

Japan Not Aroused Over the Exclusion From Other Lands

Consider Discrimination of Economical Nature and Not a Racial Slur:

SIMPLY IS LABOR PROBLEM

Head of Nipponese Peace Mission Tells Future Hopes of Country

By ICHIRO HATTORI

Mr. Hattori was the chairman of the Japanese delegation which came to Tulsa to attend the business international parliamentary conference. Prior to his election to the Japanese house of peers, as a commoner, he had a distinguished career as a civil servant and administrator.

LONDON, Sept. 28.—In England or in America any discussion as to the future development of Japan seems inevitably, sooner or later, to turn to the racial question, or rather, to one of the phases of that question. When the race problem is referred to in connection with Japan it is almost invariably, simply the labor problem that is meant. This phrase is merely what we regard as an incidental portion of the matter.

been made that the Japanese should be excluded from any country simply because they were Japanese. That would be quite a different matter. The whole question has been confined to confounding the wide line of issue with the fundamental principle of race equality.

Calculates Not Wanted. We Japanese do not wish to interfere between capital and labor in any country. We have had our own labor troubles and our food difficulties in Japan, just as you had in England, as the recent race riots showed. Fortunately, however, these difficulties have now been overcome. On the broad lines, I take it, American capitalists desire to employ Japanese labor while American labor is determined that it will not do so, and for the present the latter view has triumphed.

Lately, for on the problem of expansion is not an immediate one. Korea and Formosa are such things populated and a great work of development lies in our hand there. This task will absorb our energies for some considerable time to come. Japan does not particularly want more colonies. We recognize that all the available territory has already been taken up. What we do desire, however, is to be regarded as equal competitors in the markets of the world, and it is because of this that I emphasize the difference between the general racial problem and the mere side line of cheap labor.

Reverting to the labor aspect again for a moment, however, I am convinced that great fields of activity are open to us where there is no possibility of clashing with local prejudices. The value of our labor is steadily being recognized. When South America comes to be really opened up, there will be an enormous demand for our men.

dreamed of before the war. As our industrial resources, of course, will be our powers of absorbing our own surplus population. Politically, events have been moving very rapidly in Japan. Already there is a very wide movement for universal suffrage. On theoretical grounds,

this innovation receives a large measure of support, but personally I do not think the time is yet ripe for such a move. As it is our self-interest which is based on a property class, we naturally have greatly advanced. Our upper house has a majority of hereditary nobles.

but, in addition, a certain number of eminent scientists, authors, and statesmen are elected to it on the basis of the votes.

The remarkable movement in making rapid progress, but I do not think that socialism, as the term is understood in Europe, will ever make headway with us, though some adaptation of the system to meet our requirements might prove popular.

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