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DEPT. OF STATE

The Japan Daily Mail.

YOKOHAMA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1907.

SAN FRANCISCO.

The San Francisco affair continues to be the subject of sensational stories. A German telegram describes the amended Immigration Law as an instrument excluding Asiatic labour. A telegram to the *Asahi* from Washington alleges that Viscount Aoki has quite lost the confidence of his Government, and that the negotiations were carried on over his head. What negotiations are in question we do not clearly understand. The *Hochi Shimbun's* correspondent, however, says that the Japanese Ambassador is entirely satisfied, so there is no lack of contradictory rumours.

Of course the Emigration Companies in Japan are much dissatisfied. They base their protest on four grounds. The first is that Japan is now discriminated against just as China is. She has been practically brought under the provisions of the Law of 1902 for the restraint of Chinese immigrants. Italian, Hungarian and Turkish labourers are free to enter the United States as they please, but Japanese will be excluded. In the second place, there are some forty thousand Japanese subjects already residing on the Pacific Slope. They are engaged as railway labourers, miners and fruit-growers, but the result of this measure will be to deprive them of their means of livelihood. We (*Japan Mail*) fail to see why anything of the kind should take place, but such is understood to be the contention of the Emigration Companies. Their third basis of complaint is that the change will seriously affect the condition of Japanese immigrants in Hawaii. The Hawaiian planters had just begun to improve their treatment of Japanese labourers and to increase their wages, but they will now have the matter in their own hands, and the unfortunate labourer must look forward to a rough time. Finally it is predicted that this settlement has no element of finality. It will merely serve to whet the appetite of the Californian exclusionists. But this last contention is at variance with the previous plea of the Emigration Companies, namely, that the whole agitation had its origin in Hawaii, and that if only Japanese labourers were precluded from leaving Hawaii for the States, the commotion would cease. At all events the Companies do not seem to fully appreciate the fact that the United States Government has not taken any step which was not strictly within its independent right to take. It remains to be seen what methods are employed for giving effect to the amended Law.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a note in leaded type declaring that the effects of the amended Law will be disastrously felt by the three shipping companies, namely, the Pacific Mail, the Occidental and Oriental and the Toyo Kisen Kaisha.