

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 one dinner given by him. He had opportunity to meet the political, naval and military leaders of the country. At a dinner given him by the secretary of state, the admiral delivered a felicitous and appropriate address, of which the following is a copy:

ADMIRAL DEWA'S ADDRESS

"Mr. Secretary and Gentlemen:

"It is indeed a source of great pleasure that, since my landing on these shores, I have had the good fortune to observe the generous outflow of America's cordial feeling toward us Japanese. That it has culminated in this courteous 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 charged with the mission of representing the Japanese navy at the ceremonies of the Panama canal. That gigantic interoceanic waterway could only have been constructed by the unrivaled energy and unlimited wealth of this mighty republic. It is the greatest feat of science the human being has ever attempted. And I assure you the American people may very well be proud of this herculean undertaking. But above all do I feel an ineffable joy that the opening of this great waterway brings together the eastern and western seas; that it will create not only a closer commercial relation but a better and fuller understanding between nations and races, which will dispel all the darkening and mischievous mists of prejudice and unwarranted apprehension. The canal will no doubt exercise an enormous influence on the movement towards world peace. When I was first entrusted with the present mission, therefore, I felt like an envoy to some international peace conference, and regarded myself as exceedingly fortunate.

"As an officer I have had opportunities to be personally engaged in battle. Having witnessed, nay, having actually taken part in, the terrible tragedies of war, I am sure I do feel more keenly and earnestly than average civilians the necessity of the advent of world peace. I am grateful to learn, therefore, that the American people, and particularly our host today, are doing their utmost in the interest of international peace and good-will.

"Allow me, Mr. Secretary and gentlemen, here to reiterate my deep gratitude for the courteous treatment accorded me ever since my arrival in this country, and to assure you that I shall not fail to be the faithful interpreter to my August Master 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 gave, at his apartments in The Shoreham, an elaborate dinner at which the secretary of state made the closing address, which was 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 from Japan and now as he is about to leave the capital I reluctantly bid him adieu. We welcomed him with gratification; we bid him Godspeed as he departs. I am glad he has had an opportunity to become acquainted with the chief executive of our nation; with those whom the president has summoned about him as his advisors; with the members of the senate and the house; with our judiciary; and with those who represent the army and the navy. I notice that at this dinner the representatives of the army and navy seem to be in the majority, and it is well for the admiral that he should see our army and navy at a banquet—for it appears relatively larger on such occasions than anywhere else. He will not see much evidence 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 famous Greek was asked why his city had no walls, he replied—pointing to the people—"These are the walls of my city and every citizen is a brick." So we may say that the people are our army. We have more than fifteen million adult 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 himself with seeing the nation's capital. We here are but the servants of a great people—the admiral should see the masses at work. He should visit our cities and our villages; our factories and our farms; our schools and our colleges. The more intimately he becomes acquainted with the economic, the social, the political, the moral and the religious life of the nation, the more favorable will be the report that he will carry back to his country. He will find that we are endeavoring to shape our international policy according to the philosophy which we apply to daily life. As individuals, we believe that each citizen should rejoice in his neighbor's prosperity without stopping to calculate how he shall share that prosperity, or how soon he shall receive it. In like manner we believe that no nation can make a legitimate use of its resources without imparting its prosperity to a greater or less extent with its neighbors. We not only regard it as a duty but we esteem it to be our interest, to extend the hand of sincere friendship to all other nations. We are the friend of all and for no country do we entertain a kindlier feeling than for Japan. It was an American who knocked at the closed door of Japan more than a half-century ago and, as a friend, brought her into association with the outside world. The ocean which rolls between us is not a barrier, but a great highway, free to all.

"Japan has made wonderful progress, and we have rejoiced with her in each step that she has taken. We bid our visitor carry back with him our greetings and good wishes. Let the rivalry between the United States and the Land of the Rising Sun be a rivalry in good works and in great accomplishments—a rivalry inspiring and profitable to both."

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 that is the way to do it. Before the war is ended the experts on international law are likely to be in the embarrassing position of the law student, undergoing an examination, who admitted his inability to answer questions propounded to him, 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 request of forty-one railroads for permission to increase their rates about 10 per cent. Among the number are the Burlington, which pays 8 per cent dividends every year, and the Union Pacific, which never falls below 10 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 legislature is engaged in the effort to redeem party pledges, trying to induce the passage of legislation desired by the special interests, 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 to what is going on as their political representatives have led the public to believe. A New York wholesaler advised a customer not to invest money in a costly drinking place in that city, telling him that "in ten years we will all be out of business."

An English physician gives voice to the opinion that small men make better soldiers than large men, and that it is folly to reject volunteers because of their size. As there are more small men than large men in the country, this tribute to their potential bravery is likely to make its author more popular in England than Lord Kitchener.

PROHIBITION IN IOWA

The recent action of the Iowa legislature in bringing about state wide prohibition by enactment and the adoption of a resolution submitting the question of constitutional prohibition to be voted upon at the next general election, is additional proof of the widespread prohibition wave that is sweeping over the country. We reproduce below a very interesting article written by Hon. H. C. Evans, of Des Moines, Iowa, giving the history of the fight against the saloon in that state. The article follows:

PROHIBITION IN IOWA

On February fifteenth the eighty-six saloons of Des Moines closed their doors forever. Public sentiment in Des Moines was at fever heat 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, 1916, and a resolution submitting 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 by constitutional amendment was submitted to a vote of the people. The vote was, for prohibition, 155,436; against, 125,677, a majority of 29,759 against the saloon. Later it was discovered that the words "or to be used," in the act that passed the legislature, were omitted in the proposition submitted to the electorate, and the courts held the election invalid. For a generation the people of Iowa asked in vain for another opportunity to vote on the question.

The whisky fight in Iowa has been long and bitter. A generation ago the shibboleth of the republican party was "A school house on every hill top and no saloon in the valley." When the prohibitory amendment was declared void by the courts, a republican legislature and governor enacted a law prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquor as a beverage. Protesting against this law, 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 the famous Muley law which provided that in the event a majority of the voters in any incorporated town or city signed a petition consenting to the operation of saloons, then the general prohibition law stood suspended. Under this plan, saloons were operated in some eighty counties.

Gradually, however, the prohibition forces drove the saloons out of county after county, until today there are but twelve counties in the state where they are operated.

During most of these years the democratic party in state platforms reiterated the demand for local option. The sentiment against the saloons, however, was growing among democrats, and in 1912 the anti-saloon element joined issue with their opponents in the state convention at Cedar Rapids, and by an overwhelming vote discarded local option as the democratic creed.

While Horace Boles was elected governor in 1889 and 1891 on local option platforms, no man in any party could muster 40,000 votes on such a platform today.

As an indication of further change in sentiment in the democratic party in Iowa, it is noted that the fathers of the prohibition bill in both house and senate are democrats. George W. Crozier, of Knoxville, introduced the bill and led the fight for prohibition in the house, while the real leader of the prohibition forces in the legislature was Senator John T. Clarkson, a democrat from Albia. While a majority of the democratic members did not vote for immediate prohibition, a majority of them, in both house and senate, did vote for re-submission of the constitutional amendment.

This action of the legislature practically takes the liquor question out of politics in Iowa. No party will dare oppose the most stringent prohibition. Every party will either take an open stand for prohibition, or remain silent on the question.

The saloon is gone from Iowa forever. Bills are pending in the legislature prohibiting drug stores from selling intoxicants and making bootlegging a penitentiary offense.

The New York Tribune pompously announced the other day that President Wilson is a "failure." And then some one was unkind enough to look up the old files of the Tribune and found recorded therein the solemn declaration of its then editor that Abraham Lincoln was a failure.