

JAPAN'S "PEACEFUL PENETRATION" OF THE PACIFIC COAST STATES

What It Has Done in Hawaii; What It Is Doing In California, and What It May Do In the Nation.

SIXTH INSTALLMENT

California's Efforts at Protection California passed in 1913, notwithstanding the earnest protests of the Federal Administration, an Alien Land Law bill similar to that already passed in certain other States. In those other states the same measure had met no opposition from the Administration, the reason being that the Japanese are more solicitous as to securing privileges in California, where for the present they are centralizing their efforts, and had made no protests as to such legislation in the other States.

The California act forbids the selling or leasing for more than three years of land to any person not eligible for American citizenship. Some good resulted, but recently the Japanese have evaded the provisions of the act by placing title to land in the names of Japanese babies born in California and by organizing corporations with dummy directors and purchasing land in the name of the corporations. The secretary of state reports seventy-two such corporations formed between January 1, 1918, and March 1, 1919. One such corporation took over a 171-acre Fresno county orchard in May, 1919, at a price of \$171,000. In Tulare County it is declared that the Japanese bought last year over 5,000 acres of bearing orchards.

The session of the California Legislature in March, 1919, attempted to remedy the matter through a bill amending the act by forbidding leasing entirely, and by preventing the use of corporations for the purpose named. The bill was killed at the request of the federal administration lest there be complications with Japan.

At the same session a bill was introduced limiting the age of admission to the lower grades of the public schools, the association of little girls with grown Japanese youths having been found objectionable. The bill was killed at the request of the Federal Administration lest there be complications with Japan.

At the same session, a measure was introduced looking to stopping the further admission of "picture brides" into the State. The measure was killed at the instance of the Federal Administration lest there be complications with Japan.

At the same session a bill was introduced to segregate the Japanese and other Asiatics into separate schools. Killed at the request of the Administration lest there be complications with Japan.

In Collier's for June 7, 1913, will be found an article by Peter Clark MacFarlane, describing conditions of Japanese settlement in California as he found them. He was sent out by Collier's to investigate the matter because of the general opinion in Eastern States that California was unduly prejudiced.

At the Border and in Washington The rich Imperial Valley lies astride our National border, partly in California and principally in Mexico. It is already peopled largely by Japanese, who find it an easy matter to evade custom officials and enter the United States here. The Japanese are displacing whites in the valley, not only in agricultural pursuits, but also in business, by cleverly concerted economic pressure.

In this valley is located a large tract of land, nearly 1,000,000 acres, owned by Americans of Los Angeles and elsewhere, which a Japanese syndicate some time since endeavored to purchase. Public attention was called to the matter through the press at the time, and the plan frustrated.

In Seattle, in the State of Washington, the Japanese have commenced to displace the whites in

general lines of business to an extent thus far not seen in any other large city. This condition is undoubtedly due to the encouragement offered by the people of Seattle in the belief that the city's trade with Japan would be thereby materially increased. It is now a question with the Seattle people, as expressed in published interviews, whether they are not already paying dearly for their whistle and whether the price to be paid in the future will not be alarming.

It is important to study these and similar phases of the problem, for they demonstrate with certainty what will happen in every desirable agricultural section of California as soon as there are here enough Japanese to accomplish the result.

The figures already given prove conclusively that even without more favorable immigration legislation, the Japanese only needs time to take possession of what he finds desirable in California.

And what he will do in California he will do later in other States that offer attractive advantages.

ARTICLE III

Points and Effects of Constructive Immigration Bill—Admits Sixty Germans to One Frenchman or Hollander—Will Give the United States 2,000,000 Japanese Population in Forty Years and Over 100,000,000 in One Hundred and Forty Years—Safeguards Which Should Be Adopted

In the two articles preceding an outline has been presented of our present Asiatic immigration problem, more particularly with regard to the Japanese. Following is a brief of the points thus far made:

The Chinese

So far as the Chinese are concerned, there is at present no problem. The statistics show that under the operations of the Exclusion Act, and because of the scarcity of women and great excess of deaths over births, the Chinese population is very rapidly decreasing. In twenty years it decreased 50 per cent. In Hawaii there are now about one-fifth as many Chinese as Japanese; in Continental United States perhaps about one-third.

Again, the Chinese is more valuable and less undesirable as immigrant and born citizens than the Japanese. That is the general opinion on the Pacific Coast, where there is the best opportunity for judging. The Chinaman is reliable and honest—no other countryman, not excepting the American-born Chinaman makes a better citizen because China has not the hold on him that Japan has on the Japanese.

The Japanese as a people—as their statesmen and high-class merchants regretfully admit—are at present neither honest or reliable.

The Japanese Problem

The Japanese problem, on the other hand, is a very serious one. While the introduction to these articles assumed as a postulate that the Japanese is an undesirable immigrant and an undesirable citizen, that assumption was later reasonably well established by the record of his accomplishments in Hawaii and California, and by the published testimony of his present champion, Dr. Sidney Gullick.

The declared purpose and promised effect of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" when it was adopted in 1907, in deference to Japan's representations, was that it would accomplish through Japan's action a restriction on Japa-

nese immigration similar to that secured by our Exclusion Act on Chinese immigration.

The agreement has been grossly violated in letter and in spirit. At present 10,000 to 12,000 Japanese are being sent through our continental ports each year openly, and unnumbered others are secretly crossing the Mexican border. United States Senator Phelan charges that this border immigration is promoted with the knowledge, if not assistance, of Japanese authorities, including Consular officials, and any one conversant with the manner in which the Japanese Government retains authority and control over Japanese in this country, even over those born here, knows that this secret immigration could not continue without knowledge thereof in Consular offices.

In order to increase the resident Japanese population as rapidly as possible over 20,000 "picture brides" have been admitted in five years past, and they have performed their allotted task of bearing Japanese children as rapidly as possible—frequently, if not usually, at the rate of one per year. In California the Japanese birth rate per thousand is already five times as great as the white birth rate, and increasing.

Under the understanding, the Japanese population of the United States should have decreased since 1900, as has the Chinese. Instead it has multiplied six fold. There are already 150,000 Japanese in this country, about two-thirds of them in California, and three-quarters of the allotment have settled in seven of the State's fifty-eight counties, where they are concentrated generally in a few communities.

The manner in which the Japanese displace white labor in industries and entire communities has been explained and concrete examples furnished. It is evident therefrom that Japanese to the number of a small fraction of the whites in any State can take absolute economic control of the most favored sections of that State if they once secure entrance.

Hawaii's situation under existing conditions is hopeless. The Japanese already comprise almost half the entire population and four times as many as the Caucasian or any other race. More than half the yearly increase in births and school enrollment is now Japanese. In a few years the native born Japanese vote will hold the balance of power, and in a generation can defy a combination of all other races in the Territory. The proposed "Constructive immigration" legislation would bring about that result immediately by making Japanese eligible to citizenship; and the power thus obtained will be used by them as Japanese, not as Americans. Nothing could be more conclusive on this point than the testimony of Dr. Sidney Gullick himself.

Dr. Gullick explains how the Japanese, even when born under the American flag and taught in our public schools, is drilled in loyalty to Japan and her ideals by compulsory attendance in Japanese schools and by association with his own race. He says that if the Japanese in Hawaii maintain their traditional conception of themselves, their neighbors and their duties "the permanent maintenance in Hawaii of America Democracy, American homes and American liberty is impossible."

The leading Japanese newspaper of Honolulu has been quoted in its boast—well founded—that the Japanese soon will control the territory of Hawaii by their votes. It adds that they are even now in position to exert dominant influence in the political and social affairs of the territory; and that statement was fully confirmed when the Territorial Legislature in May, 1919, on the demand of the Japanese, killed a bill which provided that the territory should not issue teacher's certificate to those who did not have some knowledge of the English language, and of American history and civics.

What has happened to Hawaii is happening in localities in California and will be extended if protective measures are not adopted over this Coast, and ultimately throughout the Nation.

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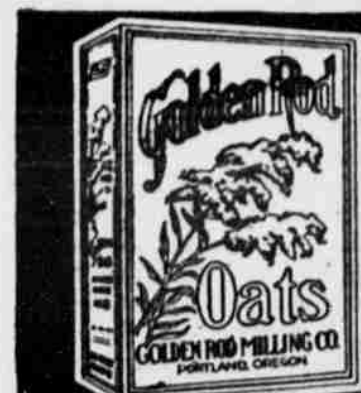
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