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Translation.

THE EXCLUSION OF THE YELLOW RACE.

("Kokumin Shimbun", October 20, 1906).

The exclusion of the yellow race appears to be becoming a popular movement in a certain part of the United States. It is needless to say that by a certain part of the United States we mean the Pacific coast having San Francisco for its centre, and that not even the entire coast is meant. According to our latest cablegrams, the agitation for excluding the yellow race is not confined to the western part, but it is tending to spread over the eastern part.

It should however be noted that the centre of the agitation against the yellow race is still on the Pacific coast and it is not too much to say that similar agitations in other parts of the United States are a faint echo of the agitation carried on constantly in the western part. The agitators against the yellow race aim to exclude the Chinese as well as the Japanese; they aim to refuse the landing of the Koreans as well as of Japanese. At the mass meeting held the other day at San Francisco a resolution was adopted for passing in the next session of Congress a law for excluding the Japanese and Koreans from all states of the United States. We find ^{by this} that a measure once tried in the State Legislature is now to be attempted in the Federal Legislature.

One cablegram after another relating to the exclusion of the yellow race, specially of the Japanese people, in America comes to us, and these unpleasant messages seem to have affected our nation's nervous system. In some quarters the people appear to entertain undesirable feelings toward the United States. Some of our contemporaries discuss this question and denounce as inappropriate the conduct of a few agitators

agitators.

The agitation for excluding the Japanese in a section of the United States is however not an affair of recent origin. It has often been tried on the Pacific coast and has always ended in failure. The fact is that the same thing is going to be tried over again. The object of the agitation is to exclude the Japanese laborers who are industrious and work for cheaper wages, and to protect the American laborers against the competition of the Japanese. It is really meant to start a movement popular among the laboring class and thereby to win their goodwill. The fact that the agitation has recently grown more intense and is conducted on a larger scale is due to the approaching of the election season. It is a means of winning as many votes as possible in the coming election by gaining the laborers' goodwill with a measure they readily take to. The anti-Japanese agitation is specially a way of conducting party politics, and can not be regarded as an end in itself. It is unnecessary for us to explain that the exclusion of the Japanese is not the will of the educated and intelligent Americans, nor does it represent the view of the majority of the American people.

The ground of the anti-Japanese agitation in a part of the United States is as analyzed above. It will however be a serious mistake if our nation take it too seriously and regard it as a strong public opinion in the United States, or imagine that a voice raised for a particular object on the Pacific coast is the voice of the majority of the American nation. Should we be led by this mistake to censure the United States, it would be like a children's quarrel in which their parents take part and which ends in a farce. Should it cease to be a farce and affect even a little the friendship between Japan and the United States, the loss would have to be borne by both countries. We hope that our
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nation will be cool-headed enough to discern the true nature of the anti-Japanese agitation and ^{not} become too greatly excited on that account.

It is needless to emphasize again that the friendship existing between Japan and the United States is both historic and unique. The permanence of the cordial friendship between the two countries is not only to the best interests of Japan and the United States, but it is to the interests of the politics of the Far East and, in a broader sense, of the world. Important international friendship is however sometimes injured or estranged by petty rumors, unfounded intrigues, indiscreet management of affairs or short-sighted conducts, which fair-minded people may overlook as insignificant. We therefore call on our nation to try to be cautious in their utterances and acts, and hope at the same time that the intelligent and far-sighted people in the United States will bear this point in mind and endeavor to remove the causes of misunderstanding.

The United States has in President Roosevelt a man of distinguished statesmanship and a high order of wisdom, whose ideals are righteousness and humanity. Her Government has a man of profound wisdom in Mr. Root, Secretary of State, and a man of courage and justice in Mr. Taft, Secretary of War. They are all large-hearted and generous, and we have no hesitation in asserting that they do not discriminate against any particular race without proper reason and will not allow any little affair to injure our historic international friendship. We therefore sincerely hope that the President and the fair-minded people of the United States will check the unreasonable and indiscreet agitation carried on in a part of their country and demonstrate by their actions as well as words that the attitude of the United States toward Japan is one of goodwill and sympathy.