

SHIMA'S WITHDRAWAL

George Shima, the Japanese potato king of California, is withdrawing from Central Oregon. With others he owned 17,000 acres in the three Central Oregon counties and for several years past had grown potatoes on some of this land, using chiefly Japanese labor. Now, according to his spokesman, he is disgusted with continued agitation here against Japanese colonization and although he "never contemplated Japanese colonization himself he dislikes to have his operations hampered by false accusations which have made his ventures in Central Oregon disagreeable."

How much of this, we wonder, is the truth?

If Mr. Shima had no intention of Japanese colonization there is no reason why his operations should be hampered. As a matter of fact none of the recent anti-Japanese agitation has been directed against Shima. So far as we have been able to discover there have been no accusations made against him whatever. He had only to proceed with his potato growing enterprises here, using American labor, and nothing would have been said.

The truth, we imagine, is something like this. Shima did intend to colonize with Japs. When he learned what the anti-Japanese feeling was he gave up his plans and now seeks to have other reasons accepted for the action.

Apparently the anti-Ochoco-Jap fight has resulted in driving Shima out. We regret to see a big potato development leave but if it is Shima and Japs or no Japs no Shima our answer would be no Shima.

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