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PEACE ENVOYS PART FRIENDS

The report of the final ceremonies attending the signing of the treaty of peace between Russia and Japan is exceedingly interesting. When the signatures of the envoys were at last affixed and war was at an end, Mr. Witte, whose great ability has impressed all who came into contact with him, arose and extended his hand to Baron Komura, the chief of the Japanese envoys. After an exchange of greetings Baron Rosen, Mr. Witte's associate, delivered a brief address in which he complimented the representatives of Japan upon their courtesy and fairness, and expressed the hope that the treaty agreed upon might unite the nations in real friendship. Baron Komura gracefully replied in like tenor and all rejoiced at the happy termination of the negotiations.

It was an historic event and the parties to the treaty, while they may for a time be harshly criticised by the fire eaters of their respective countries will ultimately be given a high place among statesmen and patriots.

Long may the peace continue! Russia and Japan are neighbors and there is no more reason for friction between neighbor nations than between neighbor citizens.

Witte and Komura—Komura and Witte—their names are indissolubly linked together in history—may the nations for which they have acted be forever friends.

DIPLOMATIC GRAFT

It now develops that Minister Loomis was guilty of another "indiscretion." His appointment was urged by some speculators who wanted concessions in Venezuela. After securing his appointment they proceeded to enlist him in their behalf. Of all forms of graft no form is more revolting than diplomatic graft. Moral lapses in the conduct of public servants are bad enough when those servants deal with American citizens; they are worse when they are dealing with foreigners. Nothing is likely to prove more costly to our nation than an attempt to promote business enterprises through the state department and this is especially perilous when our representatives are peculiarly interested in concessions. No one can act impartially when he has a selfish interest to serve. Our diplomatic representatives, like Caesar's wife, should be above suspicion.



Roosevelt--"I can recognize the little chap, but who is that big fellow yonder?"

A PLAN FOR PERMANENT PEACE

To President Roosevelt: Circumstance placed you in a position where, as chief executive, of the nation, you were able to bring Russia and Japan together to effect an honorable peace.

You performed your duty in a manner creditable to yourself and to your country. You have been hailed as a peacemaker and you realize how the peaceful victory thus achieved by you outshines your military exploits. Why not use the present opportunity to put on foot a movement for the establishment of permanent peace? Last winter you asked for authority to enter into agreements which would be in effect arbitration treaties and the senate (wisely, I believe,) refused to surrender the treaty making power. But now if you had been intrusted with the authority asked you would have hesitated to submit a question involving the nation's honor and it is not always possible to know in advance what questions may be involved. Why not ask congress for authority to submit all international questions (when an agreement can not be reached by parties interested) to an impartial board for investigation and report. Investigation will in nearly every case remove the cause of complaint and reconcile the parties. Questions which a nation might be unwilling to submit to arbitration in advance could be settled

by investigation by an impartial international board.

It was a glorious thing to end the war between the Russ and the Jap but it would have been more glorious to have prevented the war and saved the frightful loss of life. The moral prestige which our nation now enjoys would in all probability enable it to lead a successful peace movement. The congratulations which you have received from the heads of European governments strengthen the chances of success. If the leading nations of the world would enter into an agreement to join in the creation of such a board and pledge themselves to submit all disputes to the board for investigation before declaring war the danger of war would be reduced to a minimum. Few men have had it in their power to do so much for humanity—will you improve the opportunity?

W. J. BRYAN.

THE OHIO UPHEAVAL

From latest reports Ohio seems scheduled for a political upheaval this fall. The example set by Mayor Weaver in Philadelphia is having its influence and there are unmistakable signs of an awakening of the Buckeye conscience. And