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MESSAGE ON 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 inclose herewith for your information the final report made to me personally by Secretary Metcalf on the situation affecting the Japanese in San Francisco. This 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, acts of violence committed against the Japanese.

"As to the first matter, I call your especial 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 special 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 point is the exclusion of the children themselves. The number of Japanese children attending the public schools in San Francisco was very small. The Government has already directed that suit be brought to test the constitutionality of the act in question; but my very earnest hope is that such suit will not be necessary, and that as a matter of comity the citizens of San Francisco will refuse to deprive 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 their persons and property, and directed Secretary Metcalf to state that if there was failure to protect persons and property, then the entire power of the Federal government within the limits of the constitution would be used to enforce the law, and that the supreme law of the land, which treaty guaranteed to Japanese residents everywhere in the Union full and perfect protection for their persons and property, and to do 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 especial attention to 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 effect of such action upon the Japanese 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 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 and Japanese pupils, not only for the purpose of relieving the congestion at present prevailing in our schools, but also for the higher end that our children should not be placed in any position where their youthful impressions may be affected by association with pupils of the Mongolian race.

"And on October 11, 1905, the board passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That in accordance with article X, section 1662, 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, 1905.

"The action of the board in the passage of the resolutions of May 6, 1905, and October 11, 1905, was undoubtedly largely influenced by the activity 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 18 was 26. Of this number 28 elementary or grammar schools and two high schools were destroyed by fire, and one high school was destroyed by earthquake, leaving 45 schools. 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 new temporary structures 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 condemnation of this course, saying that 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 in the unnecessary speak further than to say that their tone is the usual tone of hostility to 'Mongol hordes,' and the burden of their claim is that Japanese are not 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 these 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 institution to educate foreigners and aliens who would carry to their countries the fruits of such education. Therefore, if it should be shown that there is a discrimination operating in violation of the treaty with Japan in the state's treatment of Japanese children, or even if a new treaty with Japan should be framed which would contain on behalf of Japanese subjects the most favored nation clause, this could and would be met by the state, which would then exclude from the use of its public schools alien children of every nationality and limit the right of education to children of its own citizens, for whom the system is primarily designed and maintained, and if the state should do this the Federal government could not complain, since no treaty right could be violated when the children of other nations were 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 the Hawaiian Islands contained in Bulletin 66 of the Bureau of Labor, Department of Commerce and Labor. The claim is made that white labor has been almost entirely driven from the Hawaiian Islands, and that the Japanese are gradually forcing their way, the small white traders 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. Japanese are admitted to the University of California, an institution maintained and supported by the state. They are also admitted to, and 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; that they wanted Japanese children now in the United States to have the same school privileges as 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 simply limiting the ages of all children attending those grades. All of the teachers with whom I talked while in San Francisco spoke in the highest terms of the Japanese children, saying that they were among the very best of their age, cleanly in their persons, well behaved, studious, and remarkably bright.

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

Resume of Japanese attending public schools in San Francisco as mentioned in the foregoing communication:

Number of pupils	93
Number of schools they attended	23
Number of pupils at—	
6 years old	2
7 years old	5
8 years old	9
9 years old	3
10 years old	3
11 years old	5
12 years old	8
13 years old	7
14 years old	4
15 years old	10
16 years old	12
17 years old	9
18 years old	6
19 years old	4
20 years old	4

Number of pupils at—	
First grade	7
Second grade	10
Third grade	12
Fourth grade	16
Fifth grade	11
Sixth grade	13
Seventh grade	7
Eighth grade	7

Number of pupils born in—	
Japan	68
United States	25
Number of—	
Girls	28
Boys	65

"A boycott was maintained in San Francisco from October 3 to October 24 by members of the Cooks and Waiters' Union against Japanese restaurants doing 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, a most effective boycott was maintained against nearly all of the Japanese restaurants located in San Francisco for at least three weeks. Pickets were stationed in front of these restaurants and every effort was made to prevent people from patronizing them. At times stones were thrown and windows broken, and in one or two instances the proprietors of the restaurants were struck by these stones.

"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 gathered in front of the restaurants as soon as the boycott was instituted.

"Assaults have from time to time

been made upon Japanese subjects resident in the city of San Francisco. I was informed by the chief of police that upon receipt of a communication from the Japanese consul he at once instructed captains of police to make every effort to stop these assaults, and, if necessary, to assign men in citizens' clothes to accomplish the purpose.

"These attacks, so I am informed, with but one exception were made when no policeman was in the immediate neighborhood. Most of them were made by boys and 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 not called to any assaults made prior to the 18th day of April, 1905.

"I know that these assaults upon the Japanese are universally condemned by all good citizens of California. For months 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 the persons attacked, but of racial hostility, stirred up possibly by newspaper accounts of meetings that have been held at different times relative to the exclusion of Japanese from the United States.

"While the sentiment of the state of California, as manifested by the public utterances of the Japanese and Korean Exclusion League, by articles in many of the leading 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, is 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 affecting the Japanese be at once reported to the chief of police.

"I impressed very strongly upon the acting mayor of the city, as also upon the chief of police, the gravity of the situation, and told them that, as officers charged with the enforcement of the law and the protection of property and person, you looked to them to see that all Japanese subjects resident 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 enter into a nation's 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."

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 Doublasoff.

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 denounces Roosevelt and the judges who fined the railways.

DOINGS OF OUR NATIONAL BODY OF LAWMAKERS

Monday, Dec. 17.

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 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 devolve 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.

Friday, Dec. 14.

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 an amendment increasing the salaries of the members of the president's cabinet to \$12,000 each, effective on and after March 4, 1907.

On division, the amendment was adopted 204 to 60. Littauer also offered an amendment increasing the salaries of senators, representatives in congress and delegates from territories to \$7,500 per annum. On a rising vote after considerable debate, the amendment was defeated by a vote of 135 to 161.

After disposing of the salary question the house passed the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill.

Thursday, December 13.

Washington, Dec. 13.—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 Roose-

velt 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 12.

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."

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 Algeciras, 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.

Tuesday, Dec. 11.

Washington, Dec. 11.—The question of Senator Reed Smoot's right to a seat as United States senator from Utah was discussed by Senator Burrows in the senate today for more than three hours. The senator had carefully prepared his speech, which received the closest attention throughout by a large attendance of senators and crowded galleries. Smoot occupied his place in the chamber. No interruptions were made during the entire speech, which was an arraignment of Mormonism and the responsibility which attached to Smoot for Mormon principles as a member of the apostolic body in the church.

Washington, Dec. 11.—This was a field day for oratory in the house. The executive, legislative and judicial appropriation bill afforded an opportunity for general debate covering a wide range of subjects, from a dissertation on Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel prize, to the raising of salaries of members of congress and including a discussion of simplified spelling.

The house at 5:05 adjourned until noon tomorrow, no action looking to the close of general debate on the bill having been taken.