

'FRISCO CHINESE ARE ELATED BY F.D.R.'S STAND

Tension Rising Behind Scenes as Japanese Voice Resentment.

Times Special
SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 15.—Chinatown is elated over President Roosevelt's new Far Eastern policy. The Japanese colony is aggrieved and resentful.

But up and down gaudy Grant Ave. the Japanese and Chinese stores continue to vie side by side for the tourist trade.

There is tension behind the scenes. But on the surface there is little evidence of the thing that is absorbing every mind in the Oriental quarter. A month ago the Japanese Chamber of Commerce complained that "Chinese firms" had done "some sneaky damages" to Japanese stores, but the offense has not been repeated.

Little Chinese boys run up to even passers on the avenue and ask to shine their shoes "for relief" and every Chinese store bears a sign with a "message to the American People" but that is all.

The message says: "We count upon your sympathy for China in the present struggle. We urge you to refrain from aiding the aggressor. We invite you, when in Chinatown, to patronize the Chinese stores which display this poster."

Most Stores Japanese

Unless he watches for the signs the tourist is more apt to buy Japanese goods than Chinese. Seventy per cent of Grant Avenue stores are Japanese. Almost all the souvenir and knickknack emporiums are Japanese. Chinese merchants are

selling little besides native foods and jewelry.

B. S. Fong, president of the Ye On Club, an officer of the Six Companies, and head of the war relief association, says this has come about in recent years because of the aid Japan gives its merchants in obtaining cheap goods. Merchants buy by lottery. For a dollar they obtain a chance in consignment of goods for sale in this country. If they win, they can sell at prices far below cost, ruining their competitors. For instance, 50,000 kimonos costing 11 yen each to manufacture may be sold in this country for 5 yen each.

Some of the Japanese stores are stocking Chinese goods, and Japanese limitations of Chinese goods, to attract the tourist trade. But the Chinese merchants have resolved not to buy and sell Japanese goods.

Stock Shortage Looms

Merchandise is still coming from China, but only Cantonese products shipped through Hongkong. In some stores a shortage of stock is already apparent.

First efforts to organize an American boycott of Japanese stores were extravagant affairs. Young Chinese high school students stood on the streets and passed out cards saying "Japanese products buy bullets to kill." A poster bearing great splashes of blood next ap-

peared in the Chinese windows. This has been toned down to the mild "message to the American people."

"We don't expect trouble here," says Mr. Fong. "We have always been friendly enemies. For years the Japanese and Chinese have gotten along well together here. The Japanese Chamber of Commerce helped us put up our dragon street lights, and has cooperated with us in many ways."

But Mr. Fong is jubilant over recent developments in Washington.

"We are so happy that President Roosevelt came out for peace," he says. "We hope now the American Government will do the same thing."

we are doing—boycott Japanese goods, perhaps impose sanctions.

"We don't expect the Government to go into war with the Japanese for us—but we think the Japanese will learn something."

Mr. Fong says he was relief as socialist has raised \$1,200,000 for relief of suffering in China, and that other contributions from San Francisco have amounted to \$1,500,000. Another million dollars has come from New York half a million from Chicago, half a million from other cities.

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