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JAPAN TEAS.

Anent the great headway being made by Ceylon teas in all countries, and the jealousy of both Japan and China to stop as far as lies within their power the injury these are doing in markets previously religiously owned by themselves the following remarks of the president of Yokohama Tea Traders Guild, reported in the Japan Gazette, will be read with interest.

As you are already aware, India or Ceylon teas have found their way into America—the largest consuming markets for Japan teas—are now keenly competing with Japanese teas. If this state of things be allowed to continue we shall probably lose our markets. We, tea traders, being greatly concerned at this, lately adopted a plan of defense and petitioned the government for assistance for carrying out the plan. The petition was accepted, and we have now been granted an annual subsidy of seventy thousand yen for seven years.

We understand the American government has issued regulations for preventing the importations of impure teas. Perceiving the necessity of giving warning at this moment we have urged the local producers to improve their teas.

A native Japanese tea grower supplemented the above by remarking that it was intended to spend the money in advertising Japan teas, as against Ceylon and Indian teas, and thus to a certain extent counteract the effects of the advertisements spread broadcast during the past years by the Ceylon and India traders.

This determination to stem the tide of Indian teas is not confined to Japan

alone. In a circular which we have before us from China a suggestion is made "that a tax of 5 Mexican cents per picul be levied on all China teas exported to Europe, America and Australia, and that this sum be expended in advertising in view of the serious falling off of the China tea trade" from which it is to be inferred that "business" is meant in both cases. As previously stated in this column, ambassadors from Japan were coming to arrange details on the spot. These have now arrived at San Francisco and the establishment of bureaus for the regulation of the Japan tea business in the United States and Canada is, therefore, an inception of the near future.

NORTH DAKOTA CROP BULLETIN

Bismarck, July 27.—The heaviest rains of the season have fallen during the past week over the most of the state, especially from the James River Valley to the eastern boundary. In the valleys of the rivers and small streams through that section much damage has been done, many fields being now under water, and where grain was heavy, was badly lodged. Wheat is showing signs of rust in all parts of the state, and in some few sections is badly smutted. All vegetation has been retarded and the extent that crop has been damaged cannot be told. Apart from the damage done by storms a small worm or bug is damaging wheat in the southern part of the state. Should the weather turn hot now it would seriously affect the crop in nearly every section.

Montreal, July 27.—Kelly & Kelly, wholesale dealers and importers, assigned to-day with liabilities, \$20,000.