

## Sec. 2—Powers, Duties of the President    Cl. 2—Treaties and Appointment of Officers

the treaty of 1850 with that country, to recover the estate of a relative dying intestate in Virginia, to sell the same, and to export the proceeds of the sale.<sup>307</sup>

Certain more recent cases stem from California legislation, most of it directed against Japanese immigrants. A statute that excluded aliens ineligible for American citizenship from owning real estate was upheld in 1923 on the ground that the treaty in question did not secure the rights claimed.<sup>308</sup> But, in *Oyama v. California*,<sup>309</sup> a majority of the Court opined that this legislation conflicted with the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, a view that has since been endorsed by the California Supreme Court by a narrow majority.<sup>310</sup> Meantime, California was informed that the rights of German nationals, under the Treaty of December 8, 1923, between the United States and the Reich, to whom real property in the United States had descended or been devised, to dispose of it, had survived the recent war and certain war legislation, and accordingly prevailed over conflicting state legislation.<sup>311</sup>

<sup>307</sup> See also *Geofroy v. Riggs*, 133 U.S. 258 (1890); *Sullivan v. Kidd*, 254 U.S. 433 (1921); *Nielsen v. Johnson*, 279 U.S. 47 (1929); *Kolovrat v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 187 (1961). But a right under treaty to acquire and dispose of property does not except aliens from the operation of a state statute prohibiting conveyances of homestead property by any instrument not executed by both husband and wife. *Todok v. Union State Bank*, 281 U.S. 449 (1930). Nor was a treaty stipulation guaranteeing to the citizens of each country, in the territory of the other, equality with the natives of rights and privileges in respect to protection and security of person and property, violated by a state statute which denied to a non-resident alien wife of a person killed within the State, the right to sue for wrongful death. Such right was afforded to native resident relatives. *Maiorano v. Baltimore & Ohio R.R.*, 213 U.S. 268 (1909). The treaty in question having been amended in view of this decision, the question arose whether the new provision covered the case of death without fault or negligence in which, by the Pennsylvania Workmen's Compensation Act, compensation was expressly limited to resident parents; the Supreme Court held that it did not. *Liberato v. Royer*, 270 U.S. 535 (1926).

<sup>308</sup> *Terrace v. Thompson*, 263 U.S. 197 (1923).

<sup>309</sup> 332 U.S. 633 (1948). See also *Takahashi v. Fish & Game Comm'n*, 334 U.S. 410 (1948), in which a California statute prohibiting the issuance of fishing licenses to persons ineligible to citizenship was disallowed, both on the basis of the Fourteenth Amendment and on the ground that the statute invaded a field of power reserved to the National Government, namely, the determination of the conditions on which aliens may be admitted, naturalized, and permitted to reside in the United States. For the latter proposition, *Hines v. Davidowitz*, 312 U.S. 52, 66 (1941), was relied upon.

<sup>310</sup> This occurred in the much advertised case of *Sei Fujii v. State*, 38 Cal.2d 718, 242 P.2d 617 (1952). A lower California court had held that the legislation involved was void under the United Nations Charter, but the California Supreme Court was unanimous in rejecting this view. The Charter provisions invoked in this connection [Arts. 1, 55 and 56], said Chief Justice Gibson, "[w]e are satisfied . . . were not intended to supersede domestic legislation." That is, the Charter provisions were not self-executing. *RESTATEMENT, FOREIGN RELATIONS*, supra, § 701, Reporters' Note 5, pp. 155-56.

<sup>311</sup> *Clark v. Allen*, 331 U.S. 503 (1947). See also *Kolovrat v. Oregon*, 366 U.S. 187 (1961).