

JAPAN'S FOREMOST BANKER RESIGNS

Baron Shibusawa Will Devote Remainder of Life to Charity Work.

HAD AN INTERESTING CAREER

Lived in Two Worlds, the World of Feudalism and the Present World of Banks and Limited Companies.

Tokio.—Baron Shibusawa, president of the First National bank of Japan, resigned his position at the annual meeting of the bank and retired into private life. He is seventy-six years of age. He proposes to devote the remaining years of his life to the promotion of charitable works and the betterment of international relations, particularly between Japan and the United States.

The baron is well known in America to which he made his last visit early this year. When in New York he had long consultations with leading American financiers, his object being to interest them in the propositions which Japan intends to exploit in China. "Japan has the brains, America has the money," was in effect what he said in trying to persuade Wall street moneyed men to take an interest in the business. The proposal was turned down. New York business men thought if they were going to find the money



Baron Shibusawa.

they would provide the brains as well. The suggestion was a sort of second edition of one which Count Okuma made to England a year before when he threw out the idea that the Anglo-Japanese alliance should become an economic as well as a military pact. He made practically the same proposition—"Japan has the experience, England has the cash"—but the Britishers came to the conclusion without any special delay that they had enough brains to exploit China with their own money if they wanted.

Lived in Two Worlds.

Like every old man in Japan, Baron Shibusawa has lived in two worlds—a world of feudalism and two-sworded samurai and the present world of, among other things, banks and limited companies. He entered the government service under the old regime while the emperor who died three years ago was still virtually a recluse in Kyoto and the empire was ruled by the Tokugawa Shoguns. Shibusawa's first mission out of Japan was an educational trip to Europe with one of the Shogun's sons who did not dream that his family's tenure of the sovereignty of Japan was over. This was in 1867-68 when Andrew Johnson was president of the United States in the interval between Lincoln's assassination and Grant's election. He returned and went into the government after the upset of Shogunate and was an official until 1873 when he resigned over a difference with the finance minister of the day and never entered politics again. Instead, he founded the First bank, so called because it was the first bank in Japan on modern lines. That was 43 years ago and in that long time Baron Shibusawa moved on from one financial success to another until in 1909 he was president of 70 concerns. When he started the First bank its capital was a million and a quarter dollars—borrowed money—now it is ten and three-quarter million dollars, or if reserve fund is counted in—fifteen million.

This is not the first time that the baron has thought of retiring. In 1901 he was ill and not knowing whether he would live, made a will in which he named as successor in the presidency of the First bank, Mr. Yunosuke Sasaki, the manager who now actually succeeds his old chief. Then in 1905 he was again ill and he resigned from many of his positions, but picked them all up again when he recuperated. His

AMMUNITION FOR FRENCH MORTARS



An official photograph from the British western front showing the moving of mortar ammunition up to the trenches. A bridge has been built over a trench where the men had "dug in."

last resignation was in 1909 when he quit all his presidential chairs except that of the bank.

Why He Resigned.

Interviewed as to his reasons for retirement the baron said: "The child is grown and able to walk by himself," meaning that Japanese finance was now so advanced that his influence is no longer needed. But even now it does not seem quite clear that the veteran intends really to cut himself adrift from the world where his long life has been spent, for he added that he would still contribute to the commercial and industrial interests of the nation beside taking an active part in work for a better understanding between Japan and other countries. When the Kokusai News agency was founded three years ago in order to disseminate the "true truth" about Japan by cables and news, the baron became president of the company, a post he still holds. This company owns the Japan Times and Japan Daily Mail, two newspapers printed in English in Tokio, and controls the Reuter cable service, both inward and outward from Japan.

His retirement gives rise to the question of who will be his successor as leader of the financial world of Japan. There is no single man in sight who is big enough to fill his chair. The candidates with the best chance are thought to be Mr. R. Nakano, president of the Tokio chamber of commerce; Mr. R. Fujiyama, vice president of the same body, and Mr. S. Ohashi, who was vice president until last year.

COMES BACK AFTER 52 YEARS

Nidler Sees Spot on Site of Seattle Where Indians Once Chased Him.

Spokane, Wash.—After a lapse of 52 years, Franz Nidler of Portland, Ore., arrived here to find the spot from which he was chased by hostile Indians on his former visit now occupied by a thriving modern city of 120,000 people. Mr. Nidler, who is eighty-one years old, came to visit his daughters and to register for the Colville land drawing.

ARRESTED AS "ENEMY ALIEN"



The Baroness von Hutten, formerly Miss Betsy Riddle of Philadelphia, who was arrested in London on the charge that she was an "enemy alien."

In court the baroness declared that she was not a German, but American born. She explained that she had been divorced from her German husband eight years ago, had lived in England since, and had believed she would regain all her rights of American citizenship when she returned to America.

BLOOD TESTS TO AID EGG-LAYING

Connecticut Agricultural College Is Conducting Interesting Experiments.

RHODE ISLANDS IN LEAD

With 1,752 for 39 Weeks to Their Credit, They Draw Away From English Entries—Plan Henny Eugenic.

Storrs, Conn.—The productive and wealth-producing hen is having her blood tested at the experiment station of the state agricultural college here. This, with the idea of improving the breed of hens with the hopes that their progeny which escapes poaching, scrambling and so on will be even more healthy and egg-fruited. In a word, the experiments going on at the agricultural college will form the basis of henny eugenics.

Hen scientists know that many chicks inherit an intestinal disease. To determine the proportion of hens from which this disease descends, the scientists of the agricultural college offered to test, free of charge, the blood of all the hens entered in the fourth international egg-laying contest now going on at the college, a contest which is nearing its course of a year.

What Tests Prove.

The test has proved, so far, that 30 out of 100 of the birds in the contest are affected with the disease. The test known as the "agglutination method" involves drawing from a hen's wing vein a few drops of blood. After that chemicals and the microscope come into play.

Good Americans and lovers of broiled chicken and omelets will rejoice to learn that the industrious Rhode Islands are steadily drawing away from the English pen, entered in the contest by Tom Barron, the "Poultry King" of Catforth, England, who has won so many prizes in previous contests. The White Wyandottes, entered by Obed G. Knight of Bridgeton, R. I., have a total of 1,752 eggs to their tally at the end of the thirty-ninth week, while the English birds can show only a total of 1,695. Another English pen, the White Wyandottes of Abel Latham of Brierfield, England, have busily run up a total score of 1,539 eggs.

Near the Top.

Other pens which stand near the top are:

Plymouth Rocks—Rock Rose Farm, barred breed, Katonah, N. Y., 1,506; Albert T. Lennon, white, North Attleboro, Mass., 1,474; Jules F. Francis, barred, West Hampton Beach, L. I., 1,455.

Rhode Island Reds—Pinecrest Orchards, Groton, Mass., 1,498; A. W. Rumety, Danville, N. H., 1,474; Springdale Poultry Farm, Durham, Conn., 1,428.

White Leghorns—Will Barron, Bartle, near Preston, England, 1,573; Francis F. Lincoln, Mount Carmel, Conn., 1,525; Frank R. Hancock, Jacksonville, Fla., 1,463.

Miscellaneous—Oregon Agricultural college, Corvallis, Ore., 1,498; J. Collinson, black Leghorns, Barnacre, England, 1,406; A. Schwartz, Rhinelanders, Burlingame, Cal., 1,396.

The hens in the contest altogether laid 3,630 eggs during the thirty-ninth week, or 20 more than they produced together during the corresponding week of last year's contest.

Sparrows Leave Oiled Street.

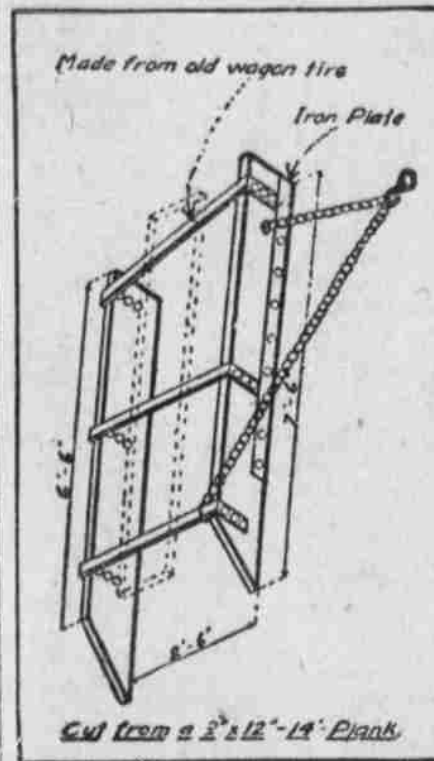
Lancaster, Ga.—Maj. James Burnside says that oiling the streets is the cause of the disappearance of the sparrows. These birds get oil on their feet and then on their eggs. These will not hatch then. He also says many sparrows leave town for the country as soon as the oil is spread in order to get their dust baths.

FOR BETTER ROADS

MAINTENANCE OF DIRT ROADS

Illinois State Highway Department Makes Comments That Partly Answer Oft-Repeated Question.

All through the central states there seems to be at present an unexpected interest in earth roads, and there is a widespread desire to have an authoritative opinion on the field for which such roads are adapted. It is a subject on which many experienced road engineers are not willing to make any statements for fear of being misunderstood or misquoted, but the road engineer of the Illinois state highway department has recently made some



Plan for King Road Drag.

comments that answer a part of this oft-repeated question as follows: "The earth road cannot, by any system of maintenance, be kept up throughout the entire year to the usual standard of the other types. The use of the road in a wet and softened condition is what causes the trouble. Under the conditions where the earth road is a suitable type, its total cost for construction and maintenance is less than that of any other type. In dry weather and when it is not too dusty, the properly constructed and maintained earth road is by far more pleasant and more satisfactory to travel upon than any other road. With neglected maintenance, however, no other type of road can go to pieces and become impassable so quickly as an earth road. Nor, on the other hand, can any other type be brought to a satisfactory condition for travel so quickly and so cheaply after having been impassable. From these peculiar features, it will be noted that practically the entire problem with earth roads is their proper drainage and systematic maintenance. The opportunity for bettering our road conditions by properly improving the earth roads is almost beyond our imagination."

What Good Roads Mean.

We agree with the National Highways association that:
 Good roads mean—
 Good schools Good living
 Good churches Good homes
 Good health Good going
 Good morals Good farms
 Good times Good country
 Good tows Good crops
 Good fun Good people

DETERMINE SIZE OF A LOAD

Easy to Find Out How Grade Affects Pull—One Argument Against Going Around Hill.

The grade in a road determines the size of load that can be pulled over it. A good way to learn the effect of grade is to ride a bicycle on the level and up different grades. It will very quickly be found out how grades affect the pull. One argument against going around a hill is that it makes the distance greater. This is not always the case. The ball of a ball is no longer when lying down than when standing up. One bad grade in a road may easily double the cost of hauling. The work of grading down a hill usually costs more than to buy the land required to go around it.

Must Do His Share.

The citizen who expects his community to go forward and build good roads must do his share of the boosting.

Appreciate Good Roads.

Schoolchildren who must walk one or two miles and good roads especially beneficial in their important duties.

Something Attractive.

Why not plant parts of our main highways with native plants—something that the tourist will notice?

NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

Putting Postal Guide Among the "Best Sellers"

WASHINGTON.—As a book and magazine seller the government has not always kept the prices of its wares down to a point where the pocket-books of the rank and file of its citizens would not be strained by acquiring them. As a result some publications, the wide dissemination of which would be for the public good, such as the Congressional Record and a number of departmental reference books, have had a relatively narrow circle of readers.



One of the latter is the United States Official Postal Guide, which is filled with information of great importance to individual as well as commercial users of the mails. It has sold for \$3.50 and \$3 a copy with monthly supplements, and a very small percentage of postal patrons have felt justified in buying it. Believing that greater use of the volume will make for greater efficiency in the utilization of the complicated mail facilities, the post office department has taken steps to place the guide in the list of "best sellers" among government volumes by radically reducing the price. Instead of \$3.50, the maximum price for the best bound of the books with all supplements will be 75 cents, while abridgments constituting a postal handbook sufficiently comprehensive for most users can be obtained for as little as 15 cents.

The department is anxious to have its constructive step accomplish the desired purpose, and hopes that a copy of the heretofore little known guide will soon be found in the office of every concern engaged in domestic or foreign business, every school and institution, and, in fact, in the hands of every person who makes use of the postal service. Persons who use extensively the parcel post will find the guide of special value, the department believes. The disbursing clerk of the post office department in Washington is the subscription agent for the government's new low-cost guide book.

Last Sculptures Placed on the National Capitol

AT LAST the pediment of the east portico of the house of representatives' wing of the capitol has been adorned with its sculptured group. The figures which Paul Wayland Bartlett has been engaged upon since 1909 have finally been carved and settled in their final places.

It is gratifying in these days of supreme patriotic interest to know that the whole piece of work, from start to finish, is essentially American. Mr. Bartlett is a native son, despite his close association with France and French art. The figures themselves symbolize phases of American life and their treatment emphasizes this in their minor details, facts which are singularly representative of this country and its ideals. Lastly, the group has been cut from Georgia marble in preference to the generally used Italian marble, and this is a completing touch to the general keynote of Americanism.

The general theme of the group is the democracy of the United States as expressed in types of her working people. This is distinctively an American conception, and is in line with Mr. Bartlett's desire to escape the banality of much of the modern sculpture which relies solely on classical types for expressions of American ideals.

The entire group may be divided for purposes of description into three sections, though the general theme is so dominant throughout that all the parts are fused into a harmonious whole. The central group expresses the idea of Peace protecting Genius, and the armed figure of Peace, a majestic woman, clad in a coat of mail and draped about with a mantle, extends a protecting right arm over the winged and youthful figure of Genius, who nestles on the floor at her feet, holding aloft a flaming torch, the light of his power.

Sustaining this group on either side are the figures which represent, on the right, agricultural and pastoral life and, on the left, the industrial life of the shop and foundry.



Uncle Sam Will Seek Heirs to Many Millions

THE United States government is planning to aid in the task of finding missing heirs to the millions of dollars of unclaimed accounts which are lying dormant in national banks throughout the country. Consideration is being given to the problem of discovering the rightful owners of unclaimed money by the treasury department, it is announced, and as a result of the work hundreds of poor people may be enriched in a manner which will give material to fiction writers.

The comptroller of the currency's office has estimated that unclaimed bank accounts to the extent of millions of dollars are lying in banks merely because persons who have a rightful claim to the funds are unaware of their existence. The plan to restore this money will provide for a system of advertising by banks of lists of accounts which have lain dormant for a period of years to be determined upon. Falling in this manner to find claimants who can prove ownership, the money will escheat to either the state or federal government and probably be used for philanthropic purposes. Officials recognize the opportunity for fraud in the claiming of accounts, but the legislation planned will throw safeguards around unclaimed funds which will require presentation of evidence indubitably establishing identity.

Officials state that these unclaimed accounts arise largely through the deposit of money by men without their wives' or heirs' knowledge. Sudden death intervenes and leaves no connecting link of information, so the account goes unclaimed. Some American banks have unclaimed accounts half a century old and more, it is stated.

How Government Clerks Cut the Cost of Living

"SPECIALIZE, get your money in advance and cut the corners on handling, is the only way to conduct co-operative buying to a successful end," is the advice of G. K. Weston, who buys certain products of the farm and staple groceries for more than a thousand government clerks, and thereby cuts the cost of living for each family from \$15 to \$25 a month.

A saving of from \$15,000 to \$25,000 a month on the cost of living to a thousand of the eighteen hundred members of a single club sounds exaggerated, and yet it is being done by that number of the employees of Uncle Sam.

Mr. Weston was employed by Secretary Lane, president, and other officers of the Home club, made up of employees of the department of the interior, to manage the club. He has long been a student of social economy, and, coming in contact with large bodies of government employees through being in the government himself, and then through his work for the club, set himself about solving the problem of the "high cost of living, not by doing without necessities, which is the usual suggestion, but studying a way of spending a certain amount of money to get the most good out of it.

His one idea was to form a connection between the producer and the consumer at just as little cost as possible; and it was with this idea that co-operative buying was taken up as a special feature of the Home club.

There was considerable controversy over the advance cash system when it was first suggested to the officers of the club, even Secretary Lane putting in his protest. But at a meeting of the club directors Mr. Weston so ably presented his reasons for such an unheard-of proposition that he carried his point. The special plea for this pay-in-advance proposition is that it saves much time, and enables the manager to accompany his order with cash. The value of the latter is seen at a glance and the time saved is almost incalculable.

