

November 25, 1906.

John P. Irish, Esquire,
Office of the Naval Officer of Customs,
San Francisco, California.

Sir:

I beg to thank you for your courteous letter
of the 26th ultimo, in regard to the exclusion of
Japanese children from the public schools at San Fran-
cisco.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ELIOT ROOT.

A true copy of
the signed orig-
inal, L.M.C.

Office of Naval Officer of Customs,
PORT OF SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.,

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Treatment of Japanese in California.
Encl. 19. San Francisco, Calif.
October 26, 1906.

Hon. John P. Irish.

States that San Francisco papers
are full of the controversy that has
arisen over the exclusion of Asiatic
and especially Japanese children
from the schools. School board is a
branch of the excessively corrupt
Gov't of the city, elected by labor
union party. Papers support action
of school board. Claimed by some
that they have no right to educa-
tion here, as they do not pay taxes,
but it is untrue as all Asiatics
there do pay taxes. Statute is not
mandatory, but leaves the discretion
to the board. Treaty of 1894, un-
der the Constitution, is the sup-
reme law of the land. If treaty con-
tains a favored nation clause, Japan
may be able to attach responsibility
to Federal Gov't. The Japanese and
Chinese are a necessary element, and
do not compete injuriously with
white labor. A large number of the
rural industries would remain un-
developed if it were not for the
Asiatic labor.

P.B.D.
(Rec'd Oct. 31, 1906.)

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