

SENATOR HARDING ON JAPANESE QUESTION

In an address to a delegation of California men who journeyed to his home at Marion, Ohio, Senator Harding last week commented as follows on the Pacific coast Japanese problem: "I do not doubt that Americans on the coast are troubled in their minds about the Japanese question, as it is called. That question raises every interpretation of our watchword, 'America First,' for it involves four sets of obligations. It involves our obligations to a great foreign power. It involves the obligations of that power toward us. It involves the obligations of all America toward one group of American states and their peoples. But it also involves the obligations of that group of states to the nation.

There are those who incline to raise an alarm because of the dangers which lurk in racial differences. I do not say racial inequalities, but I say racial differences. I am ever ready to recognize that the civilization of Japan is older than ours, that her people have a proud and honorable tradition, that they have enjoyed a long and peaceful Oriental to modern customs of business and government with amazing ability, and that they have, as all world statesmen, who have dealt with them, know better than some untalented Americans, a stalwart, undiminished, and in armed defence of their pride, and of their rights, and in the fulfillment of their international promises.

Friction has been created. In spite of the honor of a people, and the great measure of contribution they make to the world advancement, it is conceivable that they may be so different in racial characteristics or in manner of life or practice from another people of equal honor and achievement, that no matter whether it be on the soil of one or upon the soil of the other, these differences, without raising any question of inferiority, superiority or inequality, may create, as I believe they have created upon our Pacific coast, without blame to either side, a friction that must be recognized.

The Nation owes it to the Pacific coast to recognize that fact. The Nation owes it to the Pacific coast states to stand behind them, in necessary measures consistent with our national honor, to relieve them of their difficulties. To me it appears that in this task the Japanese people and government of Japan have an interest equal to our own. If the growth of a prospering Japanese population of our Pacific coast states is to increase at a rate which disturbs and alarms a native population because of racial difference, the condition is not one of theory or of prejudice, but one of fact. To me it appears that a situation which might precipitate violence, even the violence of a few irresponsible men, whether they be Japanese or Americans, is a situation which threatens grave international consequences. The cost of one small outbreak might be an incalculable disaster to both nations—no less to Japan than to the United States.

Our two nations are the natural leaders as guardians of the peace of the Pacific, though I do not mean to ignore the great part Britain must play because of her vast domains. Acting in fine friendship with Japan, it is possible by international action, friendly financial and commercial cooperation, to erect a joint policy of greatest good to the far east and its peaceful development. By working with the liberal and anti-military forces within Japan, which have now reached preponderance, America can exercise her greatest influence in substituting for territorial aggression, the peaceful, righteous reclamation of oppressed and impoverished peoples on the Asian mainland by the means of commerce and financing. Japan has even more than we at stake. She, at the island stronghold in the center of disorganized peoples, is the outstanding, self-governing people with a radius of 3,000 miles. Her responsibilities and opportunities are great indeed, and she knows full well that they can best be fulfilled by friendly cooperation with America.

Therefore, her interest in removing all sources of irritation is equal to, if not greater, than ours, and I, and all Americans, shall regard her and her people as wise enough to continue to assist in solving the question of Japanese immigration, so that, not only shall new and more stringent understandings be made, and not only all understandings shall be observed officially, but so that evasions of these agreements by individual Japanese shall be completely stopped by the vigorous watchfulness of the cooperating authority of the United States and Japan.

GIBSON ASKS GROWERS' COOPERATION

L. R. Gibson has asked the cooperation of orchardists in the enforcement of the child labor laws. He has called attention to a provision that prohibits the employment of any child under 16 years of age during public school hours unless the child has graduated from grammar grades. "It will be warmly appreciated and a public benefaction if all employers of labor in Hood River will use their influence in getting and keeping in school all children who have not passed the eighth grade. From the ignorant class is recruited our undesirable, lawless element."

Hartwig Opens Sunday Evening Meetings

Otto Hartwig, president of the Oregon Federation of Labor, delivered an address Sunday night at Riverside church under the auspices of the Sunday Night Club. The address initiated a semi-monthly series of addresses on subjects of current interest. Mr. Hartwig pointed out how big business concerns were adopting more and more as a solution of labor problems the plan of giving labor a greater share in the management of the business. Owners of huge manufacturing concerns are taking the laboring men more and more into their confidence, stated the speaker.

Fruit Shipments Reach 59 Cars

Apple and pear shipments rolled from here up to Saturday reached 59 cars. The shipments have been chiefly pears. Rains, which have delayed harvest of fruit, early varieties of both pears and apples, have held up shipments to some extent. From now on shipments will show a steady increase.

Merchants to Meet Monday

Members of the Merchants' Association will meet at the Commercial club Monday night. Matters of importance are to be discussed and C. O. Huclat, president, urges that all be present. When you want your clothes pressed and cleaned by the most sanitary method with a Hoffman steam presser, telephone J. C. Meyer, No. 1124, and he will send for them.

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