

# AT THE AMERICAN LEGATION, JAPAN

The Japan News gives the following account of one of Mr. Bryan's receptions in Japan:

The speeches rendered at the dinner party given at the American legation on Friday evening in honor of Mr. W. J. Bryan, were as follows:

### MR. GRISCOM'S SPEECH

Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: It seems to me that no better introduction could be found for a man than to say that over six million people were ready to vote for him, and over thirty million people wanted him to be president of the United States. If I racked my brains for years I could probably not do better than to turn on Mr. Bryan the very graceful analogy which he used to the students of Waseda university in his speech of yesterday. Mr. Bryan said that when you first view a distant range of mountains you can only distinguish clearly two or three very great and high peaks, and so it is that the people of foreign countries, viewing the United States, can distinguish among its public men but two or three great figures. As one who has lived for some years among foreign peoples, I am perhaps particularly able to judge and I can truthfully say that of those figures in our public life best known to foreigners, Mr. Bryan is one of the foremost and greatest.

I welcome Mr. Bryan to Japan for several reasons, but first let me say that I have long held that the diplomatic service should be non-partisan, and on this account I am always glad to welcome a democrat. I am happy to be able to say that no matter who the American is who comes to Japan, whether he be a rich democrat or a poor republican, he receives the same treatment at my hands.

Now, there can be nothing better for our international relations than to have the most intelligent and thoughtful men in our communities travel abroad and it seems to me a splendid sign of the times that such a man as Mr. Bryan should find time in his busy life to travel abroad and study and observe other countries. It is an excellent sign for the future. If Mr. Bryan had any doubts in his mind before he left America as to how we were viewed by the Japanese people, all such doubts must have long since been set at rest. Our good relations with Japan were laid on a firm foundation fifty years ago by Perry and Townsend Harris, and Mr. Bryan will find that these relations are ever the same, established on a firm, pure, gold basis, and I think that even he will admit that that is a good standard to apply to international relations.

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It is my function to endeavor to the best of my ability to maintain the parity, and, as we all know, it is not always an easy matter to maintain a fixed parity. In this difficult task there could be no greater help than to have a man such as Mr. Bryan come to Japan and speak to all classes of the community, and to meet people of every walk in life. He can explain to them far better than I can what is American life and American thought, and I can assure him that for his assistance I am frankly grateful.

I need not tell you of what Mr. Bryan is in America. His position is too well known. He is a man who appears to be ready to raise his ideals as high as the human mind is capable of conceiving ideals, and as a consequence he has a hold on the great American people which in many respects is unique. He is a man of many capacities, and now I am going to propose his health, and you are at liberty to drink to him in any quality which you may select. You may drink to him as a statesman; you may drink to him as the leader of a great political party; you may even drink to him as a good democrat; but for my part I drink to Bryan the man; I drink to Bryan the scholar; and I drink to Bryan the earnest friend of the American people.

### Mr. Bryan's Speech

Mr. Minister, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen: I have been admonished that I would be expected to say something in acknowledging this very generous toast, but I hardly know what to say. I was a cautious man before I came to Japan, but I have learned here an additional caution. I bought the three Nikko monkeys, carved in wood, and I understand that they represent a very important philosophy; i. e., that the wise man sees nothing that he ought not to see; hears nothing that he ought not to hear; and says nothing that he ought not to say. I have not worried about the first two, for I have not expected to hear anything that I ought not to hear, or to see anything that I ought not to see, but I have kept my eye on the third monkey, and have tried to be circumspect in all my ways and cautious in all my utterances, but I cannot forbear to submit a word in reply to the very kind things which have been said.

I appreciate the opportunity that our minister has given us to meet the distinguished people who are assembled around this board. I appreciate also the dignity and ability with which he represents my country. When I go abroad and meet republicans in the foreign service I am satisfied that, whatever may be the character of the republicans left at home, good men have been sent abroad, and I feel like suggesting that when we have any more contests they make a fair exchange and send away the ones who have been left at home and bring back those who are away. As I meet these learned, courteous and kindly republicans, and as I receive such hospitable treatment at their hands, I feel all the old animosity disappearing and I am, tonight, much in the attitude of a young man, of whom I heard, who courted his girl for a year before he had the courage to propose to her. He finally summoned up sufficient courage to tell her that he loved her, and asked her to marry him. Being a very frank girl, she replied, "I have loved you, Jim, for many months and have only been waiting for you to tell me so that I could tell you." Of course, Jim was delighted—so delighted that he went to the door and, looking up at the stars, exclaimed,

"Oh Lord, I halnt got anything against anybody." I feel that way tonight, and this is not only true in a political sense, not only true of my feeling towards republicans, but I think that as I come into contact with the people of other nations and races, I come to feel a closer attachment to them than I could have felt had I not met them. I am more and more impressed with the broadening influence of travelling. As we visit different countries we learn that people everywhere, no matter under what language they speak, or through what form of government they live, are

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