

The *Tokyo Asahi* also laments the fact that the U.S. Government can not correct the blunder of local politics, so as to extend to the Japanese the same kind of treatment as is accorded the other nationals. While the expulsion of our children from the San Francisco schools may not be a retaliatory measure, such inhuman conduct would be a national shame for America, for which Japan as her closest friend would have to blush. But the matter as well as the boycott against the Japanese restaurants are questions that involve our rights as a treaty people. On this ground, the paper insists on a representation being made by our Government, and begs for the attention of the Washington authorities on this point. Again, the argument that the Japanese labour in California is injurious to the interests of American labour is on the surface of it a very justifiable ground for their instituting a means of self protection, but shows its invalidity when tested by the humanitarian question: Does that justify the expulsion of children from the schools? It is altogether a too cruel sacrifice to be made to the cause of labour. Moreover, the labour question in the aspect that relates to the Japanese will produce an ugly effect on the labour question in this country, and can be so handled as to develop an international question between the two nations. A cautious handling of such a serious question is to be desired of the labour champions on the Pacific Coast.

The *Osaka Mainichi* points out the injustice and inadequacy of the excuse for expelling the children from school that the blunder could be mended by providing separate schools. The fundamental error is in carrying racial prejudice into educational matters. Not that the paper despairs of a satisfactory solution by the Washington Government. They are certainly under official obligation to do so, for it is not a mere local question, but a question that touches the treaty relations.

The *Tokyo Mainichi* wonders at the silence maintained by the American missionaries in this country. They occupy the greater part of the missionary world here, and their voice would go very far in wakening their compatriots at home to their right senses. It is well for them to be cautious and circumspect, but at the present moment they might exercise these virtues too long to be consistent with the humanitarian ends for which they are here.

The *Jiji* turns to the San Francisco Japanese themselves, and advises them against the extreme folly of keeping away from the assimilating influences of the Americans. They should have mingled with the white elements freely, and should have tried to copy their ways of life as fast as possible, while in reality some of them not only keep themselves entirely together as a separate community but do so as if they entertained a sense of enmity toward the people among whom they have gone to work and live. It is puerile to say the least. Then in such a moment of trouble as the present, the *Jiji* can not help wishing for more of the personal influence of the Consul himself. The anti-Japanese movement is nothing new on the Pacific Coast, but some former attempts were quelled largely by the personal popularity of the Consul at the time. The freer assimilation and closer intimacy with their neighbours' ways is a thing that should be striven for by both our people and officials there in their daily life.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE SAN FRANCISCO AFFAIR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN TIMES."

SIR,—Anent the suggestion made by "An Unbiased-Foreigner" in your correspondence columns of Oct. 25th, with reference to the holding of a meeting of American Missionaries, to express sympathy with the Japanese in San Francisco under the present difficulty, permit us to say that before said article appeared in print, the undersigned had already been appointed a Committee to inquire more fully into the facts of the case, and to consider carefully the advisability of holding a meeting of American citizens to express our sentiments.

After due consideration and consultation, and especially in view of the message of President Roosevelt since come to hand, and the more calm tone of the Japanese press to-day, the Committee agreed that at present there is no immediate call for such a meeting, but that it is better to await further developments, which we hope will lead to a peaceable and satisfactory solution of the question at issue.

Thanking you for giving the above a place in your columns, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

DAVID THOMPSON.

JULIUS SOPER,

ALBERT ALTMANS.

Tokyo, Oct. 27, 1906.