

IN THE LIMELIGHT

JAPAN'S LEADING FINANCIER



The "foremost business man of Japan," Baron Ei-ichi Shibusawa, to whom more than to any other his nation owes her commercial and industrial transformation, hater of jingoism, friend of peace and of America, has been making another visit to the United States.

A stocky little man, broadshouldered, round faced, few gray hairs on his large, well formed head, although he is only a trifle short of seventy-six years; small eyes, that twinkle in conversation; frequent smiles, revealing much gold dentistry—such is the baron.

Forty-two years ago, when Japan was emerging from feudalism and irresponsible government into the world's light, Ei-ichi Shibusawa threw away his brace of swords, all privilege and high office to stand for business honesty. Holding a prominent office in the treasury under the mikado's new government at Tokyo, he found that secret and medieval methods still prevailed in national finance. His soul became insurgent. In a bold manifesto in 1873 he denounced the irresponsible and antiquated methods of bookkeeping and of handling the public money.

He founded the first national bank of Japan, established commercial training schools, organized the Tokyo chamber of commerce, and also almshouses and philanthropic institutions. He served his generation as director or chairman of the organizations which he had started. In a thousand ways, through a day and night activity of over forty years, he has labored to make the business man and his calling honorable, public spirited and measurably unselfish.

In Japan he re-created the whole social situation. Today the merchant manufacturer and shipper hold the place they deserve.

JACOBUS, JUNK EXPERT

Ever hear of a junk expert? Up to the time that William Jacobus, the scrap-metal expert, stepped into the limelight by showing how Uncle Sam could save millions on the scrap usually sold as "junk," very few people, if any, knew that one could specialize on junk and become a metal expert.

In 1911 Mr. Jacobus, who probably knows more about the scrapping and junk business than any one else, went to the "powers that be" in Washington and placing his finger on a leak said: "Here's where millions of dollars go every year because nobody knows anything about the business of selling the government's junk to the best advantage."

At that time there was what was known as the junkmen's gentlemen's agreement. Simply explained, the agreement amounted to this: A clique of junkmen agreed that they would pay a certain price for the junk offered by the government at the next sale. There being no junk expert in the employ of the government at that period, the junkmen, as planned, got it "dirt cheap." They then carefully assorted it, and resold it to metal dealers, dividing the profit among the clique. Through Mr. Jacobus' instrumentality the saving of the navy department was conservatively put at two million dollars. He rendered similar services to the lighthouse bureau and war department, and respectfully declined a position from Colonel Goethals to handle the scrap at the Panama canal. Only recently he showed the city of New York that it was losing about two hundred thousand dollars a year in its method of disposing of discarded material. He not only showed this, but proved it by acting as the expert at a sale, which brought in about two hundred thousand dollars more per annum than was usually obtained for the same amount of junk.



DIAMONDS HIS TOYS



In a busy office on Broadway, New York, there sits, day by day, a man who plays with diamonds. He toys with the radiant gems as a scientist might beguile himself with some new theory, as a child might extract joy from the possession of an abnormal array of wonderful paper dolls. They are playthings.

Thirty full sets of gems, worth \$1,000,000, make up the glittering, dazzling, bewildering treasure store. For the most part, they are hidden in the gloomy, chilly, steel cave of a neighboring vault. Thither they are brought under guard for the inspection of their master.

Each night he selects one set, and, bedecked with the scintillating jewels, he sallies forth to permit his playthings to pick up the incandescent rays of the brilliant white way and to dart them back, transformed into wondrous mezzo-tinted, prismatically refracted vibrations, through the gatherings of the gay. The man who thus plays with fire—the fire of first-water gems—is James Buchanan Brady. Broadway knows him as "Diamond Jim."

"Diamond Jim" goes about among his fellows with freedom. He knows that he is an institution and that any "regular guy" among the local crooks would soon think of stealing the torch from the statue of Liberty and "hocking" it as old bronze, or of taking Horace Greeley's bronze shoe from its park pedestal, as of dimming the luster of an essential part of New York's exterior decorative effect.

He is at every first-night performance. He is among those present at the frolics on the roofs. He dances with the latest favorite of fox trot exposition, and even fares out to Coney Island to have a hand in the doings.

To cap the climax of assurance, he rides in the subway, unattended, with a king's ransom, present and unconcealed about his person.

His diamonds are his world—after business hours. They are the pretty playthings with which he forgets iron and steel, grease and cross ties.

EARLY BIRD LINDBERGH

It is dark in Washington. Not even the rattle of the first milk wagon has been heard on Capitol hill and it still lacks two hours before the gold room of the congressional library will reflect the morning sun.

The measured beat of heel taps on the wooden cover of the marble steps leading to the house office building can be heard as the solitary figure of a man, tall, gaunt, and dressed in black, mounts the incline.

It is Congressman Charles A. Lindbergh of Minnesota on his way to work.

Lindbergh, besides being a millionaire, is the early bird of the Sixty-fourth congress. He goes to work between four and five o'clock every morning.

Lindbergh is a strong believer in the removal of private interests from the opportunity to influence congressional action. His first resolution has for its object prevention of the appointment of members of congress on committees where they might have private interests conflicting with the public interest. He was voted down, but won on his second resolution, which was aimed at the secret meetings of the banking and currency committee.



SECOND STOCK CITY

OMAHA NEXT TO CHICAGO AS HOG AND SHEEP MARKET.

RAIL EXPERT GIVES FIGURES

1,203,307 Cattle, an Increase of Over 75,000 Over 1914, Received During Past Twelve Months.

Lincoln.—Greater Omaha is the second greatest stock market in the United States—which means also in the world—according to a detailed study, the results of which were prepared by Rate Expert U. G. Powell of the Nebraska railway commission.

Of the seven leading markets of the country Chicago leads them all in cattle, hog and sheep receipts. Omaha is third in cattle receipts, and second in hog and sheep receipts.

Kansas City trails along third with the second prize in cattle receipts and third prize in both the hog and sheep columns.

During 1915 cattle receipts on the Omaha market were 1,203,307, against 936,694 in 1914. Hog receipts for the year were 2,345,210; sheep 3,214,585.

The increase in cattle for Omaha was 276,613 head; of hogs, 277,826, and of sheep, 67,151. Kansas City made a small increase in cattle and hogs, but a decrease in sheep. Chicago was the same way, but St. Louis had a decrease in all three lines. Sioux City had a decrease in sheep. Denver a decrease in cattle and St. Joseph a decrease in hogs.

To Talk of Defense.

The ninth annual debate of the Nebraska High School Debating league, which began in February and end with the state competition at the University of Nebraska on High School Fete day in May will be on the live question of increased armament. The proposition is: "Resolved, That congress should substantially adopt the recommendations of the secretary of war and the navy for increased armament." This question will be thrashed out in some ninety schools in all parts of the state under the auspices of the largest debating league in the country. League was organized with thirty members in 1908. In each district the members are paired for the first-series debates, the winners then go into the second-series; and the two winners there then meet to decide the district championship—which school shall have the honor of sending a representative to the state debate.

The board will accept the resignation and gave out that the discrepancies at the institution will all be made good by companies having the contracts.

One Hat Factory Reported.

The federal census of 1910 lists Nebraska as the twenty-ninth state in the union as to population, with an estimated population for 1914 of 1,245,872, yet one hat factory makes all the "Nebraska-made" hats worn by Nebraskans. The total capital invested in this Nebraska hat factory is \$20,000. Sixteen people are employed, five of whom are females. Total value of stock used, \$20,000. Value of production, \$55,000. Total paid to wage earners for the year 1915 is a little over \$11,400.

To Observe Child Labor Day.

January 24 will be observed as Child Labor day throughout the country and while State Superintendent Thomas does not believe a whole day should be devoted to the observance of the same, because Nebraska has so many special days, he thinks a short time should be spent in each school and recommends a program offered by the national child day committee as proper to use.

Outlawed Claim Received.

A wolf bounty claim of the vintage of 1891 was received by the state auditor a few days ago. The claim was sent in by J. E. Enders of Brown county and was for nine scalps. The state ceased paying bounties several years ago and therefore the claim is outlawed.

Inspection of Cattle.

According to a report prepared by Mr. Sleeth of the state veterinarian's office, 4,578 cattle have been inspected during the time from April 1 to December 15, and 74.10 per cent have shown signs of tuberculosis, the exact number being 329.

Jackson for Treasurer.

Friends of George Jackson, speaker of the last house of representatives of the Nebraska legislature, are out for the Nuckolls county statesman for the democratic nomination for state treasurer.

Asks Name Be Withdrawn.

Senator George W. Norris has asked Secretary of State Pool to see that his name does not go on the ballot next April as a republican candidate for president.

Agricultural Course Starts Soon.

The regular six weeks' winter course of the University School of Agriculture at Lincoln will begin January 4. The course includes a study of gasoline engines, farm machinery, animal diseases, marketing accounts, field crops, soils, poultry, fruits, vegetables, dairying and stock judging.

Local Bonds Preferable.

The State Board of Public Lands and Funds sold \$347,000 in Tennessee bonds held by the state of Nebraska, recently, to the Harris Trust and Savings bank of Chicago and the money received will be invested in school and municipal bonds of this state, which will bring 1 per cent more interest. It is figured that the deal will net the state about \$2,000 more in interest, figuring from January, 1916, to the time the bonds would have been paid, on August next year. The bonds draw 4 per cent.

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Jan. 3, 1915. French completed capture of Steinbach and gained near Reims and St. Mihiel, but were repulsed near Ste. Menehould. Floods hindered the fighting in Flanders.

Germans captured Bolimow from Russians, but their advances on Kielce and between the Bzura and Rawka rivers failed.

Russians took thousands of Austrian prisoners and swept through Bukovina.

Germans rushed to defense of Cracow.

Ghent taxed bachelors to meet German demands for money.

Day of intercession and prayer throughout British empire.

Second Australian expeditionary force sailed for England.

Shipment of food for Albanians left United States.

Jan. 4, 1915. Russians occupied Suzzawa and again threatened Cracow.

Turks ravaged Persian territory. British ships shelled Dares Salaam, German East Africa.

French aviators dropped bombs near Brussels.

Germans put Young Turks under oath to support existing regime.

Jan. 5, 1915. Germans began moving big guns from Ostend.

French forces made advance toward Cernay.

Russians defeated Austrians in Uzok Pass and prepared for invasion of Transylvania.

Germans renewed activities along the Vistula.

Pope obtained release of French Catholic missionaries held in Syria.

Belgian food ship sent by state of Kansas sailed.

Germany agreed not to hinder sending of food to Belgians by America.

Russians crushed Turks at Ardahan and Sarikamysch.

Jan. 6, 1915. French made further progress at St. Mihiel.

Germans bombarded Furnes and compelled Belgians to move headquarters.

New Russian army prepared to combat Germans at Miawa.

Germans and Austrians checked Russian advance against Cracow.

Turkish cruiser Goeben damaged by mines.

Jan. 7, 1915. French made progress in direction of Aitkirch.

Germans in the east hampered by mud.

Turks occupied Urumiah.

Report made by French commission charging Germans with habitual "pillage, outrage, burning and murder."

United States refused to investigate Germany's charge that British used dumdum bullets.

French government sent thanks for work of Lafayette fund.

President Poincare of France signed decree prohibiting sale and transportation of absinthe and similar liquors.

Jan. 8, 1915. Allies gained north of Soissons, near Reims and in Alsace.

Germans attacked Russian lines near Bolimow, their riflemen using steel shields.

Cardinal Mercier of Belgium placed under restraint by Germans because of pastoral.

Germany accused republic of San Marino of encouraging espionage by its wireless station.

Roumania began mobilizing 750,000 men.

California's Belgian relief ship started.

Jan. 9, 1915. Germans renewed offensive against Russians from direction of Miawa.

Severe fighting on the Rawka and in the north.

Turks hurriedly building railway lines across Sinai peninsula.

Germans retook Steinbach and Burnhaupt.

French captured Perthes and gained near Soupir.

Russians entered Transylvania.

French won victory in the Kamerun, Africa.

BRIEF INFORMATION

Homing pigeons can travel 70 miles an hour.

The skeleton is one inch shorter than the measurement of the living person.

Louis XVI drank the first cup of coffee made in France. It was then worth \$29 a pound.

To protect riding motorcyclists from injury there has been invented a suit of pneumatic armor, covered with rubber tubes into which air can be pumped.

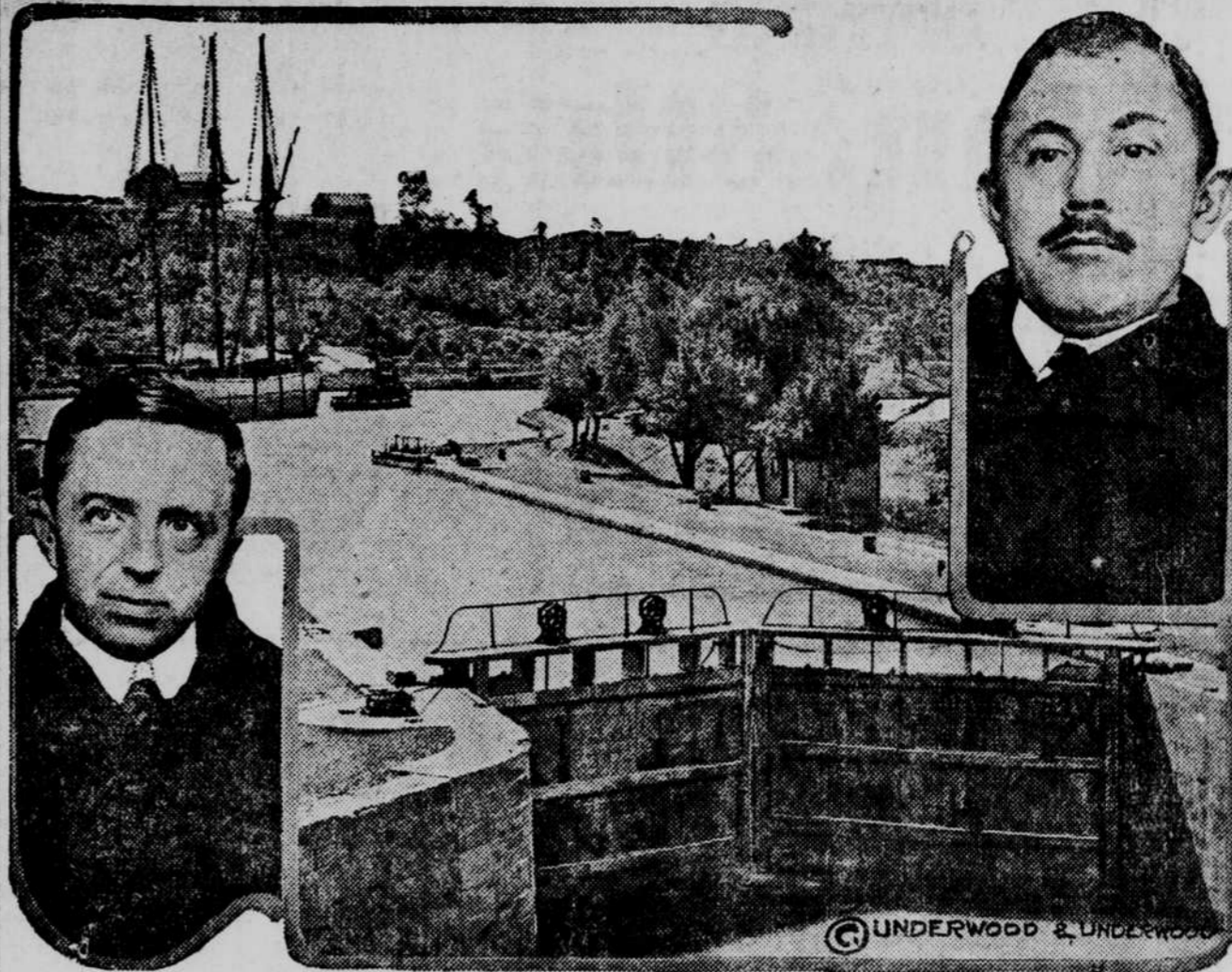
A Kentucky man has invented an electric fan to be mounted under an umbrella to circulate air, so designed that it can be folded as the umbrella is closed.

After ten years experimenting a Liverpool man has perfected a product from seaweed for the manufacture of noninflammable motion picture films and paper claimed to be water, flame and germ proof.

The intoxicant mescal, made famous through its use by the Mexican Aztecs, has been proved not a mushroom as was so long believed. The plant which southwestern Indians have chewed so extensively is a species of narcotic cactus.

Millions of dollars' worth of precious metals will be weighed on the fine scales of the New Orleans mint. There are two sets of scales now in use there, the larger weighs anything from one thousandth of an ounce to 600 pounds. The second scale, with itsagate bearings, will weigh accurately a human hair.

WELLAND CANAL OBJECT OF ALLEGED PLOTTERS



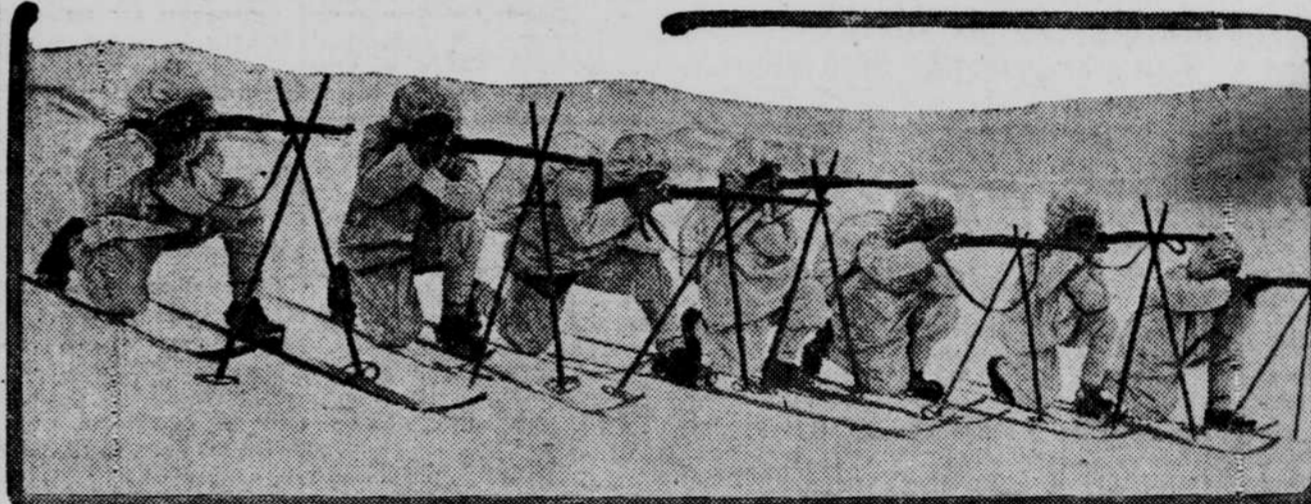
Federal authorities in the East believe the alleged plot of Paul Koenig, head of the detective bureau of the Hamburg-American line, to blow up the Welland canal is only an incident in a vast conspiracy. The illustration shows a part of the canal, which connects Lake Ontario with Lake Erie. At the right is Koenig and at the left R. E. Leyendecker, an art dealer, under arrest as one of the alleged conspirators.

INTERIOR OF TURKISH FORT ON GALLIOLI



Interior view of Turkish fortifications on the Gallipoli peninsula, with a body of troops about to move to the first-line trenches.

SHARPSHOOTERS IN WHITE AND ON SNOWSHOES



The mountain fighting in which the Germans are engaged has made it necessary to draw on those German soldiers who are snowshoe adepts. The photograph shows a patrol of these men, garbed in white uniforms to make them almost invisible against the white background and equipped with their snowshoes, taking a bead on the enemy in the Vosges mountains.

KING OF ITALY WATCHING HIS SOLDIERS



A striking photograph taken on the heights of Cadore while the king of Italy, accompanied by his minister of war and the commander in chief of the Italian armies, was watching the movements of the fighting forces. King Victor Emmanuel has his eyes fixed to the great field glasses.

GIVEN TO HER DESCENDANT



A beautiful statuette of Pocahontas, Indian maid famed in history and ancestor of President Wilson's bride, was presented to the White House couple by the Pocahontas Memorial association, an organization made up of Washington women. It is in bronze and is a replica of the statue that will be erected at Jamestown, Va. The statuette is 18 inches high and the sculptor, William Ordway Partridge of New York.

FROM ALL OVER

Argentina is getting more of the war business than any other country except the United States.

June frosts and a wet summer in England have caused a heavy shortage there.

There are 3,500,000 golfers in the United States. Ten years ago there were only 5,000.

Flowers will turn to the light of the electric lamp just as they do to the sun.

Peru is the size of Spain, France, Germany and Italy put together.

The Atlas moth, a species found in China, has wings which measure almost twelve inches across when fully spread.

In July, 1915, according to a government estimate, there were 198,677,000 farm animals in the United States, a gain in a year of about 7,922,000.

The ashes from Luzon's occasionally active volcanoes fertilize the soil and enable the Philippines to produce the world's finest hemp.

Trees in Persia. There are no natural forests in Persia except along the Caspian sea and in Kurdistan, for elsewhere there is insufficient rainfall. Elsewhere, if water is present, many oriental planes and poplars are planted but acreage is very limited, the larger wood lots running up to six acres only. So scarce is wood that every small branch pruned off is kept and finds its way into a bundle of faggots for city consumption. The plane tree, quite generally the world over, is the best of all trees yet planted.