

JAPANESE SCARE ON COAST REFUSES TO DOWN

(By Roderick Clifford.)

WASHINGTON, May 15.—Alarmed at the steady immigration of Japanese to the Pacific coast, and fearful that unless it is checked this immigration will mean a gradual and peaceful conquest of the western slope, Representative Baker, of California, has asked the house to ascertain how many Japanese laborers are quietly slipping into the United States from across the Canadian and the Mexican borders.

There is nothing startling in the Baker resolution itself. It seems to be a mere matter of request for information, but the real significance of the resolution is this:

Representative Baker and other western representatives know that Japanese labor is already encroaching upon the white man's domain in California and other states. They simply want other members of the house and the public generally to know the same thing.

"The Japanese will not conquer the Pacific Coast by war," says Mr. Baker. "At the present rate of immigration they will simply come in and get possession of our farms, work for starvation wages, run the competing white laborer out of his own country, and then proceed to take our section peacefully and without the firing of a gun. It will all be done because the Japanese laborer can live on a few cents a day, and the white man cannot meet the Japanese."

Baker Asks Questions.
The Baker resolution asks congress to ascertain from the president the following:

The number of Japanese who are entering the United States surreptitiously over the Mexican border and the Canadian border.

The number who come in through the regular immigration channels.

The number who are entering Hawaii and the Philippines, either secretly or through the regular immigration channels.

"The American people," declares Mr. Baker, "will awaken to the seriousness of the situation when these figures are ascertained."
The Baker resolution was introduced by the California member after he had conferred with various other members of the house from the Pacific coast and the southwest. It will have the support when it comes before the house, and more than one of these members will be in possession of information that will alarm the entire country over the Japanese immigration.

Prefer the Chinese.
There are western senators and representatives who prefer the Chinese coolie to the more astute and scheming Japanese. The Chinese coolie, it is pointed out, eats little and works for but a few cents a day, but his brain is not filled with ideas of conquest, and he does not turn investor and take over the American's land. The Japanese on the other hand, say those members of the house who have come in close contact with him, not only can live as cheaply as the Chinese laborer, but has ambitions to become an American farmer, and he is here to stay.

The claim is made that the Philippines and Hawaii are now overrun with Japanese, and there are enough of them in these islands to take possession of it from the inside if they so desire.

"I am not trying to bring on another war scare," said Representative Baker, in discussing his resolution. "It is a different kind of 'yellow peril' that I fear."

Representative Leifert, of Oregon, was in Representative Baker's office at the time, and he emphasized the fact that the Californian's anxiety was well grounded, and that there is a growing belief on the Pacific coast and in the northwest that the subject of Japanese immigration is one

of the most serious confronting this country today.

Labor and Eating.
"I am not fearful that the Japanese will sail over with ships and take California by force of arms," continued Mr. Baker.

"The problem of our west is one of labor and eating. American farm hands are paid good wages and they eat heartily. The Japanese are flocking into our section. They don't ask the same wages wanted by the American, and they live on six or ten cents per day. How can able-bodied Americans meet such competition as that?"

The Japanese laborers come in and quietly take their places in the laboring ranks in the orchards, vine yards and farms of California and other western states. They save nearly everything they make. The first thing you know the Japanese laborer has a plot of ground and he starts to farming himself. In a few years he will have the American working for him. The Japanese will be the landlord, and the American will be the tenant.

"Of course when any neighborhood becomes over-run with Japanese, there is bound to be an exodus of Americans. What is the result? The farm and orchards become the possessions of the foreigner and parts of the Pacific coast will eventually become a 'little Japan'."

Japs Will Stick Close.

Close study of the two nationalities has brought us to the conclusion that the Chinese coolie is preferable to the Japanese. The former comes to America solely to earn money. When he gets it he is ready to return to China and become a wealthy man there, living in luxury for the balance of his life. When the Japanese comes to America it is generally with the purpose of staying, and becoming one of us. He is shrewd, ambitious, penurious. He will starve himself half to death in order to get an acre of ground that he may call his own and his plot of land probably will be another plot owned by an American farmer. The latter seeing that he is surrounded with unco-genial neighbors, is soon ready to sell out, and the march of the little yellow man goes steadily onward over our entire section.

So far as immigration proper is concerned, it is pretty well restricted. But the American people should have the light thrown upon the danger of secret immigration. Japanese, by the hundreds come in from Canada and across the Rio Grande. They do not enter the ports but they get there just the same.

Same State Elsewhere.
"We learn that pretty much the same state of affairs exists in the Philippines and Hawaii. Away out in the mid-Pacific this half-way place, the Japanese are flocking into these islands owned by America. If they are not checked they will soon occupy Hawaii in such numbers as to economically conquer the islands from within."

Charges have been made that the last census does not fully show the number of Japanese now on the Pacific slope. Japanese land owners have not listed the full number of employed by them, and it is believed that even some American farmers, prompted by the fact of their Japanese employees.

Representative Baker says that he is already in possession of documentary evidence bearing out his assertions and indicating the necessity for immediate investigation of the entire Japanese immigration problem. He will hold these figures until his resolution comes before the house.

When with the aid of other western members he declares that he will be able to furnish data that will alarm the American people and awaken them to a new to the dangers of another kind of "yellow peril"—the Japanese immigration of the Pacific coast.

Both the senate and the house of the Forty-sixth congress were democratic in political complexion. Allan G. Thurman was president pro tempore of the senate and Samuel J. Randall speaker of the house of representatives. That congress enacted the "arrairs bill," which sought to make a merchant of the soldier under a pension law. There never was a pension bill that Holman or Voorhees, of Indiana, would not have voted for. By operation of the arrears bill, the pension began to run from the date the disability was incurred, instead of from the time the claim was allowed. In 1884, there were thousands of claims made, and many of them were paid. But the pension law was changed in 1885, and from that time on, the pension was paid only if the claimant was a merchant of the soldier.

One pension attorney here is reported to have made \$2,000,000 prosecuting these claims.
What was the effect? A pension appropriation of \$56,589,227 in 1889 which by 1893 swelled to the enormous proportions of \$88,842,720. The pension law was changed in 1893, and from that time on, the pension was paid only if the claimant was a merchant of the soldier.

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ABOUT PENSIONS—A TALE

BY SAVOYARD.

Since 1865 there has been taken out of the public purse the stupendous sum of more than \$4,000,000,000 on the pension account alone. I now recollect the total amount of all property, personal and mixed—bills for taxation in the state of Kentucky, when Proctor Knott was governor of that commonwealth, was about \$440,000,000. Thus in forty-five years the pension account has eaten up nearly ten states such as Kentucky was in 1884. The present annual charge for pensions is a little less than \$160,000,000, and now it is proposed by some of the congressional demagogues to increase the amount of the annual pension appropriation by an additional \$24,000,000, which would swell the total to about \$200,000,000 a year. This \$440,000,000 paid under a pension law of the thirteenth vote, the senate killed it, however, though it too, would have passed it had a vote been taken upon it.

And thus patriotism and gratitude have been made matters of merchandise. It is an insult to the men who fought the war, for this immense sum was voted the soldier to seduce his vote, and not for what he had done in battle.

Politics is responsible for this criminal prodigality, and I can testify in exonerating of the republican party as the original contriver of the thing. It is the invention of the democratic party, which sought to debauch the soldier vote by means of liberal pensions; but the republicans seized upon it, magnified it, and expanded it, and since 1880 much of the pension appropriation has a republican senate passed the "Pac-

per" pension bill and Mr. Cleveland vetoed it. A man named Steele, a republican member of congress from Indiana, attempted to nullify the Constitution of the United States by a motion to adjourn, which was defeated. You see it was the tenth day after the bill got to the president and when the executive clerk reached the door of the house with the veto message Steele made his motion in order to prevent its reception that day, for a bill of congress becomes a law without the signature of the president if he has not notified congress of his disapproval within ten days, unless he enacted one of the last nine days of the session, when the "pocket veto" applies. Now it was proclaimed from the house that Cleveland was bent on re-election in 1888 because of this veto.

Ben Harrison became president and congress sent him this same pauper pension bill, and he approved it. What was the result? The next year the pension appropriation jumped to \$106,000,000. In 1891 it was \$117,312,000. In 1893 it had grown to \$150,000,000, and about that figure it has remained ever since, except one or two years.

Everybody admired Ben Harrison for his splendid intellect. I am sure he was a patriot. I am satisfied the office of president was bought for him. I know his election cost the people billions on this pension account alone. It is absurd to say that there was not the most reckless extravagance attending it when such men as Grant and Garfield said that \$30,000,000 was ample in 1874, which ought to have been high water mark for it.

Had there been no protective tariff to preserve we would never have heard of a pension appropriation of \$50,000,000. It was to get rid of the surplus in the treasury and thus argue that congress should stand fast on the tariff that occasioned the passage of the pauper pension bill that alone has swelled the appropriation \$20,000,000 a year.

I one day witnessed a scene in the senate that made the G. O. P. wince. John T. Morgan of Alabama, who had been a Confederate soldier, made a speech like this: "Build the appropriation as you please. Make it mountain high, the summit closed. Every cent of it is a testimony to Southern valor. If it is an

honest roll, our glory is the more effulgent. If it is a fraudulent roll the infamy, all of it, is yours, and none of it is ours. But if it tells the truth then the ragged rebels were the most heroic army that ever went to battle. I leave it to you. Yours be the responsibility."

I have said that much of the pension graft is virtually a republican campaign fund. Let me relate something that came under my own observation. Metcalf county, Ky., sent to swell the federal army at least 700 soldiers out of a population of about 2,000. When the war was over and the army disbanded at least one-half of the Union soldiers of that county returned voted the democratic ticket, and at the first election at which they voted the democratic majority was 45 in a total vote of less than 1,200. And so it continued until the "arrairs bill" was passed.

One, Dr. Hunter, a carpenter from Pennsylvania, got the appointment of examining surgeon. Republicans made no bones of proclaiming from the house that to get a pension a fellow had to "vote as he shot." Well, it got to be so that applicants for pensions, strong democrats, and their boys and other kin, stayed away from the election, and we couldn't get them to the polls. That was the first step of the inquiry. But the next election they appeared and voted the straight republican ticket, and in 1885 when I left that county, you could count every democratic ex-soldier in Metcalf county on the fingers of one hand and have fingers to spare. I now recall but two.

If that was done in Kentucky, what must have occurred in the doubtful state of Indiana? Now, Indiana did not send as many soldiers to the front as Ohio and Illinois; but Indiana, the double decade 1880-1890, had more pensioners than either. James D. Richardson of Tennessee investigated the thing and made a conclusive speech in congress on the subject. He showed how Indiana swarmed with special examiners from the pension office just before elections, and the mission of every one of these gentry was to intimidate and cajole the poor soldier into voting the republican ticket.

What a grand old organization the democratic party is, to be triumphant at the close of the first dec-

ade of the new century, after surviving the era of corruption—prostitution of the pension fund, fat tried out of the tariff barons' hoards collected off the Union league, "blocks of five" and what not, especially the riotous debauchery it experienced in 1896, when it took a whirl with the Populists!

Marie Tempest is to change the name of her new play from "The Bill Toppers" to "The Tar Turn," which the London philologists better.

Marie Walworth, who has been playing with William Gillette, is to return to vaudeville.

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