

C O P Y .

CONSULATE OF JAPAN
1274 O'Farrell St.

San Francisco, May 22nd, 1907.

Notwithstanding this warning and the assurances given me by you, that measures would be taken to prevent further outrages, a mob of about 50 persons gathered in front of the Lion Restaurant and put it under siege.

Chief of Police were in the House at the time. When one of them went out, he was seized by the mob, and a fight took place. There were of the City and County of S. One of these customers escaped through a back door, but was found by the crowd and beaten.

At about 7:30 p.m. the mob had gone away a policeman in ordinary clothes made his appearance. At 10 o'clock an officer came. The proprietor did not see any policeman during the time the disturbance was going on. My purpose in writing at this time is to call your attention to the following facts as reported to me by eye-witnesses.

On Monday evening May 20th at about 7:30 p.m. a crowd of white persons, about fifty in number, drove in a wagon to the front of the Horse Shoe Restaurant, at 1213 Folsom Street, and after dismounting, began to create a disturbance at the entrance. Four white men were eating in the restaurant at the time, and the mob called them out. Two of them complied, and were violently assaulted and knocked down by the crowd. The mob then began to throw stones, bricks and scraps of iron which were brought in the wagon. The windows, consisting of about 20 panes, were completely smashed, and one of the Japanese waiters was struck by a flying stone. The two remaining customers fled through the back door. The damage done was so extensive both to the house and fixtures that the business of the restaurant has been shut down.

On the same evening, at about 9:30 a mob, apparently composed of the same persons, attacked the Japanese Bath House at 1214 Folsom Street just across the way from the Horse Shoe Restaurant. This place is known as the "Folsom Street Bath House" and is conducted by K. Fimoto. Stones and brick were thrown through the windows, breaking five large panes of glass.

During the two hours covering the period from 7 to 9 p.m. the mob held possession of the street between the two houses, and no protection was extended by the police although numerous calls were sounded.

On last evening I visited these two houses in person and found every evidence of violent assaults. The Horse Shoe restaurant had closed and its fixtures had been taken out by the intimidated proprietors; his business being completely destroyed. The proprietor of the bath house, in the meantime, was in great fear of a repetition of the outrage.

As you are aware, I called upon you last evening and reported these facts. I also advised you that rumors had reached me to the effect that an assault was contemplated by the mob on the Japanese Restaurant at 124 Eighth St. known as the Lion Restaurant, same being scheduled to take place on the same evening (May 21st) The

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proprietor of this other place had already had some experience with the mob his restaurant having been visited by a crowd of roughs on the 20th instant and his customers threatened and intimidated.

Notwithstanding this warning and the assurances given me by you, that measures would be taken to prevent further outrages, a mob assembled last evening in front of the Lion Restaurant and put it under siege.

Seven customers were in the house at the time. When one of them went out, he was seized by the mob, and a fight took place. There were several similar instances. One of these customers escaped through a back door, but was found by the crowd and beaten.

At about 9 P. M. and after the mob had gone away a policeman in ordinary clothes made his appearance. At 10 o'clock an officer in uniform came. The proprietor did not see any policeman during the time the disturbance was going on. My purpose in writing at this time is to respectfully ask that energetic efforts be made by your Department to discover and punish the perpetrators of these outrages.

It is my duty to further insist that the protection of the law be extended to my countrymen in this community, who are peacefully engaged in lawful occupations, and that steps be taken which will prevent the repetition of similar acts of violence.

Trusting to have some early and satisfactory assurance from your Department that such protection will be given, I beg to remain,

Yours very respectfully,

K. Matsubara,
Acting Consul of Japan.