

## PART TWO



Yokohama  
Street Scene

Jackies and Band  
from the "Nebraska"

Elbert D. Thomas of Salt Lake Tells in Lively Fashion How the American Jackies Were Entertained—Stories of Jack on Shore With Two Months' Pay in His Pockets and Unlimited Free Beer—Jap Boys With Their Prepared Speeches in English—Incident of Rikisha Man Who Imbined Too Freely and the Man Behind The Gun Loaded Down With Divers Packages for the Girl He Left Behind in The United States—Lieut.-Commander Pearson of the Illinois, Midshipman R. R. Smith of the Nebraska, and Other Utah Men on Board Uncle Sam's Battleships.

Special Correspondence.

**Y**OKOHAMA, Japan, Oct. 26.—The first book I read after coming to Japan started out with the statement that so much had been said about Japan and that so many people had written about things Japanese that nowadays a person's first step to fame would be to have it said of him that he wrote nothing about Japan. From that moment I decided to become famous by saying and writing nothing. But when I saw the fleet sail in, and the dandy way in which all the Japanese were working to welcome the Americans I concluded that to be silent would be neither just to my friends at home nor to the people with whom I've been living for some time.

The day appointed for the fleet to arrive at Yokohama was Oct. 17. This day is the one that in a sense corresponds to our Thanksgiving day at home. Then it is that his august majesty, the emperor, gives thanks to the gods and his ancestors for the existing peace, bounteous crops, and the general prosperity which his people enjoy. It was remarked on all sides that the fleet's coming on this day would be proof positive that the emperor was justified in thanking his ancestors for the peace which his land enjoys, for the coming of the fleet meant that Japan and America were the best of friends and that after all, the little unpleasant war talk which both have indulged in was nothing. That the friendship was as true and gracious as it ever was.

The fleet did not get here on the 17th, though, but that did not stop the Japanese from being disappointed. The Japanese were disappointed of course, as we all were, for everything was ready on the night of the 16th. The reason for this was that the big typhoon and storm which we had been expecting encountered four or five days out from Manila, during which three or four men were killed and many more were lost. On the morning of the 18th all of Yokohama and Tokyo were ready to greet the fleet, the government and the people, and the Japanese social way. The decorations were such as these cities had never seen before. The Americans had never seen no longer, which way you turned, and Old Glory was painted on thousands and thousands of lanterns which in the night were lit up and floated in the air as fair and dashing as Coney Island itself. For the first time since our arrival Japan seemed to be a part of the world, and the Japanese were so much in evidence.

### FLAGS ON TRAINS AND CARS.

The government set the example in welcoming the Americans and the people followed. The special trains which the government put at the disposal of the officers and men were newly paint-

ed and large American and Japanese flags were painted on each car. The railroad stations were decorated by the government and the street cars, which of course are government property, all carried two American flags.

Tokio and Yokohama are divided into different "ku" or wards. The people of each one of these decided on a special scheme of decoration and adopted a special style of lantern and this rule was carried out with the most scrupulous exactness so that the decorations all conformed with one another and there were enough wards to make a variety. In one street the lanterns were hung on each side of the street and placed so close together that they almost touched. And in another street each house attached a dainty Japanese glass bell which tinkled at the slightest breeze. The effect thus brought about is almost beyond description and is almost the finest thing in the decoration line that I

FREE BEER.

At the landings and at the railroad stations immense evergreen arches whose roof and sides were clothed with lights were lighted up and covered with evergreen. At the parks, in the big stores and at places where the streets were wide enough, erecting arches were erected. Here the men were served with Japanese tea and cakes and at some places free beer. Everything and everybody carried bottles, which bore a special label with the American flag and a statement that the beer was free to all the Americans. The parks, which were decorated with flags, the parks in Tokyo were completely decorated, covered entirely with red, white and blue, stars, chrysanthemums, and flags. The American officers on the day of the big Tokyo welcome were decked with flowers and the drivers' hats and umbrellas were covered with American flags.

Perhaps the most interesting things in the decorations and advertisements were the ones which displayed the Japanese knowledge of English. "Hail Columbia" and "America" were done to death. Here is a couple of samples: "Hail Columbia, here we are, here we are, here we have born band, drink Watson's whiskeys, they're best," and "My country, 'tis of thee sweet land of liberty—3,599 pairs of shoes to be sold for 35¢ each." The first of these, of course were done up on big American flags and painted in big black letters. There were plenty more but you might just as well make such up as pictures of a man in a suit for any kind of a combination. Such things at home, especially when displayed on the flag, would be almost sacrilegious but the Japanese don't seem to care. I am truly believed that they were using the things that would please us most and as it is the actions I had better say sentiment because at times they are a little over the top, (I am not quite laughable, from our standpoint), and not the words which count we'll judge them accordingly. No, we won't judge them as we would. I would judge them as they were funny in the same good-hearted way that they did, when one of our American sailors didn't sit

the rikisha right, or carried a sunshade and a lantern at the same time in the middle of the night.

Speaking about laughing, the fleetest way was one big roar from start to finish. I have never heard of a Japanese laughing more than those who were laughed at. I never in my life saw such spirit—why if all the Y. M. C. A. "hand shakes" and W. C. T. U. societies and missionary farewells held in a year, were thrown to the winds, and the Danjels and a Johnny Spencer put in to boot, you could never get the "laughs" and the "lets have a good time and forget that we can't understand each other" spirit that was produced by the Danjels and the Japanese rikishu men all trying to talk at once.

**JACK ASHORE.**

American money was plentiful. The sailors all had two months' pay to "blow in" and they "blowed" it too. The Jintikisha men were all on their good behavior, because they knew that to please the Americans was the surest way to get on and because even they had the welcoming spirit in a way that only those who have been blessed with a little Japanese hospitality can understand. The cities of Tokyo and Yokohama made a mint of money on account of the fleet's visit but the money made means nothing when compared with the number of Japanese ships which were developed between the Japanese generally and the officers and men.

While on the floor, I followed it up and see just about how much was spent here. I won't work the problem out, but merely state the facts and you can make the answer. There were 100 officers in the fleet, like 12,500 men and 500 officers in the fleet. Each man was loaded down with two months' pay on account of the fact that no money was coming in from America and therefore no money was left there. From a merchandise standpoint Japan is a very heaven for buying things to please the ladies and there are a few "colored gentlemen," who read us his last letter from his lady love, who didn't have a list of things such as kimono, mardian coats, silk stockings, ten hats, lacquer handkerchiefs, bags, fans, etc., etc., and etc., a mile long which they were to be sure to "purchase." Everything but merchandise and the rides were to be carried out. There was plenty of money to carry out the ladies' orders. If you had stood at the hotel with us and watched the return of those "conquering purchasers" you would have seen a very interesting sight. The lady who gave an order would be disappointed. Packages, packages and after that still more packages, inquiries full of them, and calling out to the men already loaded sailors and still

Just to show how things went, on the morning of the third day I went with one of the Utah officers shopping. We went to the Mitsui dry goods company—the biggest store in all Japan, and asked the sardinar costs. They had only one left. That store, big as it was, was prepared for the fleet too, and the manager of the foreign department told me that he had never dreamed of anything like the trade they enjoyed and incidentally remarked that the navy before had understood that the American naval officers were all millionaires and he wondered what the American Congress was thinking of when it raised the salaries of the army

and navy officers 25 per cent.

**STAR VAUDEVILLE STUNT.**

There is one picture of an American Jock that I can't forget. We watched him for about fifteen minutes. He came riding up to the dock in "Ponikri. His arms were overloaded with bundles and the bottom of the rikisha was full of cases. He carried a Japanese lighted lantern, the kind which the people here use when walking at night, it is attached to the end of a small stick. Well, as long as he was in the rikisha he was all right, but when he got out he was simply "roaring." The poor (for he must have bought himself "broke") fellow still held to the lantern and tried to keep it lit. But when he was telling the rikisha man to reach in his pockets for his money. "Poor rikishi man even if he had understood couldn't have worked the combination to get the money out. But he didn't understand and kept saying, "fifty cents, fifty cents" and that was the extent of his English. At last the sailor decided that he would get the money out for him. He made the attempt. Then slipping down started the packages. In an instant there were a couple of policemen to his aid. They picked up his

packages for him and bowed very nicely and then the trouble began again, caused by that Japanese bow. Oh, yes, the Americans all got the bow, and the Japanese got the button or two. Well, the man tried to return the bow and away went the packages once more. I'll stop here, you can finish the picture yourself. Imagine it to the limit for you. The man was a very good, a real muddle-head stunt of dropping and picking up things done over again with the police to the rescue and a bobbing bow accompaniment.

Now, the incident before we leave the Jirrikisha men. In the first place it was known that if trouble ever began between the sailors and the Japanese it would likely start with the riki men. And that was the reason, when they get a strange foreigner to rob him, therefore the police had posted the riki fares to and from all parts of the cities in English. Now, the fares were in American money, and as money was plentiful during the few weeks the men were on land they would usually pay the riki men double and sometimes three times the regular fare.

Now, the thing and instead of there being any trouble between these people they were the best of friends. Naturally there were cases of trouble here and there but they were very far between and not worth mentioning.

Now that we have the sailors and the picknick men, good friends I can predict a very big incident, but perhaps there is a little more preface after all. It consists in the description of the free beer halls. The government and the Yokohama public authorities decided that all the entertainments should be of the dry order and when the official entertainment programs were first announced it looked as if the whole public entertainment would be a la W. C. T. U. On account of this the prospects for an "orderly" visit were very bright for in Yokohama and Tokyo there were no beer halls. The public halls which to foreigners are findable and the chances were that the Americans would not like the Japanese "sake." But as is the case with most good things, the Japanese public opinion was not realized. The different beer companies took it upon themselves to furnish the wet entertainment and they built at each of the stations in the city and in other places, large beer halls where the liquor was cheap and all you want of it too was distributed. The day before the fleet came on riding passed these places. I can remember that the drinking element in the fleet would all be drunk one half hour after landing. But this was not the case at all. The commanding the patrol at the dock told me that there was more free drinks here than at any place where the fleet had been and at the same time that the Japanese public in certain ways fine for the men and the natural explanation would be that as the stuff was free and had to be drank in the open the men naturally steered clear of the public halls and did not get drunk while a crowd was watching, especially at a time when the men were put upon their honor. But the real cause of the few drunks, aside from the fact that the stuff was free, was because of the good work of the Japanese student, Y. M. C. A. and sailors guides. The Japanese ship sent men with the different American sight-seeing squads and they were to keep the men moving. But the star work was done by the students, Y. M. C. A. men. Right at the special landing which was built for the convenience of the American public, the Y. M. C. A. had established a welcome and resting tent. This was used as a sort of headquarters for all the men. At this place one could get a glass of milk, a glass of water, a glass of soda with milk and sugar, elements unknown in Japanese tea.) Here also was the headquarters for 50 or 100 English speaking Japanese sailors who were in the direction of the Y. M. C. A. These boys took the Americans off in bunches, showed them the sights, helped them in shopping and acted as interpreters. The Americans were to these boys furiously, and the boys reciprocated in this respect as they had at last reached the height of their ambition because they had at last met the men whom they could practise their English.

JAP BOYS A BIG HIT.

The boys were a very circus with their little prepared speeches, and the

suggest that the American sailors will still be imitating them when they return home next year. Their speech, of course, began with "We welcome you," which you understand true Japanese spirit. America is Japan's best friend. Since Admiral Perry arrived we have awakened from long sleep. Roosevelt one great man. America fleet welcome. We want you welcome, and so forth.

One night we watched groups of American sailors waiting for their boats and every man was either listening to or else getting off one of these welcome speeches. Talk about a song hit taking over! "Come On, You Sailors," "Welcome Willie," or "Cheer Up Mary." They don't stand a ghost of a show

DOWNFALL OF RIKI MEN.

Now that we have the sailors and the riki men friends and the fact of the free beer established I can continue with my incident. You can of course guess the answer knowing the above two facts. But I'll tell it anyway and so that you can see it as I saw it. We'll follow Mr. Sailor and his rikiisha man around Yokohama. The first thing the American says to the riki man is, "All right," and away they go. The man is merely out for a ride and as the riki man has no money he runs out and gets a few free beer touts. The American drinks, talks

and meets some friends. The rikisha man stays outside. The American next remembers that he has to buy a kimono for his girl so he yells, "Kimono" and "All right" and off they go. At the kimono store the American proceeds to get rid of some of his money and the Japanese clerk looks so unhappy that he is like the Japanese paper parrot. Here the sailor meets a friend and they decide to see the town together. Out they go and putting up their parasols get in the rikishi and yell, "All right." The rikishi men go to the next beer hall. There being two of

them here they have two beers each. This makes them jolly. A third man, who has nothing to remember excepting that they must get back to the ship at 9 p. m., so off they go with another "All right." The riki men now have a long time to do. They are men of course buy everything they see and have everything wrapped in separate packages. With every package the clerk says, "Good-bye, American sailor." The clerk gives him a box of cakes, or a lantern, or a parasol. The men come out loaded down with parcels. Now it is just about dark. They put their packages into the main hall. Then a few more beers and a happy thought strikes them. They decide to "set 'em up" to the riki-ka men. So out they go for the "All right." They take another beer, they like it. They take another, they like that. They offer the third and the fourth, these are drank, and with another, "All right." They decide that it is a good place to light their lanterns. Out they jump. Two beers apiece, two for the riki men, parasols up, lanterns lighted, and off they go. So the riki men are working, so do the riki-ka men. The men lean way back, unbalancing the riki-ka, and as the riki-ka men were somewhat wobbly the shaver of the riki men is a little unsteady. The men ask to be taken to the pier and as the riki men have now learned it they yell back, "All right." Here is the final picture of the riki men. The riki men are sailors, they use the elegant and extremely missionary-like expression, completely "soaked." Lanterns burning, parasols up, riki-ka men yelling, off they go. The men are hanging on to the riki-ka as if they were riding a Barney Oldfeld Auto. I'll stop here, but out of justice to all I'll say that the men who were with the riki men each owned an American purse with American money in it.

**WELCOMING FLEET.**

The Kanagawa prefecture with Yokohama as its biggest city, took it upon itself to direct the reception. All things that were done for the fleet were done only by the consent of or under the direction of the prefectural offices. This committee chartered six or seven of the fastest and largest boats in the harbor, the Nippon Yusen Kwaisha's biggest boats, and sent out a fleet of ocean liners, which constituted a big welcoming fleet. These ships loaded down with people, fireworks and with a big "Welcome" painted on each side, started down the bay to meet the fleet. The day time seems rather strange, but with the Japanese this is

not the case. Those used on these ships were the finest I've seen since coming here. They consisted of everything from an Indian white elephant to a German shorty with a strip of flag about 50 feet long. I heard many of the fleet's men remark that they never before saw such fireworks and from the way all "rubbered" I can easily believe them. One kangaroo after floating through the air for about 15 minutes, landed on the rigging. The crowd followed the Georgia. The Nebraska men wanted that kangaroo, because they had had one as a mascot after leaving New Zealand, but it became tired of the simple life and jumped overboard.

**BANZAIS FOR THE FLEET.**

After sailing down the bay for about two hours we sighted the fleet. From then on, every ship that passed was greeted with a mighty "Banzai." After the fleet had passed, the welcoming fleet turned and followed it in. We were then met by a magnificent band of the Japanese reception fleet, which consisted of 16 ships. The combined fleets made a sight that would do any man's heart good and cause even the most timid to become a hero. I was proud of the navy and make him pledge himself on the spot to vote for all the battleships anybody might want. The Japanese ships were all black with a white stripe along the water line and painted on the sides of all of the largest guns. These boats seemed to be the very height of beauty and magnificence, but when the white American ships came into view I was disappointed. These boats were not in it either for beauty or magnificence. If I ever I managed Uncle Samuel's navy I'd continue to paint the ships white, you bet. I was disappointed that the Japanese looked twice as big as the same sized black or gray ships. In time of war it is all right to done the war paint and look as small as possible, but in time of peace it is all right to look big and white is the color for that.

The combined fleets made four squadrons, and they anchored in squadron formation, the Japanese occupying the center, the Americans on the right, and the British fleet carried 12,607 men and 505 officers. The Japanese fleet carried 10,487 men and 638 officers. This comparison ought to be mentioned because it shows that the Japanese have more officers than the Americans and men in the two fleets. And it helps to bear out the claim that the American ships are under-officered. Of course it will be said that the American ships are under-manned. That is true, but the Japanese do because they are, on the average, better men. This of course I believe myself, but still it remains a matter of opinion. This much I do know, however, and that is that all the officers I met on the fleet complained of the over work. Perhaps this over work consisted partly in too many dinners and receptions. I know nothing of the Japanese, but I think I can mention here that it is a plan of both the Japanese army and navy to have plenty of commissioned officers, and if what I've heard is true, this fact alone would tend toward winning from the Russians.

Before this, everybody knows what the government did and what the big people did. This much might be added, however, and that is that it was so extensive that it took all of the time for all the officers, and, if permitted, the men could easily have passed the entire time in one long round of free dinners, garden parties, receptions, lunches, etc.

**ILLUMINATION OF 32 SHIPS.**  
The night of the first day the fleet was in Yokohama both the American and the Japanese fleets turned on the "juice," and I can imagine few things more beautiful than this immense fleet of thirty-two sailing ships, Japanese and sixteen American make a fleet of 32 battleships, and I doubt if even San Francisco saw such a spectacle. The occasion was the celebration of a promotion was given in honor of Admiral Perry at the Grand hotel in Yokohama. The illumination was made in the reception hall, and I doubt but the interesting thing of that night was the big lantern parade. This lantern parade consisted of a mob of people, people, people, people, people, a lighted lantern and yelling "Banzai, Banzai, Banzai."

**ORDERLY DISORDER.**  
They moved as a solid mass of humanity through the crowded streets. Such confusion! and such orderly disorder could not last among a people who were not of an even temperament like the far east. The crowd was broken in frock coats and stiff hats yelled,

shoved and pushed with common clothes, school boys and bankers moved shoulder to shoulder, I might as well have been a woman. I was not used to there was everything human and of the masculine gender in that crowd. It was merely a spontaneous outburst of a genuine welcome on the part of everybody. Those who didn't parade themselves and strut about in the thought, 'Yes! but what wouldn't that mob do if it were controlled by any other passion beside the welcoming one.' I could read in that united, disorderly, passionate mob the awakens of mob and the human nature, that of an orientate passion if it ever got started in the wrong direction. I saw visions of the yellow peril as the newspapers try to picture it sometimes. I remarked at the time, and I believe it still, that the Orient was a mass of inflammable oriental masses that there might be a change of government in a single day.

**JAPANESE UNITY.**

If we read Japanese history into the mob we can discover the secret of the Japanese awakening. The unity among the Japanese was well shown in the parade and it is this spirit of oneness that has made Japan what she is today. Japan bids fair to continue on unitedly for her bond of unity is not mobbish but entirely sane.

**UTAH JACKIE DISCOVERED.**

One day while visiting the Nebraska with Midshipman Smith of Utah I was passing a crowd of Jackies, some wearing uniforms, some painting, others doing general deck work, and some sleeping, but all showing a good deal of dirt both on hands, face and clothes. Suddenly one cried out, "Hello, Tomie." First I decided that of course the "Tomie" wasn't meant for me, but still I went on. I was about to pass by when I couldn't pick my man on account of the dirt but in a minute he came forward and I at once recognized an old private of H company, N. G. U. I was glad to see him even if he could only

He gave his work for a minute or two. He told me how he had happened to leave the ship at sea one day. How much I thought him the only bit of home news that I might possibly interest him and that was that Capt. Bassett and Lieut. Barnes were going to leave company with me. "I have never," Tommie replied, "that it was too bad and that he wished that 'Bassett, Barnes and Tommie were his officers now' on the ship. Bassett made me feel good and I mean on it." "You are a sailor," said Tommie, "and Barnes felt good, and I've learned from experience that whenever you have a chance to encourage a N. G. M. officer that no one on earth is more likely to respond than he will." "I asked him what day he had shore leave and if I could show him around." He said that he didn't know about shore leave, that perhaps he wouldn't get shore leave until after Christmas. "I had had such a good time that he over-stayed his leave 24 hours and that now he was a fourth class man. I didn't feel so proud of the officers of H. C. M. as I did before. You know, Tommie, I had learned such habits while in Salt Lake or if he had developed them after landing in the navy. He blamed it on the navy so it was all right after all. It shows that even in the Navy they don't go all over the world, but still it shows that a fellow's friends sometimes circle the globe. I was surprised to meet anyone over here who had been close enough to me to tell me that Combintion to my heart—Tommie."

There are two Utah men on the fleet, Mr. Pearson and Mr. Illinois and Midshipman R. R. Smith, of the Nebraska. Both men did what they could for the Utah crowd in Japan. Mr. Pearson entertained the Utah people one afternoon on the Illinois and on account of his rank they were able to see things that only a Japanese could see. Some of them had the pleasure of working the Illinois guns and all were shown the engine room.

Midshipman Smith was an old school friend of mine and most of my time was spent with him. Through him I met a number of Japanese. I perhaps saw more real Japanese life than any other officer on the fleet.

**HOW SMITH SAW JAPAN.**

If you will follow me I'll take you with Mr. Smith during his time on shore. He was sent to Japan by the U. S. Navy command to help meet the Y. M. C. A. tent. He has met the Japanese English speaking guides and their welcome sent a wave an ever

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