted in its forms is probably to be found in the climatic differences, which, in turn, are governed by the elevation. The sea life is similar in both cases—whales and seals are the characteristic animals that inhabit the polar waters. But the great elevation of the antarctic continent, with its eternal burden of snow and ice, thousands of feet in thickness, continually sending down immeasurable glaciers that form vast platforms of thick ice all around the borders of the continent, keeps the mean temperature at a low level and drives life away from the snow buried land. The atmosphere over the south pole manufactures snow and ice without limit. As the burden piles higher at the center it pushes outward on all sides down the slopes of the continent until it reaches the bordering sea.

But things have not always been thus. The recent explorers of the antarctic have found remains of ancient life, recalling the life of the temperate zones and the tropics. The coal deposits of the antarctic continent are believed to be of vast extent. They could not have been formed under present conditions. They consist of the fossilized remains of immense forests. They could not have been transported to their present location either by land or water. They must have been formed where they are. Consequently the antarctic regions must once have enjoyed a mild climate and atmospheric conditions very favorable to an abundant vegetation.

But if there was an abundance of vegetation there is every reason to believe that there was an abundance of animal life also. At that time the south pole, instead of being elevated many thousands of feet above the sea, may have lain at a low level. That, in itself, would raise the mean temperature, but it would not be sufficient to produce all the difference between present and past conditions of antarctic life.

Either the sun was hotter in that distant time, or the composition of the atmosphere was such as to retain more heat, or the inclination of the earth's axis was different from what it is today, or, as some have imagined, the solar system was then passing through a warmer region of space. Whatever the cause may have been, there is no doubt that there was a time when the lands around both the poles were habitable by animals and plants, most of which have since been driven toward the equator.

As the antarctic continent rose, and assumed its burden of ice, the relics of its former splendid life were buried almost beyond recovery, while in the far north, where there has been no corresponding elevation, but possibly a depression, more of the ancient life forms have remained, while the traces of what they once were are more easily recovered.—Garrett P. Serviss in Spokane Spokesman-Review.

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