

# Secretary Taft's Tour In Japan and China

His Mission is Regarded Abroad as the Most Weighty Diplomatic Event Since the American Acquisition of the Philippines—Special Task At Manila Will be to Reconcile the Nationalists.

(Special Service.)

Washington, Oct. 12.

CABLE dispatches report a hearty welcome for Secretary Taft in Japan and China, and the success of his world tour is assured.

Like all apparent mysteries, the inwardness of Secretary Taft's mission will probably be simple when all is known. It is from the American people, and it is merely to blaze a path of wholesome, honest, and dignified Americanism across the East and Europe.

If his personality and methods impress the truth that the United States will defy the world for a right, but will unflinchingly ignore the inventions and convolutions which the 77th Barons call diplomacy, he will have met American expectations. The effect of the Taft mission will be general rather than specific. It will

In a boyish, undisciplined, idealistic way, most because the more political cover the Philippines have, the more of them and sources fall on the side of the natives. The Philippines, like the Cuban and the South American, thinks of the government only in terms of slavery, perversion and privilege.

Secretary Taft's special task at Manila will be to reconcile these Nationalists as to the thought that independence and all the salaries must be a thing of growth, and not of one election, "not to be achieved in one generation, perhaps not in two or three."

ELLIPSON TRUST HIM.

Another American, with such a purpose, whatever his success at home, would be greeted by these eloquent and miscreant Filipino patriots with a storm of indignation and disapproval. But Mr. Taft did not devote some of his best years in the Philippines for nothing. That battle of misunderstanding he has fought out. The story of the

man appears who has a keen eye for folly and a contagious laugh for fools. Of all people who ever lived, the Japanese have the most uneasy dread of ridicule. To be shouting for war when it would be ruin for Japan, and when nobody else is thinking of war, would be to make them ridiculous. Taft has turned his eye of humor at them, and they are reluctant to more.

What do the Japanese really think of Taft? Who can tell. In his former visit he made a speech, which did what a speech seldom does there—it evoked on their faces, drilled to hide emotion, cool, polite, imperious, signs of an approach to a kind of enthusiasm. But it may have been the little man's admiration of brawn and bulk; it may have been the brave man's appreciation of any courage; it may have been an effort to make a speech. "How shall we fashion the Japanese soul?"

Men of our race cannot understand the Japanese politician or business man any more than American women can understand her well-mannered and vacant-eyed Japanese sister.

GENIUS IN MENDACITY.

An Englishman's description of the Japanese is concise, "clever and deceitful." An average Japanese is such a consistent, habitual, easy, masterful liar that we can suspect even Okuma and the older statesmen, though they have a hundred times more knowledge, loyalty, philanthropy, intelligence and loftiness of national aspiration.

They agreed with Mr. Taft and returned at his declaration of friendly regard. Convinced as you may be, decide in your own mind, those Japanese ruling minds never resent bitterly any manifestation of the Anglo-Saxon tendency to regard facts as an inferior race, the more because they believe in the Chinese demonstrations in Canton and elsewhere. When they smile politely and talk of perpetual amity, they may mean exactly that they would choose us if they could.

But, allowing for all that, it is clear that Secretary Taft, building on the excellent impression he made two years ago, has cleared the atmosphere and produced a feeling which will smooth the way to new treaty arrangements when they become necessary, arrangements which will fully fix the privileges of travelers and immigrants in each country, and assure sensible conduct of each party to the contract in future crises of the eastern question or questions.

Beginning at Vladivostok and ending when he says farewell at St. Petersburg, Mr. Taft will have a task just suited to his temperament and talents. He will meet the officials of a government almost wholly military, and modify the ill feeling which grew up when the people of the United States espoused the Japanese side in the war in Russia. He will meet the officials of a government almost wholly military, and modify the ill feeling which grew up when the people of the United States espoused the Japanese side in the war in Russia. There are no acute disagreements between the two governments.

RUSSIA PIQUED.

The secretary's main duty will be to popularize America as far as a friendly hearing can illuminate the true American policy. It was the lack of the peace-maker at Port Arthur to leave on both sides a fringe of dislike. The masses of Japanese believed that Roosevelt's meddling robbed their nation of a monster indemnity, which they would have used in the construction of a new navy and noble public works. Russians were surprised and piqued that a Christian people, forgetting Russian favors, should give their razas to the heathen yellow peril.

Being a more or less Christian people, the Russians should get over their pique more readily than the Japanese. The nation as a mass hardly knows that Americans noticed the war, but the minority who can read ought to be markedly affected by the gospel of generous common sense which Taft will preach. The very few who will not meet him during his brief stay cannot avoid being captivated by the man, if they are not led to a warmer liking for the American name.

In Russia Taft's mission will be to round the edges of a certain subtlety and stop at the beginning of a bitterness in the upper classes which might some day cause serious trouble. Russia proposes to get into the game again, for the which Washington authorities realize the wisdom of laying a foundation of clear understanding.

Mr. Taft will study these conditions. He will deliver his fearless, frank, tactful way the message of America's sympathetic interest in Russia's efforts to make efficient in the service of peace the vast numbers of her human units.

PROBLEMS IN GERMANY.

In Germany the secretary will have the easiest and the hardest sledding. He will not feel the need of teaching what is the American policy. The Kaiser is well posted, so are von Buelow and Posadowsky. They have studied the United States. They already comprehend the benefits of a cordial understanding.

William is more anxious that the German name may be fashionable and popular on this side than we are about the prestige of America among his subjects. But the question before the meeting is the tariff and the regulations, ostensibly, perhaps, for health and sanitation, under which products are to be admitted at New York and Hamburg. In that department of statecraft Mr. Taft will deal with more than his equals. He is a great jurist, a great administrator, a great thinker, a great prophet, but he is not a great master of tariff schedules.

A tariff war with Germany has threatened for three years. Taft's mission has extended the duration of the present status, giving us equality with the treaty nations of Europe. But her tariff law is adjustable. At any time she has the power to decide the sale of American goods in Germany shall be unmanageably difficult. It is true, that in many respects Germany should suffer the more in a tariff war, but certainly run more dangerous risks. It was not kindness alone which dictated the extensions of the status. Still, we cannot afford to attack our most and fiercest interests, our sugar and stock-raiders, and Mr. Taft must find out how things stand.

He is well equipped. He could be taken for a German. The Kaiser likes and believes in statist men, though

himself of short stature. Taft is irradiated with honesty and yet alive with intelligence. The German ideal is steadfastness, and Taft not only is the part but looks it. The Taft mission of enlightening the world on the breadth, strength and good faith of American purposes will shine in Germany as brightly as in the Orient. His visit may well be of more historic importance there than anywhere else, because, in the close analysis, Germany is not only a more important figure in the world, but of more importance in relation to the life of American citizens.

It is a function of heroic proportions, this mission of Secretary Taft. His habit of success inspires a national belief that he will return with the distinction of having established peace with homes for the United States around the globe.

## THE BEGGARS' NEWSPAPER.

"Yes," said the tourist, as he unpacked his huge trunk, "I left all my money on the other side, but dear, what a lot of nice things I have brought back home with me."

He took out a small newspaper. "Here is something interesting," he said. "It is a beggars' journal. It is published in Paris. The circulation is very small, I paid no less than \$1 for this copy. It is all about beggars. There's nothing in it that is not of interest and value to a beggar. Listen, I'll translate a thing or two for you."

He translated: "Tomorrow at 2 o'clock the funeral services of Baron d'Essex, the millionaire, will be held at the Madeleine."

"At fashionable weddings at the Trinity St. Sulphur, and Notre Dame."

"Wanted, for the Riviera, three crippled children."

"Our subscribers are urged to use their influence to prevent the re-election of M. Poincaré or Poincaré, who is fattening a bill to prohibit mendicants from standing at church entrances before and after the various services. We need not point out the loss to the profession that the passage of such a bill would entail."

"Wanted, a blind man who can play the flute."

"For sale, or to be let on long lease, a splendid corner in a busy and prosperous neighborhood for old woman with hand organ."

—Los Angeles Times.

Henry E. Jones of Tampa, Fla., writes: "I can thank God for my present health, due to Foley's Kidney Cure. I tried doctors and all kinds of kidney cures, but nothing done me much good till I took Foley's Kidney Cure. Four bottles cured me, and I have no more pain in my back and shoulders. I am 65 years old, and suffered long, but thanks to Foley's Kidney Cure I am well and can walk and enjoy myself. It is a pleasure to recommend it to those needing a kidney medicine sold by J. P. Hill Drug Co., 'The Never Substitutes'."

## ADDED UPON

Nephel Anderson's famous story, "Added Upon," is for sale at the Deseret News Book Store. A new edition is just out. Paper, 25c; library cloth, 75c.



WOMAN INVESTIGATES PANAMA CANAL.

The only woman who has officially visited the Panama canal is Miss Gertrude Beek, secretary of the welfare department of the National Civic Federation, with headquarters in New York. She was sent there by Secy. Taft, spent twenty-one days there and has sent her report of the conditions to the war department.

Among the most pertinent of Miss Beek's recommendations to the government is the institution of amusements in the bathous, where, she says, amusements are sadly lacking, a lack which causes great dissatisfaction among the employees at work there.

## A NOVEL POSTOFFICE SCHEME

In order to facilitate, and accelerate at the same time, the collection and delivery of letters and packages in Vienna, the ministry of commerce is engaged upon a plan for an underground electric railway which would link together the chief and various district postoffices of the city, some 60 in all.

under discussion, the line would be built 25 feet below the surface of the ground, and the tunnel would have a height of five feet and a breadth of four feet four inches. The stations would be built underneath the postoffices. The trains would run at 20 miles an hour, and would consist of a motor and three cars, each carrying as much as the ordinary post van. It is estimated that seven years would be required for the construction of the line. While it would cost an enormous sum of money, in the long run the line



WM. H. TAFT.

teach the meaning of the American government in all foreign entanglements which modern relations threaten rather than lay down what this nation will do tomorrow or next year on given problems. For the administration to which he will report it will be informational rather than a record of finished business.

Mr. Taft is not secretary of state, and surely if any man has business enough of his own, it is he, who still hopes that he may be a supreme court justice, while directing the army, watching the canal, advising Cuba and practically administering affairs in the Philippines, not to mention participation in all the momentous internal affairs of the republic.

## IT'S A BIG TASK.

"Taft: A Career of Big Tasks," a magazine heads its studies of the secretary. It is not that his biggest and noblest task—this of progressing through both of the settled civilizations which direct the peoples of the world, and everywhere compelling confidence in the sincerity of his nation's professions of essential rightfulness.

Secretary Taft's mission is regarded abroad as the most weighty diplomatic event since the American acquisition of the Philippines. Japan's victory over Russia, American assumption of control over the Panama canal and some new race questions involving the Japanese and Chinese have combined to bring material changes on the face of world politics.

But Americans themselves do not know that Mr. Taft has a special mission. They know that in a perfectly natural way the Philippines, familiar with Taft as with no other American and regarding him as the guiding spirit in the creation of parliamentary representative government in the islands, have enthusiastically invited him to be present at the opening of the first assembly. They know that it was natural for him to accept, because his interest in the development of the Philippine competency of self-government has been affectionate.

## EUROPEAN QUESTIONS.

Of a mission to settle great matters with Japan, China, Russia and Germany, we Americans only know that these are subjects which might be the better for a little personal attention, and that Taft is a pacifier of most successful experience.

In the Philippines the secretary will confront a parliamentary body composed chiefly of men eager for independence—some because they love liberty

rich is old to Americans who read how he met the genius of intrigue with humor, how he refused to be fooled, how he rebuffed the bluffers with a somewhat heavy fist, how he patiently went his steady way, attending industriously to his own duties and teaching to his unwilling pupils the lesson that duties must be performed.

So he meets them now on terms of mutual comprehension. On the surface, undoubtedly, there will be peace and friendly demonstrations during his stay with his old proteges. If they could they would have him pick favorites in the organization of the assembly, but they will hardly try. They know him too well.

They will try to commit him and his government to a withdrawal of American authority, "immediately, if not sooner." The very names of their political parties have taken at different times indicate that they literally believe in the "immediate, if not sooner."

The immediate, with a changed name, are the present dominant Nationalists, and perhaps three out of four Filipino leaders are to this day of the "immediate" school at heart.

## NOT TIME FOR INDEPENDENCE.

In Manila, at the Metropole Hotel banquet, when he was there in 1905, Mr. Taft spoke on this text: "Not Time for Independence Till You Learn How to Govern, and Especially Till You Learn How to Work."

He must repeat the advice this time. It will be a cold blanket on the talkative Filipino's aspirations, but Taft can take off the chill, as he has tempered hard lessons before, with his genial manner, his sure insight and his underlying determination.

That is his mission to the Philippines. If he has one more direct, it is to give an impetus to the cause of education and to strengthen the hands of Archbishop Harty and Bishop Brent in their efforts to organize the dominant Catholic church into an instrument of more powerful uplifting.

Scarcely had he touched the shore of Japan on this second visit before it seemed that the San Francisco school troubles and the sailing of the battle ships to the Pacific no longer were of consequence as compared with the preservation of peace. Both Japan and the United States seemed ashamed that nobody had ever seriously mentioned war.

Such was the influence of a man who laughs at trifles and thinks deeply of great affairs. War between the United States and Japan would be a folly, and the Juggers shrink away when a

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