Admiral Dewa's Visit

The visit which Admiral Baron Dewa, of Japan, paid to the United States was the occasion of a number of dinners given to him and other Japanese visitors with opportunity to meet the political, naval and industrial leaders of the country. At a dinner given by the Secretaries of Navy and Commerce, Dewa declared it a good fortune to observe the generous outflow of America's cordial feeling toward Japan. That it has culminated in this courtly entertainment by a statesman whose fame is known in the most distant lands, and who occupies the most important portfolio, in the present cabinet. I consider it a special honor.

Originally I was associated with the mission of representing the Japanese navy at the ceremonies in honor of the Panama Canal. That gigantic interoceanic waterway could only have been constructed by the unrivaled energy and unlimited will of this mighty republic. It is the greatest feat of science the human being has ever accomplished. It is a source of pride to all nations, and many people may very well be proud of this herculean undertaking. But above all do I feel an inexpressible joy in the thought that the United States, which brought to the eastern and western seas; that linked the continents by a relation but a better and fuller understanding between nations and races, which will dispel all the seeds of mistrust and misgivings of all alike, and dispel all this unnecessary and unwarranted apprehension. The canal will aid in the movement towards world peace. When I was first entrusted with the present mission, therefore, I sent to the international peace conference, and regarded myself as exercising the patience and goodwill of my government.

"As an officer I have had opportunities to be personally engaged in international relations. Having lived now more than 45 years in this country, I have been taken part in, the terrible tragedies of war. I am sure I do feel more keenly and earnestly than average civilian the necessity of the advent of world peace. I am grateful to learn, therefore, that the Americans people, and particularly our host today, are doing their utmost in the interest of international peace and goodwill.

"Allow me, Mr. Secretary and gentlemen, here to reiterate my deep appreciation for the hospitality extended me ever since my arrival in this country, and to assure you that I shall not fail to transmit to my Government and to my people, of the kind thought of the government and the people of the United States toward my nation."

Just before leaving Washington the admiral granted an interview to The Republican, and elaborated dinner at which the secretary of state made the closing address of his public duty as follows:

MR. BRYAN'S ADDRESS

"Admiral Dewa and Gentlemen: "It is fitting that some response should be made to the gracious and eloquent words spoken by our distinguished guest and I am prepared to justify the presumption of which I am guilty in rising to speak for those who are present. It is true that Admiral Dewa is by PROFESSION a man of arms, but he is by DISPOSITION a man of peace. By official title he is one of the great admirals of his country's navy, but he has the smile of a diplomat and I claim him for the state department."

"Some nine days ago it was my pleasure to address a word of greeting to our distinguished visitor. Now as he is about to leave the capital I reluctantly bid him adieu. We welcomed him with gratification, and we bid him good-bye with regret. I am glad he has had an opportunity to become acquainted with the civilization and progress of this country and the president has summoned him as his adviser; with the members of our government and with those who represent the army and the navy. I notice that at times in the past many men have spoken of the army and navy seem to be in the majority, and it is well for the admiral that at a time when he is among us it appears relatively larger on such occasions than anywhere else. He will see many evidences of military life as he travels through the country, but he must not make the mistake of thinking that we are lacking in soldiers.

"When a Greek Greek was asked why his city had no walls, he replied—pointing to the people—"These are my city and every city and every citi- zen is a brick." So we have in the people of this country, Naval Forces are our army. We have more than fifteen million able men. In this country; very few of them wear uniforms, but all of them are available when the country needs volunteers.

"I trust that our visitor will not content him- self with seeing the nation's capital. We have here in the midst of this city, a man who is a representative of the admiral, Secretary of the Navy and our government, of the liberal and religious life of the nation, the more fa- vorable will be the report that he will carry back to his country. We will find that we are endeavor- ing to shape our international policy according to the philosophy which we apply to all nations. As individuals, we believe that each citizen should rejoin his neighbor's prosperity with- out stopping to calculate the profit he may stand to make, but we esteem it to be our interest, to extend the hand of friendship and of neighbor nation. We are the friend of all and for no country do we entertain a kindlier feeling than for Japan. It was a rare privilege for the admiral to enter the closed door of Japan more than a half-century ago and, as a friend of our people, to return in a position with Japan, but we hope that he will find that we are working for a generation the people of Iowa asked in vain for another opportunity to vote on the question. The General Assembly in 1881, by a resolution, passed to the effect that the legislature should be the vehicle of revolt and bitter. A generation ago the shibboleth of the "prohibition party was "the man who owns every hill top and no saloon in the valley." While this legislative prohibition act was declared void by the United States Supreme Court, the legislature has enacted a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating beverages. A generation ago, the democrats twice elected Horace Boles governor, but they never succeeded in controlling the legislature."

"After defeating Boles in the third campaign, the Republicans, fearing future defeats, passed national prohibition law which provided that in the event a majority of the voters in any incorpor- ated town or city sign a petition containing the signatures of not less than 2,000 voters, there was an outflow of the sale of intoxicating liquors, and that the city or town was morally opposed to the sale of intoxicating liquors. The measure was adopted in many of the counties of the state."

"International law is faring very badly at the hands of the warring nations, none of which seems to have time, before deciding to do a thing, to look it up in the book and see if it is in the way to do it. Before the war is ended the ex- ports on international law are likely to be in the embarrassing position of the law student, under- going an examination, who admitted his inability to answer a single one of the questions, but who said he knew the state statutes by heart. The examiner replied by suggesting that he was exposing himself to the danger of having all he knew repealed any time by the state legislature."

"A hearing is in progress before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Chicago upon the re- quest of foreign organizations to favor the de- crease their rates about 15 per cent. Among the companies is the Burlington, which pays 5 per cent dividends every year, and the Union Pacific, which never falls below 19 per cent. Apparently there are degrees of poverty as well as of riches.

"When men who assume to be state leaders of the democracy spend months around the halls wherein a democratic measure is engaged in by the effort to redeem party pledges, trying to in- duce the representatives of the people in a special interest, it is pertinent to inquire just how much of their assumption is presumption and who it is that they are actually representing."

"Evidence is accumulating that the big men in the liquor trade in America are not as blind as is said to be the case. The Republican, in its resolutions at its conventions for national representation has led the public to believe. A New York wholesaler advised a customer not to invest money in liquor because he was told by the president has summoned him as his advisers; with the money his son was doing his bit for his country and with those who represent the army and the navy. I notice that at times in the past many men have spoken of the army and navy and military life as being relatively larger on such occasions than anywhere else. He will see many evidences of military life as he travels through the country, but he must not

PROHIBITION IN IOWA

The recent action of the Iowa legislature in bringing about state wide prohibition by enact- ment of the amendment and the referendum de- ciding the question of constitutional prohibition to be voted upon at the next general election, is among the most important acts which have swept over the country. We refer to the decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa which has determined the referendum as ten by Hon. H. C. Evans, of Des Moines, Iowa, giving the history of the fight for the saloon in that state."

PROHIBITION IN IOWA

On February fifteenth the eighty-six saloons of Des Moines closed their doors forever. Public sentiment on the subject there is not against the grog shops, and the city council, by unanimous vote, refused to extend their license. Within a week after the Iowa legislature passed an act providing for state-wide prohibition after January 1, 1919, a resolution was submitted before the question of constitutional prohibition to a vote of the people.

A generation ago, in 1882, the question of prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors in Iowa was first agitated. The first law was passed to the effect that two-thirds of the voters of any incorporated town or city sign a petition containing the signatures of not less than 2,000 voters, there was an outflow of the sale of intoxicating liquors, and that the city or town was morally opposed to the sale of intoxicating liquors. The measure was adopted in many of the counties of the state.