A BIG INFLUX OF JAPS

FOR PORTLAND.

'A Local Employment Agent Says He

NEARLY 1000 SAID TO BE BOUND

Has Them in Charge, and They
May Be Expected Shortly.

Early next month. Portland will be in-

vaded by an army of 900 Japs, according

to a white man who conducts a Japanese

employment agency in the North End.

He states that that number of the Mikado's subjects are now en route to this city by Canadian Pacific and Northern Pacific steamers. He further asserts that they are all coming to him, from which It must be inferred that these aliens are liable to run counter to the provisions of the convict labor law, or very near it. How he will be able to get them into this country he does not explain. The Northern Pacisic steamer Tacoma is due ut Tacoma about January 6, and the Canadlan Pacific steamer Empress of Japan will reach Vancouver about January 10. The employment agent was in the Northern Pacific passenger office yesterday seeing what terms he could make for bringing the Japanese over from the Sound. He has lived several years in Japan and speaks the language thoroughly. It is supposed he secured the foreigners by flooding their country with literature from his office. The agent said he could secure work for the Japs in hotels, on steamer lines and on the railroads. Local railroad officials know nothing of this consignment of laborers and are of the opinion that the proprietor of tho employment bureau is "talking through his hat." Mr. Allan Cameron, of the Canadian Pacific, doubted very much whether his line would undertake to carry this class of foreigners. There is a diversity of opinion as to the

desirability of inducing Japanese immi-

gration to this country. Some people,

influenced by the accounts of Japanese

valor on the battle-field, think they would

prefer a Jap to a European, as a natural-

ized citizen, while others are of a very

contrary opinion. The Jap has never

shown the indefatigability in the pur-

suit of work that he shows in the pur-

suit of Chinese. He comes to this country principally to get an education. The Portland colony contains some bright Japanese and not a few very good imitations of the modern "Willie Boy." Of the working class, the majority are connected in some way with restaurants. Others run barber shops with poolroom attachments, one man is engaged in the cigar and provision line down on Second street and another enterprising little fellow has embarked in the express business, making a living by hauling the baggage of his fellow-countrymen. Some of the people support families while another class, and not a small one, either, is supported by Japanese women with most remarkable complexions, who pretend to run eigar stands in the lower part of the city. The main occupation of these male Japs is smoking eigarettes and training bulldogs. Nearly every one of them has a cur of some kind and the uglier and more chewed-up he is. the higher he is prized. The importation of Japanese labor into the Pacific coast is not looked upon fa-

on the subject, and the cry "the Japanese must go!" has, in part, taken the place of the remark so often connected with the desired departure of the other kind of Celestials. It is argued that a Japanese will work for as little money as a Chinaman, but it must be remembered that he does not possess the same saving qualities as the latter, and will generally spend his earnings in this country, if that state of affairs is any benefit to the country. Quite a number of Japanese are already employed on railroads in the West, principally as section men, and do fairly well with an American overseer.

vorably by laboring men, and the sub-

ject is beginning to be a most fruitful one

for labor orators. In San Francisco,

Denis Kearney has made himself heard