MR. BAYARD SPEAKS FREELY.

The Ex-Embassador on Government Salaries.

NO CHANCE FOR A POOR MAN.

Our Relations With England--Views on the Arbitration Treaty and Other Diplomatic Questions.

In interview with Hon. Thomas F. Bayard, ex-secretary of state and ex-embassador to Great Britain.

"I have held the two most expensive places in the government service except the senate," said the Hon. Thomas F. Bayard in answer to a question I put to him the other day at his home in Wilmington. Both of them have been at the head of the state department and I have been in London as embassador, and I can say from personal experience as well as observation that the government does not pay large enough salaries. The government has never supported me in any political position I have held, and I have been in public life a great many years. When I was practicing my profession, my income was greater than my expenses. When I entered public life, it took all I could get, added to my salary, to pay the cost of living. During my service in the senate I was able to be in the worst seats of the time, but when I entered the cabinet of course that was impossible.

"I have never had the opportunity when an committee to vote on a proposition to increase the pay of members of congress, but I have voted for many other increases, and gladly. I voted to raise the justices of the supreme court on pensions, and I voted, initially, I am sorry to say, to give them an increase of pay.

"For the president of the United States the government provides an adequate salary, and at least it gives him a house, but the vice president has no house and the members of the cabinet and the justices of the supreme court have no houses.

"The people of the United States are generous and broad minded. I think if the matter was put before them fairly the sentiment of the majority would be in favor of paying adequate salaries.

"In the case of our embassadors the deficiency is so great that it puts a distinct limitation on the president's choice of representatives abroad. Only a rich man can afford to accept any of the more important diplomatic appointments. Now, I don't mean to say that a rich man necessarily makes a poor embassador, but the president should not be restricted in his choice by such a limitation. Poverty should not disqualify a man for the foreign service, and our embassadors should not be compelled to worry all the time about the question of expenses. If we are to maintain our representatives abroad—and it is my belief that they are necessary and of great value to this country—we must do it decently."

"Remember that it is not a question of competition, but of appearing as well as men in the position do. When you are camping in the woods, you can wear a woolen shirt and an old suit of clothing. When we are at a picnic under the trees, we don't expect chairs or tablecloths or napkins. But when we are at home we want tablecloths and napkins and we want to wear decent clothing."

"When I was in London I gave receptions to my countrymen—to all of them who were in London—receptions without cards. As many as 1,200 came. It taxed my house to entertain 1,200 people.

"I made no recommendation in the report while I was abroad because I would have been the beneficiary of anything congress might have done. But I had expressed my opinion before I went abroad and I stand it now."

I asked Mr. Bayard what, in his judgment, should be the salaries paid to our representatives in London, Paris and other important capitals where the present salary is $17,000 or less.

"That would depend somewhat on positions," he said, "but I should say in general about double what is paid now. Of course if a man had several fashionable and expensive daughters or an extravagant wife"—a smile twitched the corners of Mr. Bayard's mouth—"that would make a great difference. But I doubt if the salaries at important posts were doubled a poor man could accept an embassadorship without fear of being made to blush. If a rich man were appointed, so much the better.

"Another thing, one which I recommended while I was in London, is the fact that the government should provide a house in London for our embassador. The American embassador, when he arrives in London, has no place to go. My successor did not take the house which I had occupied in London, nor did I take that of my predecessor. In fact, it was a year before I found a place where I could be comfortable, and through that year I was spending a great deal of time home hunting. London is a great city—a city of 6,000,000 people. It is difficult to change the course of things in London. Once while I was there I moved, and, do what I could to change it, for two years the stream of letters and parcels kept on going to my old address.

"When a man is appointed if he might call upon me and I said I should be very pleased to have him, he would say: 'Let me see, you're in'—naming the place where Mr. Phelps had lived or Mr. Lowell. There should be permanent residence for the American embassador in London, and the government should provide it."

I asked Mr. Bayard if there was any truth in the stories that he would resent some English interests in this country.

"None at all," he said. "I don't know who invented that story, but there is no truth in it. I do not resent any more English interests here, and I am not going to. I am busy now getting settled in my old home. I have been so very busy that I did not get time to go to Washington and settle my accounts with the state department until ten days ago."

"It's probably not worth while to ask you seriously if you ever intended to return to England to live?" I ventured.

Mr. Bayard looked annoyed. "That story was not only untrue," he said, "but I think it was not good natured. No, it was not good natured. I have displeased a good many people," he added with a rather grim smile, "and I don't know that I regret it, but at least I have never deceived any one, and I have never had the temptation of concealing my opinions on public questions."

I quoted to Mr. Bayard the remark of a well known public man, published last spring, which was in effect that the people of the United States were "spoiling for a fight" with England.

"I don't know who his associates could be to give him such an impression," said Mr. Bayard. "I have yet to find some of Protestantism report 6,181 members, many of whom were (already) members of the Mormon church.

Twelve thousand staff and field officers of the Salvation Army were present at the recent memorial services conducted by General Booth, on the seventh anniversary of Mrs. Booth's "promotion to glory." The services were held in Clapton Congress hall, London.

V. D. David, a converted Hindoo, who has preached in nearly every country of the world, now threatens to descend on Chicago. He sometimes preaches 18 hours on a stretch.

The Children of Mary, a society in the Roman Catholic church, celebrates the jubilee society report, the number of languages into which the whole Bible has been translated is 167. In addition to these, the New Testament has been translated into 161 languages, this making the number of languages in which it has been translated 328.

Dr. Hicks, the English bishop of Bloemfontein, South Africa, is a distinguished scientist as well as theologian, having carried off honors and prizes in chemistry, biology, anatomy and animal physiology in the University of London and at Cambridge, and he is the author of "Standard Text Book of Inorganic Chemistry."

Bishop Fowler says it costs the United States $125 a year to take care of an un-Christian Indian and but $7 to care for a Christian Indian.

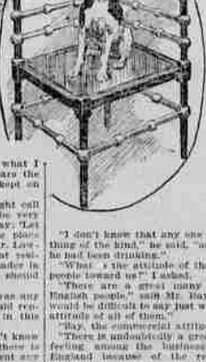
The people of India have great confidence in medical missionaries, as is evinced by the fact that the native people in and around Madura City, most of them heathens, have contributed $2,000 for the erection of a hospital in that city, to be the property of the American board of missions.

The English Wesleyan Methodist church recently rejected a proposition to exclude liquor dealers from church membership on the ground that "so radical a measure would be damaging."

MR BAYARD AT HIS DESK

THOMAS F. BAYARD.

MRS. BAYARD AT HOME.



"I don't know that any one said anything of the kind," he said, "or whether he had been drinking."

"What is the attitude of the English people toward us?" I asked.

"There are a great many kinds of English people," said Mr. Bayard. "It would be difficult to say just what is the attitude of all of them."

"Say, the commercial attitude?"

"There is undoubtedly a great deal of feeling, among the business men of England, because of the restrictions which our laws have put on their trade. England is our best customer, yet the Dingley law seems to seek to put the greatest obstacles in the way of England's paying us for our goods in the things we produce. Then the discussion set about the time when that law went into effect, which I believe is still in the courts, may make a considerable difference in the duty to be paid by Englishmen on large quantities of goods which had passed out of their owners' hands before the law was passed. How great the feeling over that may be I do not know."

Mr. Bayard picked up a little pamphlet which lay on his desk.

"Here," he said, "is something I was reading today. It is by the Hon. Redfield Proctor, a senator in the congress of the United States and a man of great intelligence. This is what he says about the development of the British empire."

Mr. Bayard read aloud a paragraph giving briefly the statistics of Great Britain's growth.

"Now, I want to say to you," he said, as he put down the pamphlet, "that there has not been a port opened to the commerce of England in the extension of the British empire which has not been as freely open to the trade of the United States. There has not been a place where an American could not go and engage in business without being asked what his nationality was. American trade has had every advantage of the extension of British trade around the world."

I suggested that Canada was giving British preferences to England.

"That," said Mr. Bayard, "is a development of the last three months. Both proposals were made, but what was done about them I don't know.

"The Englishman does not ask if goods are American, when he buys. When I was on a little tour in Maine, recently, I noted the fact that the three things which made her formidable were made under American patents. They were the Maxim gun for her sides, the hotchkiss guns on her torpedo catchers and the machine rapid fire guns in the tops. The British government pays a royalty on these three patents to Americans.

"The general attitude of the English toward us is still friendly, whatever the feeling about lack of reciprocity in our commercial relations may be. Any American whom we would receive here will find in England a reception which is all the heartier because he is an American, and he will never hear a word said against his country. To be an American is a safeguard in London. I had the strongest evidence of that feeling when Dr. Jameson made his unfortunate raid on Kruger's republic. We had no interests there. We were not represented there by even a commercial agent. Some Americans were implicated in the affair. The case was serious. It was a matter of life and death. At the request of our government I called the attention of the colonial office to the case. Immediately they answered me that the interests of the Americans should be guarded as closely as those of the English. And they were. Moreover, when the cases of the soldiers were tried in London one of the men—a Major or Captain Haynes—was released and came back to America, though he had been with Sir John Willoughby and Dr. Jameson. He was released because he was an American, while his associates were put in jail. I could quote other illustrations to show the kindly feeling of the English people for us."

"Has the Venezuelan case made any difference with them?"

"Whatever feeling Mr. Cleveland's Venezuelan message may have caused was canceled by his message on the arbitration treaty. It was a strong document, and it put in plain terms not only Mr. Cleveland's feelings on the subject, but, I believe, the feelings of the great mass of the American people."

"You have so have a arbitration treaty under this administration, I suppose?"

"I should not say that. I think that President McKinley is sincere in his expression of sympathy with the treaty. And what were the objections to it, anyway? It was never discussed publicly, was it?"

I suggested that one of the chief objections raised was that the treaty was needless; that arbitration could be had without a treaty if it was wanted.

"Who said that?" said Mr. Bayard.

"A great many public men in Washington," I answered.

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