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in good faith, have declared their intention to become citizens of the United States,' etc., etc., and a provision attached removing the restriction as to land in municipalities. This amendment will be submitted to the people for vote in November, 1914."

Juneau, Alaska, April 29.—The house anti-alien fishing bill passed the territorial senate by a unanimous vote today and is now in the hands of the governor. A message was sent to Governor Johnson of California informing him of the Alaska legislature's action. The bill, designed to bar Japanese fishermen who have rapidly increased their operations in Alaska waters in recent years, passed both houses a month ago by unanimous vote, but on April 4 the senate reconsidered the measure to await legal advice.

GETTING READY FOR ACTION

Following are Associated Press dispatches: Sacramento, Cal., April 30.—An open right of way for final action in the senate tomorrow morning on the Webb anti-alien land act was prepared today by the floor leaders in the upper house and before tomorrow night a concrete expression of the legislature's attitude toward Secretary of State Bryan's diplomatic visit will be at hand in

the shape of a vote on the most drastic land-holding act yet proposed.

Secretary Bryan spent the day in San Francisco, not returning until late tonight. It was not known whether he had received further instructions from President Wilson concerning his propositions. In his absence the original plan to permit no further delay was carried out and when the senate adjourned tonight the Webb bill, which stands on the file as the accepted substitute for the original Thompson-Birdsall measure, was due to be reached within a few minutes after the upper house convenes tomorrow.

A long debate is not improbable and a few amendments may be offered but they will be resisted with the full force of the administration leaders who stated tonight that they expected the act to be passed in its present form.

There was wide discussion of the new bill today, although but little criticism was forthcoming from the standpoint of California. In comparison with various drafts that preceded it the Webb act is said to be more drastic and effective in reaching the Japanese farmers of the state than any other proposed measure, and at the same time least objectionable of all from an international point of view.

Senator Thompson declared tonight that the bill provided for "the immediate and direct solution of the Japanese problem" and to this extent it is the most rigid and uncompromising measure that has been suggested.

Senator Thompson denied that the wording of the act or any part of it, can be taken as a concession to the objections of Secretary Bryan, and Governor Johnson stated today that from what he understood of the situation the measure did not have the approval of President Wilson.

"It is altogether probable that we would have reached this form of bill in any case," said Senator Thompson, "and it can not fairly be said that the draft prepared by Attorney General Webb reflects any of the sentiments of Mr. Bryan, except his desire that we do not offend anyone and that of course has been our guiding principle from the beginning. At no time have we had a wish to offend the people of any nation and our desire to avoid the words 'ineligible to citizenship' has been quite as strong as that of the federal administration. Those words are not used in the Webb bill, but I do not hesitate to say that the effect and result is precisely the same as if they were included, and it will be so understood. There was no way to avoid it."

"A close study of the Webb bill shows the full extent of the restrictions placed upon aliens who are not permitted to become citizens, although the limitations are precisely those imposed in the existing treaties between us, Japan, China and other nations, whose subjects are ineligible. In the case of the Japanese, they are prohibited entirely from acquiring or holding land for farming or agricultural purposes and it is declared that the passage of the act will put an end, not only to the growth of Japanese farming colonies, but eventually to the colonies themselves.

"This purpose of the act is effected in two ways:

"First—On the death of an alien land owner the bill provides that his ownership ceases and that the property must be taken over by the probate court and sold to the highest bidder. Under its terms an alien can not bequeath real property except to a citizen. The proceeds from the sale of such land are distributed to the heirs by the court.

"Second—No leases whatsoever are permitted. Originally it was planned to permit leases covering a maximum period of three to five

years, but the Webb act denies this opportunity for colonization by aliens and provides that any lease of agricultural lands is subject to escheat to the state on the day it is begun. To make this more effective the bill provides that when suit is begun to escheat such leases, the court shall appraise the lease, sell the property at a forced sale and pay the value of the lease into the state. The remainder of the proceeds shall go to the citizen owner of the land."

It is held that this section of the act will be absolutely prohibitory upon all leases of agricultural land, whether for gardening purposes or otherwise.

According to Senator Thompson, who has made a study of the bill, the theory is as follows: Only citizens and those eligible to become citizens may be proprietors of land. They may employ Japanese and Chinese, but they can not lease or otherwise give such aliens an interest or share in their proprietorship. Such land as is now held by Japanese and Chinese can not be bequeathed to their alien heirs. It must be sold.

"The practical result of the bill," said Senator Thompson, "will be that further acquisitions will be prevented, leasing colonies will be exterminated and at the end of the present generation most of the land now held by Japanese and Chinese will be owned by citizens."

The phrase "ineligible to citizenship" is avoided in the Webb bill by providing two descriptions of aliens and defining the rights of each, as follows:

"1—All aliens eligible to citizenship may acquire and hold land in the same manner as citizens of the United States.

"2—All other aliens may acquire possession and transfer lands in the manner and to the extent and for the purposes prescribed by any treaty now existing between the government of United States and the nation or country of which such alien is a citizen or subject."

As the treaty between the United States and Japan specified that land may be acquired or leased only for residential purposes or for factories, the act is held to be a rigid restriction upon the acquisition or transfer of land by Japanese.

Senator L. A. Wright, republican, who opposes the bill, declares the wording of the act is a subterfuge intended to deceive the Japanese. Dr. David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford university, also declares the measure carries the string of discrimination, contrary to Secretary Bryan's advice.

The ineligibility of Japanese subjects to become citizens of the United States under the laws of this government is the keynote and principal strength of the substitute Webb alien land bill in spite of the fact that the words objected to by Secretary of State Bryan are not used in the act. The progressive leaders admit that the proposed law would be ineffective if Japan brought a test suit before the United States supreme court announcing their established intention of becoming citizens.

A dispatch from Washington yesterday, indicating that the administration would look favorably upon such a test, aroused fears of grave concern.

"It would be a serious mistake for the federal government to confer citizenship rights upon the Japanese," said Senator Thompson, a leading progressive. "Feeling in California has reached an acute stage and such a step by the government undoubtedly would result in reprisals of various kinds with far-reaching consequences."

San Francisco, April 30.—Secretary Bryan had absolutely no comment to make today on the action of