

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Asiatic Exclusion League

SAN FRANCISCO

DECEMBER, 1908

Proceedings of the Asiatic Exclusion League

Labor Temple, 316 14th St.

San Francisco, December 20, 1908.

The Asiatic Exclusion League met in regular session, pursuant to adjournment, at the above date and place, and was called to order by its President, O. A. Tveitmo, at 2:30 p. m.

Roll Call and Minutes.

On roll call of officers absentees were noted. The minutes of the previous meeting, November 15th, were on motion adopted as printed.

Credentials and Communications.

From Sign and Pictorial Painters, submitting credentials for T. Denman and E. J. Fraser; received and delegates seated.

From Steam Engineers No. 64, submitting credentials for William T. Brandon, F. W. Edwards and C. J. Mitchell; received and delegates seated.

From the Asiatic Exclusion League of Santa Clara County, submitting copy of circular letter to patrons of Asiatic labor, advising that the same is detrimental not only to American labor, but in the end to the small store-keeper and every industry; received, noted and filed.

From the Anti-Jap Laundry League, thanking the officers and members of the Asiatic Exclusion League for their participation and expressions of good will to the Anti-Japanese Convention, recently held by the white laundry men of the State; received, noted and filed.

From the Hon. James C. Needham, Congressman from the Sixth District, California, advising of having received the League's communication of November 30th, relative to the enactment of an Exclusion Law preventing the immigration to the United States of all Asiatics, etc., and stating, that "he had received a similar petition from the League and filed the same at the beginning of the last session of Congress, and that it would be unnecessary to duplicate the records by again filing such petition"; received, and on motion, the Secretary directed to notify Mr. Needham that the League would continue to send petitions in increased numbers until laws were passed restricting Oriental immigration to our shores, at the risk of duplicating the records.

From C. H. Parker, member of the League, submitting letter from the Hon. George C. Perkins, acknowledging receipt of his letter relative to an Exclusion Law, and assuring favor of any action looking for the exclusion of undesirable immigration from Asiatic countries; received and filed.

From Senator George C. Perkins, assuring the League that he would favor a law excluding Asiatics; received, noted and filed.

From Senator Frank P. Flint, acknowledging receipt of the League's communication relative to the enactment of an Exclusion Law; received, noted and filed.

From the Hon. Julius Kahn, advising of having received petitions in favor of an Asiatic Exclusion Law, and having filed the same in the House; received, noted and filed.

From Congressmen H. C. Loudenslager, S. W. McCall and Washington

Gardner, acknowledging receipt of the League's petition; received, noted and filed.

From Congressman Champ Clark, calling the League's attention to the fact that he had fought hard in Congress, in the House and Senate conferences for the present bill with more stringent provisions, and also stating that he had worked and spoken for the most stringent Exclusion Laws during all the years that he had been in Congress, and would continue to fight until such a law was written upon the statute books; received, noted and filed.

From the American Brotherhood of Cement Workers, International Brotherhood Boiler Makers and Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, and the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers, advising that the League's petitions would be forwarded to Congress, and that the same would be printed in their official journals, with a request to every affiliated local organization and their members to do likewise; received, and on motion the Secretary requested to express the appreciation of the League for the same.

The following communication, ably supported by Delegates Gallagher, Misner, Benham, McMahon and others, was ordered spread in full upon the minutes, and copies of same sent to the press:

"The Asiatic Exclusion League:

"Gentlemen—Through the publicity given the proceedings of your honorable body, we desire to direct the attention of the business men of San Francisco and California to the two and one-half pages of Chinese and Japanese advertisements appearing in the San Francisco Chronicle, Monday, December 14th.

"Among these advertisements are to be found every article needed to furnish and beautify the home and adorn the person of both male and female. Furniture and crockery ware, all kinds of metal, porcelain, pottery and glassware, cotton, linen, silk, lace and embroidery, men's and ladies' furnishings; books and stationery; clocks, watches and jewelry; leather goods of every description; toilet articles; groceries and shoe stores; laundries; cleaning and dyeing; men's and ladies' tailoring; insurance; oil painting, crayon and photographic work; drugs and medicine.

"To complete the list of industries we find: Railway and general contractors; milling, planing and all kinds of carpenter work; painting and varnishing; furniture repairing and picture framing; store and office fixtures; show cases and counters, made or repaired.

"In addition to the above, which affect the interests and prosperity of the white merchants engaged in the same lines of business, we find the inevitable housecleaning companies, and in this connection we also call attention to the "Situation Wanted" ads in the Chronicle, a canvas of which for the past thirty days reveals the astonishing fact that over 50 per cent of those ads are inserted by Japanese domestics wanting jobs.

"It is also seen that the ads are continually changing, which leads to the inference that the advertisers soon obtain what they desire.

"We now present several facts to the business men of this city, facts that are beyond dispute:

"(1) That the Japanese first assailed the weakest parts of our industrial life—the agricultural and domestic occupations—and virtually eliminated the white men and women who had been employed in those industries. That this was so easily accomplished may be attributed to the lack of organization among farmers and domestics.

"(2) That in the occupations mentioned there are approximately 40,000 Japanese employed—farmers 30,000, domestics 10,000.

"(3) The next assault was made upon the shoe workers and restaurants, and here they met a bitter resistance from organized labor, which has kept

them in check, though it is safe to say that 30 per cent of the shoe repairing is in the hands of Japanese.

"(4) Next came the turn of the white laundries, who lost fully 60 per cent of their work before they awoke to the gravity of the situation and united, worker and employee, in a determined effort to resist the scourge.

"(5) That as the Japanese have invaded the domain of the farmer, domestic, shoe repairer, laundry worker and restaurateur, with full or partial success, so will they attack other business interests, one by one, in such manner as will promise the best and quickest results.

"To supplement the facts submitted, we now claim that all the articles mentioned in the Chronicle's advertisements are of Japanese manufacture, by Japanese labor and at the Japanese rate of wages.

"This claim can be substantiated by a visit to the sample rooms at the U. S. Appraisers Building. We also claim that similar goods, piece for piece, excepting what may be called curios, can be obtained in stores conducted by white men, and what is of much greater importance, manufactured by white men at white men's wages. There is no doubt in our minds that many thousands of dollars will be spent in these Japanese stores, by white persons, to the material injury of those stores conducted by whites.

"The question which naturally arises is: 'Is there any remedy, and can it be applied?' There are two, and the application of either is so simple that we submit them to the business men of California and San Francisco for their earnest consideration.

"First: The plain people should refuse, absolutely and unequivocally, to purchase anything from a Japanese or any article of Japanese manufacture sold by a white person, and we should also refuse to patronize any person who employs Japanese in preference to persons of the white race. This plan was followed with success during the Revolutionary War, and those who thus ostracised articles of English manufacture were called patriots.

"Should remedy number one fail in the accomplishment of its purpose, there is one yet more drastic and far-reaching.

"Second: Should the business man, in his effort to compete with his Japanese competitors, load his shelves and counters with Japanese manufactured goods, selling them at white men's prices, the remedy would be for the white workingman to give patronage to the Japanese store direct. If it becomes necessary for the worker, the producer, to lower his standard of living 'lex talionis' (the law of retaliation), would compel him to assist in reducing the standard of living of the middleman, the distributor.

"It must be admitted that the second remedy preaches the gospel of despair, but something must be done, and what is to be done must be done quickly.

"Respectfully,

"SAN FRANCISCO LODGE NO. 68.

"INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MACHINISTS.

"By Chas. W. Meyer, Recording Secretary."

Report of Executive Board.

To the Officers and Members of the Asiatic Exclusion League:

Delegates—Since the last meeting, President Tveitmo, Hon. P. A. Bergerot, Delegates Benham, Michael Casey and R. A. A. Summers addressed the State Convention of the Anti-Jap Laundry League, held on the 6th instant at 222 Van Ness avenue.

Your representatives spoke on many phases of the Asiatic question, notably from the racial, patriotic, economic and political view points.

The convention, which was represented by many delegates from interior cities, accorded the speakers a cordial and hearty reception. Strong resolutions were adopted highly commending the work of this League, and urging financial assistance.

Organization.

Your Committee on Organization have been visiting non-affiliated and non-contributing bodies and beg to report the gain of one organization during the month, which has pledged its financial and moral support. This work still continues, and is being prosecuted in every known quarter, with the object in view of ultimately interesting every white person in this grave and serious problem.

Correspondence.

The communications received at your office during the past month have been unusually heavy, and in the majority of instances were requests for extra copies of the League's publications. Notably among these were the Book Department of John Wanamaker, Philadelphia, the Universities of North Dakota and Illinois, Oberlin College of Ohio and the Harvard University, the National library, all the libraries of Paterson, New Jersey, and many others.

Letters have been received from the Executive Office, Governor of California, submitting correspondence and requesting opinions and leaflets on the question of Asiatic Immigration, principally the Japanese.

A letter was also received from the Superintendent of Schools of this city, advising that there are in attendance at the Oriental School 260 Chinese and one Japanese.

The following editorial, written by President Tveitmoe and published in Organized Labor December 19th, relative to the recommendations of Secretary of Commerce and Labor Straus for the modification or repeal of the existing Chinese Exclusion Law, is submitted for your consideration:

Burning Danger Signals

WHILE THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ARE BEING
CHLOROFORMED BY DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS,
PREPARATIONS ARE MADE TO
OPEN THE GATES FOR THE COOLIE HORDES
OF THE ORIENT.

Repeated efforts have been made to repeal or nullify the Chinese Exclusion Act.

Powerful influences, both in America and in China, have sought in past years to break down the barriers placed against the Oriental coolie. So far they have failed.

The infamous Foster bill was snowed under by the millions of protests from citizens, sent at the request of the Asiatic Exclusion League; President Roosevelt's message to the last session of the Fifty-ninth Congress, where he recommended the naturalization of Japanese, and threatened the people upon the Pacific Coast with all the power at his command, met with such a storm of protest that it aroused the entire nation.

As a result, the time established policy of the United

States Government towards Chinese immigration has been rigidly maintained up to the present time, and promises have been made by the administration at Washington that this same policy would be extended to all Asiatic immigrants.

The Californians especially have accepted these promises in good faith, and behaved exceedingly well. In fact, some of the leading papers in the State have even told us that the entire Asiatic immigration problem was settled and that we really had extended the exclusion policy to all the Oriental people.

But in this firmly rooted security there lurks the greatest danger. The signs which have been displayed from Washington and Tokio within the last few weeks ought to act as danger signals to the American citizens who are standing guard for the Caucasian civilization on the western border of our country.

Secretary Straus recommends, in his report to the President, that the Chinese should be treated under the general immigration laws. That is virtually a recommendation to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Act, although the Secretary of Commerce and Labor denies that such was his intention.

Yet, if Straus' views should prevail every able-bodied Chinese coolie, not a criminal, pauper, or anarchist, or suffering from infectious disease, would have free admittance into our ports.

There are over four hundred millions of them in China, and ten, twenty, thirty, forty or fifty millions would hardly be missed in the Celestial Empire, but they would make themselves felt in America in a manner that no intelligent white man or woman can have any doubt of.

Uncle Sam has a real serious race problem in the South. Is he to have one ten times more aggravated in the West?

If the people permit themselves to be chloroformed by promises and diplomatic negotiations, the "yellow peril" will in the future threaten Europe not only from Asia but from America.

Last Saturday, the House of Representatives passed a bill for the greater protection of aliens. It was carried by the vote of the Speaker, as the votes of the members stood 100 against and 100 for the measure on a recapitulation.

We have not seen the full text of this law, but from what has been learned it appears that it is not only an invasion of State rights, but also intended as a club whereby native and naturalized citizens may be kept in subjugation while the Chinese and Japanese swarm and bask in the sunlight of favored nation's treaty rights.

Some day we may perhaps find that if we fail to patronize a Chink or a Jap that we will be indicted by a Federal Grand Jury and thrown into prison; and if your sweet little girl should murmur in protest because she had to sit in school side by side with a courteous, courting Japanese study boy, whose proficiency in the American language manifests itself in the writing of obscene letters, she might run the risk of having the United States marshal drag her off to the dungeon.

Simultaneously with all this comes the news from Tokio that the Mikado's Government has decided to prohibit all immigration of Japanese labor to the main land.

That is nothing new; a similar edict went forth from the Mikado in 1900. There is absolutely nothing binding, not even a treaty agreement. It is simply an announcement by the Nipponese Government of its intentions. However, it should be noted that the Japanese laborers are only prohibited from immigrating to the main land. They can go

in hundreds of thousands to our "insular possessions," the Philippines and the Hawaiian Islands, and from these half-way stations they can readily find a passage to California, Washington or Oregon, and then, there is nothing to stop them from coming in millions by way of Canada and Mexico.

These are among the danger signals that ought to arouse the American people to the peril that is threatening their existence and the fate of their children.

The conquest of a country can be effected more thoroughly by the spade and the hoe than by the sword or the musket.

PUBLICITY AND STATISTICS.

Concerning the report of Secretary of Commerce and Labor Straus for the fiscal year 1908, press dispatches say:

"Considerable space is devoted to the incoming of Japanese, which shows a gradual but sure reduction in the numbers. During the year the net increase of Japanese population was only 3826—arrivals, 9544; departures, 5718."

It must be admitted, by the most radical exclusionist, that there has been a great decrease of Japanese immigration since the "passport clause" of the Immigration Act of 1907 became operative but by what system of computation the arrival of Japanese for the fiscal year 1908 is fixed at 9544, it is beyond our ability to state. The tabulations herewith submitted were compiled from monthly statements furnished by the Bureau of Immigration, which we assume are made up from the reports of immigration inspectors stationed at the various ports of entry in the United States and Hawaii. Previous to 1900 the greatest number of Japanese entering the United States during any one year was 4,832, in the year 1891, after which, owing to an investigation conducted by the California Bureau of Labor statistics, and the agitation resulting therefrom, the numbers fluctuated between 1,110 as the least, and 2,844 as the greatest

number for any one year until 1900 when they reached numerically the respectable but alarming total of 12,365. At this time the increasing numbers of Japanese in California attracted the attention of Governor Henry T. Gage, who, in a special message to the California Legislature, deplored the evil and proposed as the remedy an exclusion act. The Governor's message and the memorializing of Congress, by the Legislatures of California and Nevada, caused a halt and Japanese immigration for 1901 declined to 5,296.

However, the agitation caused by the Governor's message was so tame and of such a perfunctory nature that the Japanese began to arrive in largely increased numbers, as may be seen from the following: For 1902, 14,270; 1903, 19,968; 1904, 14,382; 1905, the year the Exclusion League was organized, 11,021; 1906, 14,243. This brings us down to the period immediately preceding and subsequent to the "School Segregation Imbroglia," when the Japanese became so inflated with conceit by reason of the President's message that they began to believe that California was all their own.

TABLE I.

Japanese immigration during the fiscal years 1907-1908 as shown by the monthly reports of the Bureau of Immigration.

Month.	Fiscal year 1907.	Fiscal year 1908.	Increase or Decrease.
July	1,643	1,724	+ 81
August	2,037	1,816	— 221
September	1,794	1,294	— 500
October	684	1,616	+ 932
November	1,490	1,492	+ 2
December	3,904	1,670	— 1,234
January	5,275	971	— 4,304
February	3,389	1,232	— 2,157
March	3,400	1,202	— 2,198
April	2,123	938	— 1,185
May	2,263	888	— 1,375
June	2,224	960	— 1,264
	30,226	15,803	— 14,438

Note.—+ indicates increase; — decrease.

The above shows that there was a decrease of 50 per cent in the number of Japanese immigrants between the years 1907 and 1908, or, in actual numbers, 14,438; but the column for 1908 also shows a great discrepancy between its total, 15,803 arrivals, and

the 9,544 reported by Mr. Straus. Were we, however, to accept his figures as to the number of departures, in the place of 3,826, as the net increase, we would find 10,855. In analyzing Table I, it must be understood that the fiscal year ends on the 30th of June and commences on the 1st day of July, and that subsequently we are now in the fiscal year 1909.

TABLE II.

Arrival of Japanese immigrants during the calendar years 1906 and 1907 as shown by the monthly reports of the Bureau of Immigration.

Month.	1906.	1907.	Increase or Decrease.
January	911	5,275	+ 4,364
February	1,294	3,389	+ 2,095
March	1,383	3,400	+ 2,017
April	1,739	2,213	+ 384
May	2,124	2,263	+ 139
June	1,958	2,224	+ 266
July	1,643	1,724	+ 81
August	2,037	1,816	— 221
September	1,794	1,274	— ...
October	684	1,616	+ 932
November	1,490	1,492	+ 2
December	3,904	1,670	— 2,234
	<u>20,961</u>	<u>28,286</u>	<u>+ 4,449</u>

Note.—+ indicates increase; — decrease.

Table II shows very clearly the enormous numbers of Japanese admitted to the United States during the period that California was being belabored by the "big stick," but also shows as clearly the decrease in the number of Japanese since the passport amendment to the Immigration Act became operative. That this decrease continues is shown by Table III, which also shows that the net decrease of Japanese for 1908, as given by Mr. Straus, 3826, is not supported by the monthly reports:

TABLE III.

Japanese admitted—immigrant and non-immigrant—together with departures, for calendar year 1908 as shown by the monthly reports of the Bureau of Immigration.

	Immigrants.		Non-Immigrants.		Total Arrivals	De- partures	Net In- crease.
	Ar- rivals.	De- partures.	Ar- rivals.	De- partures.			
January	971	....	....	....	....	....	....
February	1232	....	....	....	....	....	....
March	1202	....	....	....	....	....	....
April	938	228	83	209	1021	437	+584
May	888	228	56	108	944	336	+608
June	960	185	35	147	995	332	+663
July	558	200	30	125	588	325	+263
August	386	268	28	106	414	374	+ 40
September ...	297	....	....	....	....	....	....
October	220	....	....	....	....	....	....
November ...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
December ...	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
	<u>7652</u>	<u>1109</u>	<u>232</u>	<u>695</u>	<u>3962</u>	<u>1804</u>	<u>+2158</u>

In explanation of the incompleteness of Table III, we state that only since last June have the monthly reports contained the departures of immigrants and non-immigrants, and it will be February before the tabulation can be completed. It is seen, however, that the net increase of Japanese for five months alone is 2,158, or two-thirds of the number that is given by Mr. Straus for the entire fiscal year of 1908.

At page 8, Proceedings of the Exclusion League for November of this year, there is a tabulation correcting a misstatement made by the Japanese Vice-Consul at San Francisco, and repeated by all the Japanese officials up and down the coast, relative to the arrivals and departures of Japanese. This misstatement, month by month, from January to August, inclusive, says that 3,235 Japanese arrived and 3,328 departed, or a net decrease of 93. A glance at the total of the last column of Table III is a convincing argument that Japanese officials do not always tell the truth. It is not necessary that we should enter into a discussion at this time of the illegal entry of

Japanese via Mexico and Canada because that subject has been thoroughly treated, during the past summer in various publications of the Exclusion League, but there is one source of increase in the Japanese element of our population that has hitherto been overlooked—the increase by birth. During the past fiscal year, 2,445 births of Japanese children were registered in the Territory of Hawaii, or more than 50 per cent of the total number, which was 4,593. In California the registered births of Japanese exceeded those of the negroes—222 against 179—a fact which should cause reflection when it becomes known that the restrictions placed upon the admission of Japanese laborers does not extend to their parents or wives.

Giving due credit to the number of Japanese departures, a reference to Table III and the columns relative to the arrival and departure of non-immigrant Japanese discloses the fact that the departures exceed the arrivals 3 to 1. The report of the Commissioner-General of Immigration for 1907 asserts that there were only 207 arrivals of non-immigrant Japanese against 30,226 of the immigrant class for that fiscal year, and so on in the same disproportion through several preceding reports. How then are we to account for the departure of so many non-immigrants when there is no record of their arrival? The solution is by inference. Japanese who came as laborers, having made their pile and desirous of returning home for a visit, or to serve with the colors, register as non-immigrants, thus insuring their ability to return without fear of detention or deportation.

Another subject to which Mr. Straus devotes much space is a modification, amounting to virtual repeal, of the Chinese Exclusion Act. Mr. Straus desires that the admission of Chinese be placed entirely under his jurisdiction as is the admission of other aliens. That this recommendation will be followed by the introduction of a measure in Congress, we feel assured because of the many letters that have passed between Washington and Hawaiian advocates of Chinese immigration during the past year. It has been openly advocated by missionary leaders of certain churches that a maximum number, 25,000, of laborers, of each Oriental race, be admitted during each fiscal year, or until all demands for such labor shall be fully

satisfied. This program has the sanction of the wise and wily Mr. Wu, and our astute Secretary of Commerce and Labor appears to be playing into the hands of its promoters. So recently as November 24th, the "San Francisco Globe," said editorially:

"LABOR HAS CAUSE TO SUSPECT TANG SHAO YI'S REAL MISSION. The presence in this country of a Chinese diplomat, with plenipotentiary powers, serves to emphasize the timeliness of "The Globe's" warning to American labor of the imminence of **AN ATTACK UPON THE EXCLUSION ACT.** A hint has already reached the public that Tang Shao Yi's mission to the United States is not alone connected with the conveyance of a message of friendliness and thanks for America's attitude following the Boxer rebellion.

"THE PEOPLE SHOULD BESTIR THEMSELVES.

"The Globe' can not urge too strongly upon organized labor . . . of the Pacific Coast the danger of inaction at so critical a time as the present. **BE UP AND DOING.** We shall encounter in New England, the Atlantic States, and in parts of the Middle West a vigorous hostility to our contention that the Chinese Exclusion Act must remain in force.

"IT IS NO TIME TO STAND IDLE. Let us organize to meet this menace to the prosperity of California."

While the tables quoted show a marked decrease of arrivals, the figures are still portentous, and the various devices used to bring to our country these unassimilable peoples of the Orient should give us greater cause to pause and reflect as to whether this influx can long continue without in a large measure tending to tear down, or to make it additionally difficult, to maintain the American standard of life, American aspirations for industrial and commercial progress and moral advancement, as well as the perpetuation of the purity of our Republic.

The League, when it was first organized—3 years and 8 months ago—impressed upon the public mind and upon Congress the necessity for better regulation and restriction of Asiatic Immigration (particularly Japanese). We, therefore, urge upon our members

and their friends the imperative necessity of signing and forwarding to your members in Congress—Representatives and Senators—the petitions furnished and circulated by this League. On this question there should be absolutely no division and no rest, until Congress has passed an Exclusion Act that will effectively and perpetually bar all further Asiatic Immigration.

CLIPPING BUREAU.

That the sentiment for the exclusion of Japanese immigrants is not dying out, and that the people of California are almost a unit in condemning the practice of employing Japanese while American laborers are seeking employment, is demonstrated in the following editorial excerpts:

Oroville Mercury.

"Those who have kept in touch with the sentiment regarding the exclusion of Chinese and Japanese labor know how strong is the feeling against the letting down of the bars and admitting a class of laborers against which no American can compete, and which would lower his standard of living to such a degree that civilization would be turned backward at least two hundred years. California workingmen will not consent to the free admission of Asiatic labor, and no man who openly espouses such a policy should be elected to public office."

San Diego Tribune.

"Down at Chula Vista indignation holds control of the people because of the influx of Japanese labor in the packing houses, or rather in one packing house . . . and the people hope they will not be permitted to stay long nor spread further. According to present figuring, lemons packed by Japanese cost almost thrice as much as lemons packed by white labor because of the lack of experience, the lack of interest and the willingness to earn less than the amount paid. . . . To say that the Chula Vista people do not want them as neighbors is putting the mildest sort of construction on the feeling."

Alameda Times.

"The experiment made in Santa Clara County of running canneries with Japanese men and white women under the direction of Chinese overseers has resulted in failure. In the first place, the Chinese overseers favored the Japanese by giving the women the hardest work to do; when the white women objected, some of the Japanese retaliated by spitting in their faces, pulling their hair and offering other indignities, which in Alviso almost resulted in the Japanese being mobbed. It did result in the white women going on strike, and a nasty scandal, which forced some of the canneries to get rid of their Japanese laborers."

Mountain View Register.

"The Japs are undeniably energetic and good workers, but they are also undesirable citizens (?). We do not, we cannot, and we will not assimilate with them socially. In sections of this State where they have settled in colonies, they have put the white fruit growers out of business by getting possession of some orchards and then boycotting those farmers who would not lease to them, cutting off the help needed to harvest a crop, and thus bringing ruin to those who wished to run their own farms. The Japs are a real and active menace to the worker, the merchant and the farmer. . . . The fault is entirely with those who employ him, and those who lease their property to him."

San Jose Herald.

"Many years ago tribute was laid on the jungles of Africa that they might bring forth laborers for the development of America. Black slave labor was cheaper and more reliable than free white labor. Later, this same black slave was a bone of contention which cost unstinted measures of blood and treasure. Who now is glad that we have vast numbers of negroes with us? History is as great at repeating as our best firearms, and we still have men with soft hands looking for cheap slave labor—looking to Asia."

Colton Chronicle.

"Mr. Kaneko of Riverside, in a speech before the Chamber of Commerce of that city, said: 'About thirty-five English companies imported Japanese laborers in large numbers to work in Hawaii and Mexico. On arriving in those countries the laborers would find that there was no work for them. Then these companies would, for an extra compensation, smuggle the laborers into the United States, which accounts for the number of Japanese on the Pacific Coast.'"

Santa Cruz News.

"Every acre that is taken up by Japanese is one acre less for the homeseeker we are striving, by means of our boards of trade, to bring to this country. As a man cannot live by bread alone, so the homeseeker cannot live by climate alone. We want our acres tilled by men who amalgamate with us, who will invest their money with us and become part of our community life—not by Japanese who will extract from our soil all the wealth it will yield, only to spend it through local Japanese channels, or send it home through Japanese bankers."

Los Angeles Tourist.

"It is not fair to American help to give the Jap the preference. Let us have more of the sentiment: 'America for Americans.' When the time comes to defend our country, it will be the American help who will be called upon to do his duty. Give the American help the positions—they need them—and their earned dollars will be returned to us and not be hoarded and sent back to a foreign country, which is doing everything in its power to cripple the progress of this country in the Far East."

Hanford Sentinel.

"Some deputy assessors in this valley are having troublesome experience with Japanese. The fact that the name of a Jap does not amount to much, is one of the troubles in this county. They are hard to identify, and may give one name today and another tomorrow. Several out on the little Lucerne Vineyard refused to give any names today, and they will be arrested. People who never have to run up against this Japanese question in America are often radical in their views of friendliness to the Japs, but did they understand the true situation they would do differently. The Japs are smart and cunning, and they take advantage of a situation that often enables them to protect their race in a manner that in this country amounts to abuse of privilege and a violation of all ethics of justice."

Riverside Enterprise.

"Reginald Brinsmead decided some time ago to employ white labor at fair prices to pick his oranges, in preference to the Japanese. He says that he has been so well satisfied with the quality of the work done that he had discharged the Chinese workmen in his packing house, and had installed white men to do his packing. All his help is paid by the day, and Mr. Brinsmead finds the system satisfactory. It is said that Casa Blanca is the only place in the county where Chinamen are engaged to pack oranges. It is further asserted that Mr. Brinsmead's white packers do not demand higher wages than are paid the Chinamen."

Los Angeles Herald.

"Labor of any kind, skilled or unskilled, lets to employing capital ability, energy and power to produce results. At a time when 2,000,000 of school children are at work, and many grown men cannot get employment, it is neither patriotic or right to give to aliens (Asiatics), who cannot become citizens, the preference over American laborers who have white man's responsibilities. In the memorable words of Jesus: 'It is not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs.'"

Pasadena Star.

"It is recognized that Oriental labor must not be admitted into this country. Its admission would provoke endless strife and impose serious economic problems that will be avoided by exclusion."

Modesto News.

"The News does not advocate the exclusion of Japanese because they have brown skin, . . . but for the one reason that they have not the elements to ever become a desirable acquisition to our population. Their views of government, of commercial ethics, of social life and of civic purity are wholly unlike our own."

Fresno Republican.

" . . . Just because the two races are unequal they must be kept physically apart. They cannot exist as members of the same community in a republic, without putting on Republican institutions a strain they are not calculated to sustain. Mother Nature has marked the two races with a different sign, and that sign means 'keep apart.' **Our own people accept that decree of nature—each class for itself.** Our laboring people object to Japanese laborers, but they have no objection to Japanese business men. Our business men do not object to Japanese laborers, but they do not want Japanese business competitors. Our farmers want Japanese coolies to pick fruit, but when a Japanese begins buying land in the neighborhood, our farmers move out. Our people refuse to affiliate socially with the Japanese, and their presence presages a race problem which neither people has the capacity to meet. The process of living together as members of the same community needs to be more than retarded. **It needs to be stopped.**"

Fresno Tribune.

"The Tribune urges citizens to guard against the move which the Japs of Sacramento have already taken. This newspaper is emphatically in favor of a Japanese exclusion law and it will do everything in its power to help along this movement. . . . Two races with such radical physical differences cannot mix without a national wrong being committed. The Japanese can not be assimilated, and should therefore be excluded."

San Bernardino Free Press.

"The Japanese peril is not a California question, because protests come from Vancouver, Seattle, Chili, New Zealand and Australia. It is a question that will not down, and must be met, speedily met, with a bold front. . . . The people of San Francisco should again exclude the Japs from their public schools and let the Supreme Court settle the matter under the provisions of the Constitution, and if Ah Ted is dissatisfied, let him seek solace in the jungles of Africa."

Los Angeles Times.

"It is not possible to contemplate with complacency any intermixture of our own people with those of Japan. Not only is intermarriage between the two races sure to be resented, but the admission of Japanese to citizenship will be fought if ever proposed. We shall contract, not enlarge, the door by which aliens shall be admitted to citizenship. If nationality is likely to weigh in this problem, then race will weigh ten times more."

Alhambra Alhambran.

"The sole purpose of the Chinese, Japanese and Hindoo, in the light of the fact that they cannot become citizens, is to compete with our home labor and carry away their earnings. A vast majority of those from eastern and southern Europe come and go in the same manner as the Asiatics. All

the above mentioned make poor material for assimilation. As they are ineligible for digestion, we must spew them out, or bar their entrance for such purposes as they now come for."

Many hundreds of editorials from all over the State, and containing such excerpts as quoted above are on file in your office and through them we are assured that in every community invaded by the Japanese the people have learned to distrust and despise them—in some instances the feeling amounts to positive hatred. It is not alone the displacement of white labor and the acquisition of farms that has developed this resentment. It is their general characteristics, dishonesty, drunkenness, trickiness, proneness to quarrel, and insolence that has brought upon them detestation of the people of California.

Respectfully submitted.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ASIATIC EXCLUSION LEAGUE.

A. E. YOELL, Secretary.

The report of the Executive Board was, on motion, adopted.

Vacancies.

The place of Delegate N. J. Manson was declared vacant on the Executive Board for non-attendance. Mr. Thomas McIlwain was placed in nomination by Delegate Fredericksen; Mr. McIlwain declined. Delegate Benham placed the name of Mr. Hugh McMahan in nomination, and by motion, concurred in by the delegates present, the nominations were closed.

There being but one nominee, the Secretary cast the ballot, and the President declared Mr. McMahan elected as a member of the Executive Board for the unexpired term.

New Business.

Delegate Williams called attention to the coming convention of the State Building Trades Council to be held in the City of Santa Rosa the coming month. The delegate stated that this convention would be one of importance and attended by several hundred delegates from almost every county of the State, and believed that the convention should be attended by a strong delegation of fraternal delegates from the League. In conclusion Mr. Williams moved that the League send four delegates to the State convention of the Building Trades Council. The motion being put, carried.

The President called for nominations, and the following gentlemen were nominated: Frank McGowan, A. E. Yoell, G. B. Benham and Charles Steckmest. Delegate A. J. Gallagher declined.

On motion, nominations were closed. By instructions of the League the Secretary cast the ballot, the President declaring the above named gentlemen as the elected fraternal delegates to attend the above mentioned convention and directing the Secretary to prepare the necessary credentials.

Delegate Benham spoke at length upon the report of Secretary of Commerce and Labor Straus, stating that the League had not seen the full text of the report, but extracts of the same left no doubt as to the danger that confronted us in the event of Congress adopting the suggestions submitted by Mr. Straus relative to Chinese immigration. The delegate, therefore, moved that the League empower the Executive Board to take up Mr. Straus' report

and be authorized to draft resolutions and forward the same to the proper authorities in Washington.

The President: I would suggest, Delegate Benham that you include in your motion, that the Board be also authorized to analyze the bill passed by the House of Representatives on the 12th instant for the greater protection of aliens. This bill was carried by the vote of the Speaker, as the votes of the House stood 100 against and 100 for the measure on a recapitulation. While we have not seen the full text of this law, from what has been learned it appears that it is not only an evasion of State rights, but also intended to keep in subjugation native and naturalized citizens, while the Chinese and Japanese swarm and bask in the sunlight of "**Favored Nation's Treaty Rights.**" (Applause.) I believe that this bill is far more vicious than the Straus report, and it may be necessary to call a mass meeting during the coming month to deal with both questions. (Applause.)

Delegate Benham then moved that the recommendations of the President be included in the above motion. Carried unanimously.

Visitors.

President Tveitmoe called upon and introduced State Senator Marc Anthony, who spoke as follows:

"Mr. President, Members of the Asiatic Exclusion League, and Friends:

"To the cordial introduction of your presiding officer, my response is that at the approaching session of the State Legislature I shall do exactly what each of you would do in my place—work soberly, devotedly and wholly for the best interests of the people of the State of California and for the exclusion of Asiatics.

"As an honorary member of your magnificent organization, I esteem it an enviable privilege to be one of your representatives on the floor of the State Senate. No man could do more for your cause than a distinguished citizen present here to-day, formerly State Senator—him I shall seek to emulate, the brilliant and patriotic, the Honorable Frank McGowan.

"If there were anything new that I could present to you this afternoon besides what I have learned here on this topic of Asiatic exclusion after all your years of oratory and publication and investigation, I should announce to you that the segregation of Japanese school boys from white school children in San Francisco was a policy, not of so much novelty as the attitude of our Federal government, and that policy was unfortunate.

"And that there never will be anything more thrilling than the present timely cruise around the world, and visit to Japan, of our battleship fleet; and that American diplomacy will never display more peculiar methods than in the present understanding, which is neither agreement nor treaty between Japan and America, that no Japanese laborers shall emigrate to the United States.

"Yet, the subject of Asiatic exclusion is ever new. Each year brings a new development. As to the hidden motives and the unseen influences let him who has the time and means to make investigations find out. Though there is nothing new that I can add to the subject, yet you must realize that there is a distinct advance and progress in this cause, merely in holding these monthly public conferences, as you do this day. For these reports, thus ascertaining the truth regarding Asiatic immigration, the devis-

ing of ways and means and reassuring ourselves of the justice of our cause by such public profession of faith, not only fosters the exclusion sentiment, and conciliates and educates public opinion; but also develops an experienced patriotic organization to deal intelligently, energetically and instantly with Asiatic immigration complications as they arise.

"Let us now ask and answer why the great State of California is so alluring to, and desired by the Asiatic immigrant. Let us, in considering Asiatic immigration, mention only the Japanese—not because there are no other races or nations in Asia seeking the colonization and absorption of our country, but because the Japanese are the most persistent, powerful and pugnacious; and what is said of the Japanese applies more or less to the other Asiatics.

"If the State of California were populated as densely as the Kingdom of Italy, or some of the other European countries (not to mention Asiatic countries), California would contain, not a population of two millions only, as at present, but a population of forty millions, that is, twenty times the present population. When the vast marshes and swamps of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers and the bay regions are reclaimed and devoted to agriculture, when the immense arid tracts of the State are brought under cultivation, a still larger population can be sustained in the State. But, at any rate, the great State of California, under present conditions, can readily support twenty times its present population. The Japanese know this, and they openly declare that we do not know how to use these lands to which we have migrated and settled, but that they do; and that while California has no surplus population, Japan has, and while Japan has no vacant lands, California has.

"There is force in the Japanese contention, when we appreciate that two millions of Californians monopolize lands that should be peopled by forty millions, and when we consider that we Californians are merely settlers or immigrants, or the sons of such ourselves. Let us prove ourselves worthy of our heritage.

"California has many great and necessary enterprises, some colossal, some transcontinental, some international, looking for exploiting, developing and improving the resources of the State. Capital is necessary in these ventures, and the money and credit is often brought in from the Eastern States and from Europe. Then, after the investments are made, interest must be paid on the borrowed money; the capital must receive returns; profits must be obtained, and dividends must be declared, and the European stockholder or bondholder does not ask 'how,' but only 'how much.'

"Some of these great industries employ large numbers of laborers, and cheap Japanese labor seems greatly in demand. It is claimed that there is employment for additional thousands of Japanese in California alone, without mentioning other portions of the United States and the distant dependencies. Is it any wonder, then, that here in our midst these gigantic and powerful interests, seeking the commercial, industrial and material greatness of our State, should try and import into California a few thousands of Japanese coolies every month? The cry of these importers of Japanese is that we exclusionists tear down and destroy, and offer nothing in exchange; whereas, they are the patriots. For do they not dam up the floods, plant gardens in the desert, bring traffic to the wilderness and prosperity and population to the State. When our missionaries shall convert the merchant, the exclusion cause will triumph.

"There is a reason why the Japanese government has been so insistent in shipping over to our shores such large numbers of laborers. After the

Japanese-Russian war, many of the swift auxiliary cruisers were again used in the merchant marine and the passenger traffic afforded the greatest profit. Transporting coolies to California became a lucrative business.

"Again, the Imperial Japanese government subsidizes its trans-Pacific steamships, and spends hundreds of thousands of dollars each year, that these Japanese steamers may be an auxiliary in war and in peace that competing American steamers shall be driven off the Pacific. The Japanese laborer alone justified the expenditure: First, in the relief to the congestion in Japan; second, in the Pacific trade and freight traffic between Japan and Japanese labor colonies abroad, who buy nothing, eat nothing, wear nothing and use nothing except Japanese wares, if at all possible.

"Finally, it is reported that government officials of Japan are financially interested in the great Japanese steamship corporations, and, when the anti-Japanese crusade was at its height two years ago in California, Japanese government officials, in their zeal to protect their own interests, were able to make the exclusion of Japanese coolies from the United States a question of peace or war. Where a few months ago it was a source of alarm, it is now simply a source of amusement, that the same Japanese steamships that are expensively subsidized by the Japanese government are also extensively owned by government officials, and that many of the Japanese laborers transported in these steamships were veteran soldiers of the Japanese-Russian war.

"The impotence of Japanese officialdom to restrain Japanese laborers from emigrating to California is explained, and also the menace that if the United States enacted an exclusion law directed against the Japanese, complications would ensue, and that Japan itself would control the migrations of its subjects.

"Let me not interfere with the plans of the League, or make suggestions that will disarrange policies and work already outlined or begun, but it seems to me that the State of California should be sub-divided into districts, and this great and grand campaign of education which you are waging especially concentrated in one of those districts at a time; and in this connection a most feasible plan appears to be that pursued by the Anti-Jap Laundry League at San Francisco. While you are educating a particular district, select in that district some particular industry whose interests have been invaded by the Japanese; then, as the laundry workers did in San Francisco—the laundry workers who lost in a period of two years one-half of their custom and one-half of their employment—unite your employers and your laborers, unite your bosses and your workers, for mutual protection, and then, as did the laundry workers, placard the town, spread posters on the billboards, send appeals to patrons of the Japanese, both by mail and by hand from house to house. Have mass meetings with brass bands and processions, and then hold a congress, as did the laundry workers here a month ago in San Francisco. If the other interests, individuals and institutions menaced, will help out the particular industry invaded, there will be the same joyous return to normal conditions witnessed in the laundry crusade.

"In order to demonstrate that this movement is not merely a San Francisco agitation, it would seem advisable that a conference or convention be held for the exclusion of Asiatic immigration similar to that held by the American Federation of Labor, such exclusion convention to consist of delegates from all the American States, Territories and possessions on the Pacific, including the Panama Zone, Hawaii, Samoa, Guam, the Philippines and Alaska. Then in addition to these, have delegates from Canada, Mexico and Central America, as well as South American nations on the Pa-

cific, and the white settlements or colonies of the East Indies, Australia and New Zealand.

"In conclusion, let us work peacefully and patriotically for the upbuilding of our great State on principles according to the principles and policies of the founders of our government. Let us strive manfully for the grandeur and glory of our State, and let us, whether born here, or settlers here, make ourselves and our co-workers in this cause worthy of our great possibilities, and an honor to the cause which we have espoused."

Question by a Delegate: Mr. Chairman, may I ask the Senator a question?

Mr. Tveitmoe: Will the Senator yield to a question?

Senator Anthony: Certainly, Mr. President.

Question: I would like to ask what was done in the Legislature two years ago about the bill prohibiting Japanese to own real estate in California?

Senator Anthony: Why, that bill was introduced, I believe, by Mr. Drew in the Assembly, somewhere about the middle of the session. Somebody connected with the League asked me personally to introduce the bill, but just about that time, or previous to that time, there was a report about the Legislature that there were negotiations between our government at Washington and the government at Tokio regarding the Japanese school question at San Francisco, and also Japanese exclusion from the United States, and it was even reported (and here I do not know who was my informant) that the governor of our State, Governor Gillett, had received a telegram from the President of the United States, requesting that legislation hostile to the Japanese be delayed. As I recall it, at that time I conferred with one or two of the representatives of the Asiatic Exclusion League, who were observing legislative matters relative to the introduction of this bill, and I think I also spoke to you, yourself, Mr. President, and it was generally conceded that delay would not hurt the prospects of the bill itself eventually becoming a law; and I wish to state further, Mr. President, in reply to the gentleman's question, that it has been unofficially, and perhaps without proper authentication, been brought to my attention that in the State of California, as well as in other States, there are tracts of land, purchased or being purchased by dignitaries or nobles of Japan, and that even the Emperor of Japan is interested in these ventures, which are for the purpose of establishing colonies of Japanese in this country, and I wish to state that I understand that Mr. Drew of Fresno will introduce in the Assembly the bill prohibiting Japanese ownership of land in California, and he shall receive my hearty co-operation, and I feel confident that the Legislature will adopt some such measure.

ASIATIC EXCLUSION LEAGUE,

A. E. YOELL, Secretary.