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Translation.

EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE SCHOOL CHILDREN.

("Jiji Shimpō", October 20, 1906).

Though the anti-Japanese agitation ~~that~~ has been going on for years on the Pacific coast of the United States is little to be wondered at, it is noticeable that the agitation has increased remarkably of late. The people of California have organized a league for excluding the Japanese and Koreans, and have adopted a resolution to introduce into the next session of Congress a bill to drive out the people of these two Asiatic countries now residing in America.

When we heard of the proposal to refuse admittance of Japanese children to the schools of the United States, we thought that it was no more than another means of agitating the public and never believed that the proposal would be carried out. Contrary to our expectations, our San Francisco telegram received yesterday informs us that as a result of the adoption of the measure to segregate our school children by the municipality of San Francisco, hundreds of Japanese children in that city will hereafter have no means of getting an education.

Though our information is based on a single brief telegram, it is clear that the exclusion of Japanese children from the public schools of San Francisco has become a reality. No matter how vigorous the anti-Japanese agitation might be, we have never admitted the necessity of any ^{formal} protest so long as the agitation was conducted by private persons or organizations. We cannot, however, remain silent at the extreme injustice of the San Francisco municipality in attempting to exclude the children of our race from the public schools of that city. Education is as indispensable to the mind as ~~is~~ are food, raiment and habitation for the body. The people living under the most despotic form of
government

government are not deprived of education, and still more is this true in an enlightened country under a free constitutional government. It is for this reason that schools are established at public expense for children's education and parents are compelled to send their children to school. This is so in Japan and must of course be so in America.

The educational system of this country owes much to the American system, and both agree in making education an indispensable condition of human life. Those who live in any country and obey its laws are entitled to education in its schools whether they be natives or foreigners. The United States is a country where more than in any other education is held to be necessary. Moreover she is not satisfied with extending education within her own borders, but seeks to impart the benefits of education to foreign countries likewise. In Japan, for instance, there are schools of various kinds maintained by American funds. The Japanese people have always been impressed with the generosity of the American people and have been grateful for their kindness. Nothing was therefore more unexpected than the news that the children of our people living in America and obeying its laws were going to be deprived, without sufficient reason, of the right to an education.

The fact is scarcely conceivable or credible, but our San Francisco telegram of yesterday is not an irresponsible rumor. Regrettable as it may be, there is unfortunately reason to believe that it is not altogether a false report when we consider the news we have previously received. The reason that such a strange measure is to be adopted is, we presume, due to the growing intensity of the anti-Japanese agitation in that locality, and it may be called a kind of epidemic. It goes without saying that such action does not represent the will of the American nation as a whole. Even at the very center of the agitation we are inclined to believe

lieve that the fair minded people are against the movement.

The anti-Japanese agitation on the Pacific Coast is due primarily due to local sentiments, as we well know, and it must not be taken as an expression of the public opinion of the United States. Nevertheless, the agitation has recently developed into an extreme form and some persons have been betrayed into indiscreet remarks that may seriously affect our international friendship. The startling news that Japanese children are forbidden to attend the schools in San Francisco comes at a time when our people have already been sufficiently aggravated. We cannot help being amazed at the news. And not only are we amazed, but we fear that, if a plan such as the proposed one be carried out, in practice, the attitude of our nation toward the noble generosity and good-will of the United States may undergo a sudden change. In the United States there is considerable freedom in local self-government, and we know that the Federal Government cannot interfere with the conduct of a municipality. But anything that is likely to affect America's international friendships should not be left by the federal authorities to take its own course.

Though we have had much to say on the recent development of the anti-Japanese agitation in America we have been restraining our pen because of America's good-will towards us during the many years that have past. We may for a time keep silent as to the reception in this country of the news that our children living in the United States are going to be deprived of their right of education. But putting aside our own considerations, we find it inconceivable that the people of the United States, who stand for liberty and philanthropy, should ever do such an act and we venture to express this protest against it.