

Chinese a necessity  
to fruit-growing.

much competition to make people who are wide awake to employ boys. If I undertook to work boys at all, I would take boys from the needy class. It is a matter of necessity that employers and farmers cannot work boys to advantage. In my business I pay Chinamen \$1 a day, and they board themselves. I furnish them with a house and wood. At present prices of fruit we could not raise it without Chinese labor. I think the employment of Chinese labor in this department, and all other departments, has kept up the price of white labor.

The immigration of Chinese to this country has been an advantage to the pecuniary interests of the state.

The present rate of white labor has prevailed for about twenty years. Most articles are cheaper now than they were twenty years ago; clothing is cheaper, meat is higher, and the price of those things manufactured by Chinese has decreased.

Sees no reason for  
restricting Chi-  
nese immigration.

I cannot see any reason for restricting Chinese immigration, and I cannot see how it could have any effect upon the moral condition of the white population.

In regard to the employment of white girls as house-servants in the country, I think they cannot possibly be obtained. Catholic girls do not like to go to the country, because they have not got their churches. Before we had any Chinese servants in the house, we had to depend upon Indians and such classes of people. The white girls who go to service are almost all foreign-born—Irish girls and Germans. I have seen but very few American girls going out to service, and these have been in wealthy families, in the higher departments—women to wait at table, housekeepers, and such like.

Farm wages were from \$25 to \$35 a month in 1856, 1857, 1858, and along there, before the Central Pacific Railway was built.

Capital and labor.

I think the wages of women in service have been reduced during the last twenty years; I suppose there is some competition there. I am in favor of low wages, and of a sufficient profit to carry on the business. The more labor put into our country the more prosperity there will be at large, because we can compete with foreign countries and other states of the Union. In California they are giving as much as they can afford to give. They will get labor as cheap as they can; it is human nature. Our cheapening of products and of manufactures, and cheapening them through our own manufactories, has been of great advantage to the laboring class of people. The interests of society require that in the division of the profits made by any business the laborer shall have a decent share. If we cannot compete with foreign countries with the price of labor at a certain figure, I believe it is the interest of the country to reduce the price of labor so that we can compete.

Extreme of Chi-  
nese population  
an evil.

I imagine there can be too many Chinamen; but I do not think there are too many now. My opinion is that if restrictions are to be made in respect to China, they ought to be made upon people who are far worse for us than Chinese. I would trade a certain nationality off for Chinamen until there was not one left of the stock-in-trade; for I consider some of them an evil. An extreme of Chinese population would be an evil; but my opinion is that we have not arrived at that extreme yet.

I suppose the object of those who asked for this investigation was to make political capital. They might have had some other motive, but their chief reason was political. I say this from my own convictions; and in all my acquaintance I do not know a farmer of my district who agrees with me precisely in all these opinions. I do not know a solitary man in Washington township or in Alameda county that disagrees with me in