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"Japan Mail,"
July 1, 1907.

Enclosure No. 2 with
Mr. Wright's No. 325-
of July 10, 1907.

SAN FRANCISCO.

On Saturday the 29th ultimo telegrams reached Tokyo to the effect that the San Francisco authorities were taking measures which would virtually have the effect of putting an end to all Japanese business except that of selling merchandise. Later cablegrams suggest, however, that this is an exaggerated statement. We gather that what has happened is merely the lapse of the licence held by a labour-employing agency and a determination on the part of the authorities not to renew this licence. But it must be confessed that the situation is rather obscure. Of course so long as the last clause of the 2nd Article of the Treaty between the United States and Japan remains valid, the trade operations of Japanese subjects in San Francisco and elsewhere in America will always be subject to official interruption.

The Chambers of Commerce of Osaka Nagoya, Kobe and Yokohama have addressed to the President of the United States a representation relating to the San Francisco affair. The document sets out by expressing the satisfaction of the Chambers at the friendship which has long existed between the United States and Japan and at the prosperous trade which has grown up under the shadow of that amity. It goes on, however, to refer to the San Francisco incident, which it describes as unquiet behaviour on the part of a section of the American people, and which has resulted in inspiring sentiments not consistent with the preservation of such friendship. The signatories nevertheless declare themselves much pleased at the attitude and action of President Roosevelt who, guided by principles of justice and good will, is doing everything in his power to bring about an amicable and satisfactory settlement of these troubles. The Chambers declare that their interest centres chiefly upon the smooth and prosperous progress of commerce, and that they are much concerned lest any continuance of the present untoward incidents should interrupt that progress. They therefore hope that no effort will be spared to find such a solution as may avert that danger, and they inform the President that they are sending a copy of a circular in the same sense to all the principal Chambers of Commerce in the United States. They conclude by declaring that they rely upon the President's wisdom and sense of justice to find a settlement of the trouble.

The circular alluded to above, which has been sent to the thirteen principal Chambers of Commerce in the United States, is couched in terms almost identical with those of the memorial to the President. One part of the circular, however, deserves special notice. In that part the Japanese Chambers speak of America as one of Japan's best customers, and point to the fact that Japan herself is already a great purchaser of American goods and that she seems likely to offer an ever-increasing market for the manufactures and products of her neighbour. It would be most regrettable if this important international commerce were interrupted through the prejudice of a small section of the American nation, and the United States' Chambers are earnestly solicited to use their best effort in the interests of a satisfactory settlement.