

the California senate last night in adopting the Webb redraft of the alien land bill against his recommendation. On the way from Sacramento to San Francisco, where he was the guest today of the Panama-Pacific exposition, he was closeted, except for a few minutes, with his private secretary, translating a long cipher telegram. He would not indicate its tenor or the nature of his reply.

Governor Johnson saw the secretary to the train. James D. Phelan, formerly mayor of San Francisco, rode down with the party and took a few moments of the secretary's time. He said Mr. Bryan was very busy and that he did not discuss the alien land situation.

At luncheon Mr. Bryan was the guest of the exposition directors. There were no speeches. In the afternoon he reviewed the troops at the presidio, took an automobile ride to the ocean beach through the government reservation, dedicated the palace of agriculture on the exposition grounds and returned to dress for the public banquet to be given in his honor by the exposition directors.

#### FOOD FOR SERIOUS THOUGHT

Following are Associated Press dispatches: Sacramento, Cal., May 1.—An indication of the form the democratic opposition will take to the passage of the Webb re-draft of the anti-alien land bill was given in the senate today when the measure came up for final action. It was the original plan of the progressive republican majority, in its assurance of a successful issue, to force the bill to a vote at once, but at the request of the democrats a postponement of one day was granted at the last minute. The matter was set as a special order for 11 o'clock tomorrow morning. In return for the delay the administration leaders received a pledge from the minority that it would abide by the results as shown in the final roll call tomorrow and not demand a reconsideration. Thus the progressives feel that although apparently they lost a day in reality they saved several by checking further efforts to impede their plans.

The brief debate today on the motion to postpone disclosed the fact that the democrats have hearkened to the advice from Washington as delivered by Secretary of State Bryan and will make a formal stand in support of the national administration. In order to meet the issue squarely, Senator Curtin, democrat, introduced a resolution setting forth the fact that President Wilson is opposed to an anti-alien land bill, and containing the following declaration: "Be it resolved, That the people of the state of California do hereby defer to the wishes of the people of the United States, and this legislature will not at this session pass the bills herein mentioned."

It is believed generally that to the extent of supporting Curtin's resolution, the democrats will defer to Secretary Bryan. Beyond that, however, their party platform in California calls upon them to aid in the enactment of an anti-alien land law and most of them are expected to oppose the Webb bill in its present form, if it succeeds in escaping amendment.

Senator Caminitti, working independently of his colleagues, is preparing several amendments to the Webb bill to be offered tomorrow. The drafts were not completed tonight, he said, and he declined to discuss the changes he expects to propose.

No apprehension was aroused by the warning against the Webb bill telegraphed to Governor Johnson by President Wilson. It is the belief of

both Governor Johnson and Attorney General Webb that regardless of how the act was worded it probably would involve an appeal to the courts, as suggested by President Wilson.

Attorney General Webb, in a statement tonight, said:

"I have been shown the president's telegram to the governor to the effect that the proposed land bill might involve an appeal to the courts, and it has been in the minds of every one having to do with this subject of legislation, since the beginning of the session that any character of bill must necessarily involve the same thing. No method of avoiding an appeal to the courts by the parties interested has occurred to us, and if the federal government is advised of the existence of a way to avoid this question without a complete and unwarranted surrender of the rights of the state, it is to be regretted that such method is not pointed out by the telegram.

"If this act should be passed I quite realize that hereafter some person may contend for greater right than the act would seem on its face, to give him, and in that case it would be quite proper for the courts to pass upon the question. I am at a loss, however, at this time to understand how the federal government could become in any way involved in or responsible for such a contention."

Secretary Bryan, who has been in his temporary office at the capitol building all day with the exception of the time spent on his inspection trip through a nearby Japanese colony, has declined to discuss the question raised by the president. There is much interest in the future movements of the secretary of state, who has given out no statement as to his immediate plans, other than to say that he expects to remain in Sacramento "for several days."

The following telegram from President Wilson was received today by Governor Johnson:

"I take the liberty of calling your attention to the Webb bill, which would involve an appeal to the courts on questions of treaty rights and bring on what might be long and delicate litigation."

Governor Johnson immediately replied:

"I thank you very much for your suggestion. The fault may be due to the act, but we have endeavored to preserve affirmatively upon the face of our bill the existing treaty. I have referred the matter at once to our attorney general, and I would be extremely grateful for any suggestions that would avoid the objection you mentioned."

The Japanese problem in California as it actually exists on the farms and ranches of the Sacramento valley were viewed at close range by Secretary of State Bryan this morning in the course of a two hours' automobile ride through the thickly populated country south of the capital. John D. Bradford, who accompanied the secretary, was armed with facts and figures, and Mr. Bryan seemed deeply interested. His only comment, however, at the end of the trip was that he had seen "not only a Japanese colony, but a very pretty California valley." In the Florin district, embracing about twenty-five square miles of rich soil, there is a population of 1,500 Japanese farmers and 400 Americans. Twelve years ago there was not a score of Japanese in the community; now they practically control the grape and berry industries of that section.

They own the factory where the berry boxes are made and when the party visited the shop Mr. Bryan saw thirty-five Japanese girls at work. He was told by Governor Johnson that prior to six years ago American

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W. J. Bryan, Lincoln, Neb.