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"Japan Times"
June 16, 1907.

THE SAN FRANCISCO OUTRAGES.

OFFICIAL REPORT.

The following report from the Japanese Consulate in San Francisco is dated May 23:—

The persecution of the Japanese restaurants in San Francisco has not been repeated since last October. But since the beginning of this month, various strikes have occurred here, and the city was thrown into a disorderly condition. There are only 400 policemen for the population of 400,000. As unlawful incidents occurred in various quarters of the city, we feared that the outrages against our residents might increase. On the 20th at 7.30 p.m. about 50 white people drove a cart up to the Horse-Shoe Restaurant owned by Mr. Morisaburo Nakashima, at No. 1213 Forson St. The mob called upon four white guests, taking food in the restaurant. Two of them going out of the restaurant, were knocked about by the mob, after some dispute. The mob then destroyed 24 panes with stones and iron blocks which they had brought in a cart. Moreover, they threw 50 or 60 stones into the dining hall, and two guests were unable to issue forth from the hall. As they had been trembling at a corner of the hall, the proprietor of the restaurant let them flee from a back window. One of the waiters was struck on the breast by a stone. There were no other persons wounded. The loss to the restaurant is estimated at \$2,500. The house belonged to some other person, but the restaurant is still closed. The mob at 9.20 the same night threw bricks and stones on the Forson street Bath house, No. 1214, belonging to Mr. Yōzo Nagamoto, hailing from Hiroshima-ken. The bath house was on the opposite side of the street. The mob destroyed five panes. The house is still suspended. Prior to these outrages, that is at 6.30 p.m. the same night, about 50 white men suddenly attacked the Lion Restaurant, No. 124, Eighth Street, owned by Mr. Isata Kawai, of Ehime-ken. They seized the guests about to enter the restaurant and asked them to leave, with threats. They entered the restaurant and dragged the guests out of the house.

The customers of the Japanese restaurants are all white, the charges there being moderate. The mob retired at 7 p.m. On receiving a report from the Japanese of the outrages, I went at once to the scene. The Horse-shoe restaurant presented a terrible aspect. All the windows were smashed, furniture taken out, the house deserted and doors shut. Next I visited Mr. Nagamoto's bath-house. Its windows were all smashed. A stone of about a foot diameter and two large bricks were lying in-doors. Traces of outrages were to be observed everywhere. The master and employes were much scared. The bath-house had white customers, but business is suspended at present.

A white man who happened to be present on the spot and who declared that he himself belonged to the White Waiters' Union said that the union had no connection whatever with the recent outrage. He also said that the mob was going to make a second assault on the Lion Restaurant that evening. Thereupon I repaired to the place to inspect the damage done to the restaurant by the mob. I at once went to the police station and seeing the chief police inspector told all I had seen and requested that proper steps be taken for protection against the attack of the white assailants and special attention and lookout for the Lion Restaurant, there being reason to expect a second attack on the restaurant that evening. The official was quite willing to give consent to this request, but nevertheless the next day (May 22nd) I was told by the keeper of the restaurant that the previous evening about 6 o'clock, as expected some 50 whites swarmed on the restaurant to make second assault, but they did not dare to do any violence to the building and the inmates, only persecuting and threatening the customers who came out of the restaurant as on the previous occasion. It was about 9 p.m. when a constable in plain clothes arrived at the place after they had all withdrawn and one hour later a regular police inspector visited the restaurant. No other policemen were recognized to be on guard in the neighbourhood by the keeper. On these statements I sent a letter to the chief official of the police station to call his attention to the matter, requesting him to take prompt steps to arrest the culprits and also to be given protection

enough to assure the safety of the Japanese residents and their property against any such outrage a second time. At the same time I called the attention of the Mayor to the matter. On the evening of May 22nd they again assembled before the Lion Restaurant and tried to disturb its customers. In short the police power of the city is quite unreliable and even the police inspector general expressed his excuses when I saw him last, saying that he was busily occupied in attending to some other affairs. This day I again sent a letter to the Governor of California calling his attention to the matter and asking his assistance in rendering protection as much as lay in his power. Moreover I have ordered the association to engage two special constables to make search for the culprits and to provide for the safeguarding of the keepers as well as to study the origin and aspect of the incident.

GERMAN OPINION.

A report from Mr. K. Inouye, Ambassador to Germany, dated the 12th inst., runs as follows:—

In reference to the recent event at San Francisco, the German papers in general hold moderate views, and none of them has yet expressed any comment worthy special attention. Despite the various exciting reports received here from both Tokyo and Washington since yesterday, the papers in Berlin declare that in spite of the political movement contemplated by the Opposition party in Japan, the Governments of Japan and the United States will continue to discuss the matter with peaceful views and President Roosevelt will also do his best in endeavouring to avoid injuring the strong sense of honour held by the Japanese.

TOKYO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Tokyo Chamber held an extraordinary committee meeting on Friday and discussed the policy to be taken by the chamber in reference to San Francisco. As the problem is very important and there is a necessity of assuring the public as to the real nature of affairs, it was decided that they invite Mr. Yamaoka, representative of the Japanese in America and ask his opinion on the affair. Also it was decided that Mr. Nakano, President of the Chamber, should call on the Minister of Foreign Affairs.