

LAWS DIRECTED AT JAPANESE

California May Prevent Orientals Holding Land, From Being Members of Corporations and From Attending School.

Grove L. Johnson, Author of Proposed Enactments, Feels Confident They Will Be Passed by State Legislature.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Thursday, Jan. 14.—The three anti-Japanese bills introduced in the California Assembly by Grove L. Johnson, of Sacramento, and the one by A. M. Drew, of Fresno, prohibiting aliens from holding land in the state of California, have attracted such wide interest that 1,000 copies of each bill that were ordered printed are already exhausted and there is a demand for more.

The Johnson bills are designed to prevent Japanese from being members of corporations; to segregate Japanese children in the public schools and to segregate all Japanese by defining the limits within which they must live. The two first named bills were introduced at the last session of the Legislature by Johnson and action upon them was suspended at the telegraphic request of President Roosevelt during the diplomatic negotiations between the United States and Japan over the action of the San Francisco School Board in excluding Japanese youths from public schools and assigning them to the institution set aside for "Mongolians."

Claim of Japanese.

The Japanese claimed they were not Mongolians and Johnson introduced an amendment specifying "Japanese" in the law. It was this measure to whose enactment the President objected and it was killed.

The bill relating to directors of corporations prohibits all aliens from being members of such boards and its purpose is to prevent competition of powerful Japanese concerns with Americans.

The third Johnson bill is new. It gives municipalities power to prescribe the limits within which "undesirable, improper and unhealthy persons or persons whose practices are dangerous to the public morals and health of a community" shall live.

The author here follows the lines of the supreme court decision in the "slaughterhouse" cases.

Looks for Solid Vote.

Discussing his measures, Johnson said:

"I look for a solid vote from the San Francisco delegation upon all the bills; two from Los Angeles have announced that they will support them and I believe the sentiment against the Japanese

has grown to such an extent that the bills will pass.

"I am prepared to make a fight for them and even should Washington interfere again, I would not stop until the Legislature went on record.

"I regard the presence of Japanese as more dangerous a hundredfold than that of Chinese. In our schools Japanese youths of 16 to 18 years, with their characteristic disregard for the virtue of women, should not be permitted to sit beside our own children. They are a menace to the girlhood of the state.

"I am not prompted by the Asiatic League or any other organization or person in presenting my measures."

The Japanese already have a lobby on the scene and will contribute considerable money to make a fight. The hearings will be held in a few days.

FIGURES GIVEN ON JAPANESE IMMIGRATION

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 14.—Some remarkable figures were made public today at the department of commerce and labor relating to Japanese immigration and emigration. They indicate that during the twelve months ended November 1 last the total number of Japanese admitted to the United States was 6,017, and the total number which left the United States was 5,583, an increase in the Japanese population of 185. The net increase of Japanese nonlaborers was 653 during this period, and the net decrease of Japanese laborers during the same period was 468.

The total number of Japanese admitted to the United States and Hawaii during the period was 12,092, and 7,084 departed, the increase in Japanese population of the mainland of the United States and Hawaii being 5,000. These figures indicate to the immigration authorities that Japan is living up to its agreement with the United States respecting the emigration of Japanese to this country.

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