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THE JAPANESE AMERICAN... PUBLISHED DAILY AT 650 ELLIS STREET...

實現希望

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米の相場は、昨日、東京、神戶、横濱、大阪...

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An Old Controversy Revived.

IN RESPONSE to a wire from State Controller John S. Chambers, informing Senator Johnson that the federal census was "extremely incorrect," and declaring that Japanese evasion of census takers is just another attempt to discredit the seriousness of the Oriental issue, and requesting an investigation, Senator Johnson wired back that he would begin an immediate investigation, it is reported, said The Japanese American News in Japanese last Monday.

A few days ago Mr. Ross of the Bureau of Vital Statistics declared the number of Japanese resident in California to be 109,000. He asserted the Census Bureau figures are incorrect. Now Mr. Chambers steps forward with his outrageous dictum.

In the past the Japanophobes hung their anti-Japanese arguments on mere supposition and baseless tales. With masterly coloring they put forth groundless tales, lacking facts. They massed their suppositions and to an extent succeeded in misleading the public for a time. But now the truth is made clear by the facts gathered by the Census Bureau and the Japanophobes naturally are disconcerted and are trying to distract the issue by making a louder noise than ever.

We do not know how many Japanese are living in California, but our estimate is between 70,000 and 80,000 and the figures given out by the Census Bureau—71,952—is near the correct figures, undoubtedly, even though there may have been some slight mistake, as the Japanophobes argue. They say more than 30,000 Japanese were missed by the census enumerators. They charge, moreover, that these all entered the United States unlawfully. On what do they base this charge? To say the least, it is very doubtful whether they have anything to offer in support of their argument.

Suppose the Census Bureau demands facts instead of arguments? What manner of facts can they produce? Mr. Chambers says that Professor Kuno, teacher of Japanese in the University of California, himself a Japanese, has stated repeatedly that there are approximately 100,000 Japanese in the state. He also asserts that a Japanese newspaper in San Francisco has boasted openly that more than 100,000 Japanese have settled in the state. But what authority is there for these statements? None at all.

The statements made by Kuno and a Japanese newspaper are mere guesses. They never have made a house-to-house canvass to obtain the figures, as the federal census takers have done.

We hope Mr. Chambers and other Japanophobes will not make any irresponsible attacks on the Census Bureau, armed with imaginary stories and figures born of inferences. We hope they will assume a fair and justifiable attitude and undertake to investigate the matter themselves. That is, an appropriation should be made larger than the expenditure of the Census Bureau, more enumerators should be hired, and a more accurate census should be taken, counting every Japanese and taking his address. It is up to them to support their charges of census inaccuracies with facts. Until they are in a position to do this it were better for them to maintain a discreet silence and accept the report of the Census Bureau.

If they do not do this their action will be considered that of irresponsible parties and will merely bring the derision of the public down around their ears.

Now the necessity of touching upon the so-called importance of the Oriental question. Why is it an important question, not only for California but for the entire United States? Is it because there are 70,000 Japanese in California? Even if there were 100,000 instead of 70,000, the number is insignificant compared with the state's total population.

The population of California in 1910 was but 2,370,000; last year it was more than 3,420,000, an increase of more than 1,000,000. The Japanese in the state number but 2 or 3 per cent of the total population. The so-called startling multiplication of the Japanese is about 30,000, while the state's total increase exceeded a million. Why should this insignificant increase in the Japanese population so alarm the public? It gives us doubt whether the Japanophobes are endowed with ordinary common sense.

The Japanese population of the United States, in comparison with this country's total population, is as a drop in the ocean. These Japanese are imbued with an ardent desire to become Americanized. They are struggling to improve their living standards, to attain higher ideals, and doing their best to free themselves from the imputation of unassimilability. Also, all these Japanese are sharing a duty. They are good and peaceful residents. If the American people only would undertake their guidance, would assist them, they would show very marked improvement.

We ardently hope for reconsideration of this question by those who are inclined to show hostility to the Japanese.

Better Diplomatic Service.

The following is a free translation of an editorial published in The Japanese-American News last Wednesday:

THE ARGUMENT ADVANCED by Viscount Shibuzawa at the meeting of the Japan Chamber of Commerce, which in the main deals with the restriction of armament, better diplomatic service and development of commerce and manufacturing enterprises, is born out of his patriotic spirit. This characteristic shines through the short cable at hand, and we heartily respect him.

The main reason why Japan is watched with suspicion by other nations and sometimes denounced as a second Germany is because her army and navy are considered excessively large for her size and resources, and because, moreover, contrary to the world agitation in favor of restriction of armament, she is expanding and making war preparations.

If we question army and navy authorities on this subject, they will say the armament of Japan is not disproportionate and that the plan adopted by Japan is not contrary to the world tendency. These pleas, of course, are not without reason, but when we recall that about half of Japan's national budget is expended for armament and that the Diet rejected a resolution proposing restriction of armament—defeated it by an overwhelming vote—we can readily understand how the distrust of foreign nations has been stimulated.

Some of Japan's policies regarding the continent of Asia have been opaque and this has tended to increase world suspicion. But if Japan were not carrying on her back, as it were, such an extravagant armament, and if she could have avoided the doubts concerning her which have arisen in the minds of the powers as a result of her dual militaristic policies, the reputation of Japan would not today be so much impaired.

The failure of Japan's diplomacy as it concerns America and China finds its root here. Suppose Japan were to reduce the greater part of her army and navy expenditures and turned that money over to be used for the stimulation of education, commerce and manufacture. If that were done her diplomatic relations with other nations would grow smoother naturally, and Japan's national life would greatly benefit.

China has a very close, a very vital relation to Japan, and unless Japan arrives at a full understanding and fosters amicable relations and encourages the co-operation of China, Japanese life always will be in an unsettled state. Japan therefore should renounce the makeshift, temporary advantages and plans and should do all possible to arrive at a full and sympathetic understanding with the Chinese people.

The means suggested by Viscount Shibuzawa are very appropriate. He suggests that Japan propose to the powers that they withdraw their armies from Hankow, Tientsin, Peking and other parts of China; cancel the Boxer indemnity and turn the money over to be used for the education of Chinese students in Japan; help to abolish the extra-territoriality enjoyed by the powers in China; finance China and launch Japanese and Chinese in co-operation in all manner of business.

If Japan does not do all this, then the United States will do it. If America takes the initiative in all these important matters, the Japanese will be regarded unkindly by the Chinese, much more so than at present, and the amicable relations and co-operation of the two nations will miss by a wide margin a realization of present ambitions. This would be dangerous to the well-being of Japan.

The unsatisfactory condition of Japanese-American relations is partly a reflection on the failure of Japanese diplomacy with relation to China. America believes Japan's navy and army are applying an unwarranted pressure on China, and that Japan's policy is too aggressive. Because of this suspicion, America always watches Japan and the general feeling of the American people is unfavorable toward Japan.

Truly, many international problems are bred out of the armament and the diplomatic policy of Japan as regards China. The so-called California question is stimulated to a great extent by the same cause, and the vigorous anti-Japanese movement which was agitated in California following the world war is a direct result. Therefore this movement could not be ameliorated by revision of the gentlemen's agreement, no matter how much Japanese immigration might be restricted.

Our cable says that Viscount Shibuzawa argued the necessity of revising the gentlemen's agreement. But such a proposed revision as the one we

THE CREATIVE POWER OF THE JAPANESE.

IT IS GENERALLY said that the Japanese people are skillful in imitation and lack originality; and there are many who consider it a great national weakness. Dr. Toshio Nogami in the Japan Magazine. There are others who think it is attributable to the fact that education has hitherto inclined to the cramming method, that memory is overburdened, and that the habit of reflection is neglected. From this point of view many endeavor to enhance creative or spontaneous effort in school education. There are also a number of men who entertain the pessimistic idea that the Japanese are secondarily nations that will remain merely an imitator of foreign civilization forever. Which is true?

As a matter of fact, Japan has done her best these forty or fifty years to imitate Western civilization. If we look at things round about us, we shall see most of them are imports from the West or imitations of things Western. When, for instance, I look about the study where I am writing this article, I see that the clothes I wear are foreign, what I have in my hand is a foreign-made fountain pen, I am seated on a chair and before a table of the Western style; on the table there is a telephone; overhead there is an electric lamp; behind me there is a steam-heater; the study itself is in the European style. The very things that I myself, nay, the educational system in present Japan was imitated from the West. The learning taught and studied therein is mostly imported from abroad. Go out into the city, and you will see before your eyes an imitation of things Western. The city trains are running. It seems to us as if almost all things in present Japan were imitated from things Western.

TALENT NOT LACKING These facts clearly bespeak that the Japanese have an ample talent for imitation, but they do not testify that the Japanese lack creative talent. These two points are often mistaken for each other, but it is necessary to distinguish them clearly. If, for instance, we see a man drinking wine, we must not conclude that he has an aversion to sake. The Japanese have imitated Western civilization these hundred years; with might and main, but it is not because they cannot create. It is rather proper to say that imitation has been more profitable to them than creation.

We can understand this if we think a little. Japan is situated in the East and far from the West. Shutting herself up for three hundred years, she had little or no intercourse with foreign countries. During that period a number of countries rose up in the comparatively small continent of Europe and in the West. The West to promote civilization. In the period of Kael (1848-53) Japan was awakened from a long dream by the stimulus of America, Japanese civilization (at least from a material point of view) was far behind that of the West. What method should Japan take in such a case? Was she too proud to imitate the West and would she create a civilization of her own? Or would she modestly adopt the foreign progress?

The West at that time, it is needless to say, was not the former, but the latter. Accordingly, she first of all imitated the Western military system, built men-of-war, cast cannon, and defended herself with a strong navy. In the second place, she learned medicine and other sciences, and thus contributed to the public weal. Furthermore, she studied law and economy with the intention of establishing her nation in the world and of organizing the institutions necessary for it.

AN INDEPENDENT COUNTRY On account of this she could be an independent country amidst her national difficulties without being disturbed by the West. On the other hand, account of this, moreover, she has been able to be considered one of the Powers. If, on the contrary, Japan had been too proud to imitate the West; if she had attempted to improve the bow and arrow instead of imitating the cannon, or if she had been contented with the kego (a sort of palanquin) instead of the train, she would not have been able to maintain her existence.

Of course, her imitation of the West went to an extreme; she admitted many things which she should have rejected, but she was not to be ignored. There was a time when her noble works of art and her good customs were indifferently disregarded and even regarded as barbaric. But her custom remains. But it is prevailing in some limited circles. Generally speaking, Japan's imitation of Western civilization has been the right thing; and this has rescued her from the brink of ruin and brought her to the present prosperity.

Western civilization of today was not dated long ago, but is rooted these three or four hundred years. We cannot learn it in a short time, but even today it is not easy to do so. She must learn it more assiduously. The reason that Japan's activity since the Restoration has been directed chiefly to imitation is because she has been busy imitating and has not had time enough to create. We cannot conclude from this fact that the Japanese have no creative power.

Some go further and say, "It is true that the Japanese have been too busy imitating to exhibit their originality in many respects, but they have any civilization peculiar to Japan? What is the civilization besides that which has been introduced from Korea and China? Was not Japanese civilization always a mere transplantation of foreign civilization?"

ARGUMENT DOESN'T HOLD There are many in Japan who propose such an argument, and they are not without reason. But I should like to ask of these men, "Is this argument applicable to Japan alone? Does it not hold good equally in British, French and German civilization? Do you think that England, France, Germany and the United States, which alone have a civilization of their own? and that Japan alone has no civilization peculiar to her and that hers is merely an imitated civilization?" If they think so, I am afraid they have not studied Western civilization enough.

It is needless to say that Western civilization of today is traceable to Greece and Rome, and further to Phoenicia, Babylon, Assyria and Egypt; and originally to India or China. Asia and Africa. Civilization entered Greece and Rome, where it formed a great reservoir called European civilization. From Rome it was introduced to the Teutons and Gauls, who were then savages; and it has formed modern civilization after the medieval ages.

If we consider from afar English, French and German civilization, each seems to have some remarkable specialties of its own. But if we trace the sources of these civilizations, we shall see that they have once been influenced by the civilizations of many other countries. In this respect Japanese civilization is quite similar to English, French and German civilization. If there is any difference, it may be that which is derived from their geographical and historical situation; it may be only a matter of degree. Of course, English civilization has its own specialties; and so has Japanese civilization. Japan has adopted Chinese and Western civilization, and has always Japanese it.

The Japanese people of today, brought up in the atmosphere of Western civilization, are inclined to think that things Western are all good and great. They associate the West with the train, telegraph, aeroplane, science, great industry, progress, civilization; and they associate Japan and the East with stubbornness, savagery, superstition, foginess. They seem to think all Western people can invent such things as the locomotive, flying machine and telephone, and that all Japanese see in the Morris-Shidehara draft will do no good whatever. Rather, it is apt to make the situation still worse and undermine the foundation of our well-being. We urge the sincere Viscount Shibuzawa to reconsider his recommendation on this point.

MISS "DEEP SNOW"

(Continued from last Saturday.)

AS YUMINOSUKE was loyalty itself, he at once expressed his intention of obeying the mandated instant action on his part, he left Kyoto that same night and took ship at Osaka en route to his province. This was two or three days after his daughter, Miyuki, had parted from her lover on the Uji River. Yumonosuke and his family were sailing homeward lay becalmed one night in Akashi harbor in the province of Harima. The ship that carried Asojro also, proceeding homeward, anchored by their side, gunwale to gunwale. The moon shone full and the waves presented a picturesque appearance. Asojro went up on deck and there, deep in reverie, stood looking up at the moon's bright face.

In the neighboring vessel all were asleep save Miyuki alone. She had not yet retired, and her little heart full of thoughts of her lover, she was singing his "Morning-glory" song to the strains of a koto or zither. As the song came to his ears Asojro inclined his head and looked wonderingly down into the other ship. At that very moment Miyuki cast her eyes up on the deck of Asojro's vessel.

"Surely it is Miyuki that I see?" "Oh! can it possibly be you, Asojro?" Miyuki called out, passing her lips, and Miyuki had sprung into the other ship and the pair of faithful lovers were rejoicing at their meeting, thus unexpectedly brought about. To explain her presence there Miyuki related to Asojro the circumstances that had led to her voyage home, then added with emotion:

"This meeting of ours in a manner so unforeseen shows that ours is a union that brooks no separation, and some mysterious link exists between us. Other things I may hope that, for the future where you go I also go. Grant me this, Asojro, my lord."

"It rejoices me to hear you speak like that, my dear," replied Asojro, "but I am on my way home charged with a mission that affects the very destiny of my land. My duty as a samurai forbids my carrying a sweetheart with me. But we cannot fail to meet again. Let us wait against that time, Miyuki."

But the girl set her face against this proposal. "If you do not grant my request," she said bitterly, "I shall find no joy in life! The best thing I can do is to make an end of living." And with this she turned together to plunge into the sea. But Asojro caught her in his arms.

"My darling," said he, "if your heart is so set upon me, I shall take you with me to my home, let the world say against me what it will! But Miyuki, if you will, let me know your parents. If you thus take to flight, all unknown to them, had you not better leave them a letter, my dear?" As he spoke, he felt in his bosom for a pen and paper, but found none.

The wind blew so perplexed. "I must have dropped them into the water just now, when I held you in my embrace. What is to be done?" "Well," said Miyuki, "it is fortunate that my parents and I heard of this. I will return with you, and I will write a letter there. Soon I will be back, so wait for me only a little while."

As she said this she leaped back into the other vessel, but alas! awakened by the sound of her falling, the crew of the vessel raised a cry and, stirred up, and shouted: "Aha! a wind at last! Up anchor! Let out the sail!"

Miyuki heard these shouts with frantic grief, but as she was in the air and despair, she did not carry Asojro's crew farther and farther off. Scarce knowing what she did, she threw into the receding vessel the fan whereupon the morning-glories were painted. Thus these passionate lovers were separated by Fate.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

SAGHALIEN.

ALTHOUGH it is fifteen years since Saghalien came into the possession of Japan, this region has not been developed to any great extent even yet, says the Japan Magazine. Because, compared with some of our other colonial lands, it has been only recently acquired and also because it is situated in the far north its exploitation has been slow.

Then, again, the real nature of this region and its possibilities have not been well understood by our people. Many misconceptions have been entertained. It has been supposed that its ports were icebound nearly the whole year, and that ferocious beasts abounded throughout the island; also that the natural resources could not be developed by immigrants satisfactorily. However since the advent of those who occurred recently at Nikolavsk have focused public attention upon the region north of us, we have waked up to a realization not only of its strategic needs, but of the economic possibilities as well.

As to the prospects of success in the latter field, there are three opinions advanced. One is that the climate is too severe, the time during which work can be carried on is too short, and the soil too poor to pay for the trouble. Hastily concluding that it is not a fit land for immigrants, those holding this view would confine economic operations to the exploitation of coal, fish, and forestry resources. The second opinion is that the climate and soil are not so bad as they are represented. We who have personally visited the island, however, and given thorough study to the matter, consider this a hasty and premature conclusion, believing that there is a bright future for the island.

MISTAKEN OPINIONS

Those holding pessimistic views in this matter compare the climate and soil with that of the interior of Japan, but this is a mistake. The northern boundary of the island is only 50° N. latitude, corresponding to the latitude of France and Germany. For example, Toyoehara city, where the Saghalien prefectural government is located, is regarded a cold spot, but compared with Mukden it may be called quite mild; so if we realize that it is only as far north as Northern Germany, Denmark, Norway, Canada and parts of North America, we shall be obliged to admit that as those peoples have had no serious difficulties in subduing nature, so our people can do likewise. What great progress the federation of German states made, and how notable the achievements of Denmark, Sweden and Norway in agriculture and industry! Though Canada seems a wild, bleak country, England certainly did not hesitate to undertake extensive operations there, employing men and means lavishly. So we must not give up the idea of Saghalien.

That part of the island owned by Japan consists of a little more than 2,200 square miles, i. e. a little less than Kyushu or a little more than Formosa. But the natural resources are abundant, both in the sea and on the land. On land, a fertile soil is found practically everywhere and as to agricultural operations, while these must differ from those of Japan proper, it is entirely possible to produce rich crops either on a large or small scale if the proper methods are employed.

Again, as to forests, good timber abounds everywhere, and while afforestation by alternative cutting and planting is not easy at this stage of our development, yet good substitutes for the natural renewal of the trees and in the future it will not be difficult to secure an inexhaustible supply. Again, in regard to mining: at present there is one petroleum well and one coal mine, but no exaggeration to say that the coal and oil of the whole island, while its riches and depth cause surprise to all investigators. And lastly, as to the fisheries industry, we may say that this is expected to prove more profitable even than the similar industry in Hokkaido. True, in recent years on account of successive seasons of inclement weather, many have turned to mining, but nevertheless fishing is by far the most profitable industry in Saghalien.

GRAZING IS PROFITABLE One more source of profit is found in grazing, the whole region being covered with rich, sweet grass growing from six to ten feet high—nothing like it in Japan. While in the possession of Russia, stock-raising was considered an occupation especially suited to the island, and horses, cows, sheep and even hogs flourished there. The latter it is not easy to raise where epidemics are common but there is little fear of disease here.

In recent years, also, Saghalien is being con-

WHEN THIS OLD WORLD WAS YOUNG.

(Continued from Last Saturday.)

JAPANESE look upon the dog as a friendly animal and in most of their folk lore he gives a good account of himself. But in the Okinawa Islands many of the inhabitants believe that all dogs have supernatural power, elsewhere attributed to the fox. Human beings supposed to be in league with them are called *inu-gami-mochi*—"dog-god owners."

When the spirit of such a magic dog sallies forth on an errand of mischief its body remains behind and grows gradually weaker, and sometimes dies and falls to decay. When this happens the astral self upon its return takes up its abode in the body of a wizard, and the wizard thereupon becomes more powerful than ever.

THE PHANTOM CATS.

A certain knight took refuge in a lonely and dilapidated mountain temple. Along toward midnight he was awakened by a strange noise. He was startled to see several cats dancing and merrily. Over and over again he heard these words: "Tell it not to Shippitaro!"

Suddenly, at the stroke of twelve, the cats disappeared, stillness settled over the ruined temple, and the knight, who had been sitting up, fell asleep. Leaving the haunted building next morning, the young knight came upon a few small dwellings near a village. As he was passing one of these habitations he heard a weeping sound and paused to inquire the cause of the lamentation.

"Alas!" was the reply of a dozen who thronged about the knight, "you will well ask why we are so sorely troubled. Tonight the mountain haunted temple they your fairest maiden in a great cage to the ruined temple where you spent last night, and in the morning she will be devoured by the wicked spirit of the mountain. Every year we lose a girl in this manner, and there is none who can help us."

Greatly moved by these pitiful words, the knight asked: "Who or what is Shippitaro? The evil spirits in the ruined temple I heard use the word several times."

"Shippitaro," answered one, "is a brave and fine dog and belongs to the head man of our prince."

This gave the knight an inspiration. He would secure the services of the dog. So he hastened on his way, and when he reached the village he was granted Shippitaro for one night. He led the dog back to the house of the weeping parents.

CAGE IS PREPARED. Already the cage was prepared for the damsel, and into this cage he put Shippitaro, and, with the assistance of several young men, went to the haunted temple. They were all well advised to remain on the mountain and took their departure, leaving the knight and the dog alone.

The phantom cats put in an appearance at midnight. This time they had in their center a great mass of bulk and a fierce, grinning monster saw the cage he clearly showed his delight and sprang at the cage.

Choosing a suitable opportunity, the warrior opened the cage and Shippitaro sprang out and seized the phantom by the nape of the neck. In another instant the knight had unheated his sword and thrust through the wicked creature.

Too amazed by what they saw to make good their escape, the other cats stood as dumb and as good Shippitaro made short work of them. Never again was the village troubled by the cats. The knight gave all credit to the good dog Shippitaro.

(CONTINUED NEXT SATURDAY.)

JAPANESE PROVERBS.

Send not for a hatchet with which to break open an egg. She who loves an ugly man thinks him handsome. Sure bind, sure find.

considered a very hopeful field for the development of the black-fox fur industry. The prefectural government has established an agricultural experiment station which has already accomplished something and promises more for the future.



By SOSEKI NATSUME. (Translated by a Japanese Schoolboy.)

EVEN IF GOD are so inefficacious as mere human being I am sure he pertains no more ability as man being. They say as God made so many different faces as they are numbers of men but there is no saying whether he had definite plan to make so many varieties or he tried to make every one same and started forth to do it but could not accomplish that and every output took such extraordinary shapes.

Face of men can be taken as memorial of success, but on the other hand and at the same time it may be taken also and likewise as trademarks of failure. He may be all mighty but it's just same if you surmise he are inefficient.

Eyes of man are arranged on horizon and they can't endure to see thing on both the side at the same time. They only absorb sight of one side of everything, and I are truly and really sorry for same.

If man change points of observation little they will notice such simple like thing as this every day in week in their surroundings continue up that they are not at all able to apprehend the facts.

If it are difficult to show changes in arts then it is just as hard to make an absolut model of things. Rafael can't seem to compose exactly same arts on "St. Maria."

And it are also foolish to ask to compose two foreign "Madonna." Languages men used are learnt by imitation.

REAL IMITATION IS HARD.

But language change in years and this prove men has no perfect imitating powers. Pure imitation is so difficult as this.

Therefore, if God could make every one of faces on man just exactly same as rest he would symbolize God all mighty. But faces we have now are not proof of god's inefficiency.

When I spied at face of burglar who appeared calm like right in front of myself, the face—ordinarily I thought it the work of God is result of this insufficiency—but a squirt at this burglar's characteristic like faces was enough and

When I gazed at burglar who opened the paper sliding door of bed room and stepped in, those thought narrated above occurred at me gradual. Why? If you insist why I get to think it all over again. Now, reason are this:

When I spied at face of burglar who appeared calm like right in front of myself, the face—ordinarily I thought it the work of God is result of this insufficiency—but a squirt at this burglar's characteristic like faces was enough and

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