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THE UNITED STATES AND THE ANGLO-JAPANESE ALLIANCE

A determined effort is being made in some quarters to picture the Anglo-Japanese alliance as directed against the United States. The best answer to such misrepresentation is to set forth in order the facts of that alliance.

The original agreement between Britain and Japan in 1905 declared the purpose of the alliance to be as follows:

To consolidate and maintain the peace in eastern Asia and in India.

In other words, the Japanese army and British navy would act together to resist any attempt to overthrow existing conditions in that part of the world. It was really what Bismarck would have called an insurance treaty against a war of revenge by Russia, or a revolt in India fomented by emissaries of the czar.

Alliances, it is true, sometimes wander from their original purpose. But when the Anglo-Japanese agreement was renewed for the term of ten years in 1911, the following article was made a part of the treaty:

"Article 4. Should either of the high contracting parties conclude a treaty of general arbitration with a third power, it is agreed that nothing in this agreement shall entail upon such contracting party any obligation to go to war with the power with whom such treaty of arbitration is in force.

At that time, negotiations were pending for an arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain; and Lord Grey recently stated that Article 4 of the Anglo-Japanese agreement was inserted expressly to avoid any misunderstanding with the United States, and to give notice that Britain refused to contemplate a war against America. The arbitration treaty then under discussion came to nothing, but in November, 1914, Mr. Bryan's arbitration treaty with Britain was ratified.

It was pointed out at the time that one of the great advantages of the Bryan agreement was that it released Britain from any obligation to go to war with this country on behalf of Japan.

There is the record. It shows that whether the Anglo-Japanese alliance is wise or unwise, that alliance never was directed against the United States and was amended to the express purpose of making it impossible to drag Britain into a war against the United States. The Japophobes will have to seek some other scarecrow.—Chicago Journal.

THINK!

Those of you are mistaken who may think that there can be an enduring and effective association of the nations for the maintenance of peace so long as those nations are armed to the teeth.—Maj. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss.

The Moral Breakdown

The wets have been attributing the "crime wave" to prohibition. Below will be found two extracts from one morning paper:

"London, March 11.—A great outcry has arisen in the shipping world over the heavy losses that are incurred through the depredations of thieves, many of whom it is suspected are in the employ of the companies that are the victims.

"Lord Askwith states it has been estimated that in transport through the port of London alone, through pilfering in various forms, there is a loss of 3,500,000 pounds a year.

"One shipping company says that whereas, before the war it losses on cargo attributable to thefts amounted to one shilling and four pence per ton, it now amounts to 26 shillings and ninepence per ton.

"Increases of wages, it is asserted, afford no guarantee of greater trustworthiness. Rather the contrary. The average wages of stewards are said to be four times their pay before the war but it is those departments on passenger liners with which stewards are most concerned that depredations, it is declared, are most noticeable.

"The manager of one line running to Australia said that recently he had to expend well over 2,000 pounds in replacing the linen stolen on one round voyage alone. On this same round trip the stewards' charges for 'over-time' amounted to 2,532 pounds.

"'Even the captain's boy charged 28 pounds for overtime on the voyage,' said the manager. 'If the captain rang for the boy to bring him a drink, the boy charged one hour's overtime for fetching it, provided he had already done his eight hours.'

"Much plundering undoubtedly takes place before the goods are stowed on shipboard, steamship men declare. Cases of machinery have been found to be full of stable manure and those supposed to contain gold and silver goods to be filled with shavings.

"'The thieving that is going on at sea and in docks is beyond anything in history,' writes Lord Inchcape, chairman of the Peninsular and Oriental Company. 'A man recently removed the clocks from the smoking and music rooms of one of our steamers, while the passengers were embarking at Tilbury dock and they have never been traced. Within the last few days a piano was removed from one of the steamers in dock and carried off to a cottage where, however, it was recovered.'

"Stewards, through their union officials, strongly resent Lord Inchcape's charge that much of the stealing that goes on in steamers is done by them. One of the officials declares that the fondness of the passengers for collecting what they call 'souvenirs' is responsible for far more 'missing' articles than are the stewards."

"Montevideo, Mar. 11.—Many merchants of this city have refused to accept delivery of American goods consigned to them because, instead of arriving boxed, as requested, they came in bales, and many articles were broken. In some cases legal action against the American exporters has been begun. Last night's edition of El Dia published photographs of broken bales and remarked that the situation should receive the attention of the United States authorities.

"Such occurrences," the newspaper declared 'lead to strained commercial relations between the United States and Uruguay. Since European production has been augmented Uruguayan merchants have received better treatment from European manufacturers, who carefully fill orders. The reduced prices at which these goods are sold give them a place above American products. The difference in exchange rates and the irritation which accumulated during the war, when American manufacturers took advantage of having no competitors, appear to be bearing fruit.'

The first item shows that stealing from ships in Great Britain has increased from 1 1-3 shillings per ton to 26 3-4 shillings per ton. They do not have prohibition over there. The war must have had a part in lowering of the moral level—probably a large part.

In the second item, "American manufacturers took advantage of having no competitors."

Has conscience ceased to restrain men? If so, what paralyzed the conscience. Here it is easy to locate the cause. Religion is the term used to describe the relation between God and man and Tolstoy says that morality is the outward manifestation of this relation. What is

weakening the conscience and thus undermining morality? There may be contributing causes but the doctrine of evolution is the fundamental cause. It has removed the creator from the life. Darwin's far-away-God has ceased to restrain, by either love or fear, those who have accepted the ape hypothesis. It robs man of the sense of God's presence in his daily life, makes prayer a mockery and destroys belief in a future life. Man will have to get back to God if we are to have honesty or any of the other virtues included in the general term, morality. No police service can take the place of conscience; the chief control must come from within.

W. J. BRYAN.

DR. HARVEY W. WILEY THROWS HARPOON INTO PET MEDICINE-BEER SCHEME

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former chief of the Bureau of Chemistry and father of the pure food law, scouts the idea that beer is a medicine as suggested in the Palmer opinion. Dr. Wiley insists that beer, wine and whisky have no medicinal value whatever and asserts that if the new ruling is allowed to stand "convalescence will be a disease which will kill more people than consumption."

In a statement to Attorney-General Daugherty, Dr. Wiley is quoted as saying: "Already application has been made to start breweries for making medicinal beer. If the ruling of the attorney general is carried into effect the profits for beer-making in this country will rise to heights never known before. The vitality and morbidity statistics will be swelled by such a new multitude of sick and convalescent as to try the capacity of the printing presses of the census bureau.

"Those who have the welfare of medical and pharmaceutical profession at heart and who want to see the honest and efficient execution of the prohibition act will unite as one in an effort to obtain a recall of this order by the present attorney-general of the United States. Rated on the scale of usage, beer has not now and never has had any standing as a recognized remedial agent."—American Issue.

MUNICIPAL PLATFORM TO BENEFIT CONSUMERS

C. W. Bryan in the Lincoln contest for mayor, has a platform of municipal markets, municipal gas, municipal ice and municipal coal. Under his administration these things would doubtless be of benefit to the consumers, and he has included a few of the actual necessities of life, on which there should be no profiteering. It would be different if the meat, ice and coal men had dropped prices to correspond with present conditions but there is too wide a spread between what they pay and what they get. We would be glad indeed to see him succeed and put his plans in operation, as if he can demonstrate, there is a possible relief for other towns in event the dealers do not take the hint and like Davey Crockett's coon "come down" before they are brought down.—Aurora, Neb. Register.

PLEGGED THEM TO ABSTINENCE

If all Catholic priests, and all other clergymen who have the power to reach young people in the solemn way that marks confirmation duties and services, would follow the example of Cardinal Gibbons, much good would be achieved.

Speaking of Cardinal Gibbons' attitude toward the use of intoxicating liquors, William H. Anderson of the Anti-Saloon League of Maryland, now in charge in New York, pays this tribute:

"Cardinal Gibbons undoubtedly sincerely desired to reduce the evils of drunkenness and labored in that direction as he thought best. He personally told me some thirteen years ago that he pledged to total abstinence till they were of age the members of every class he confirmed."—Miami Metropolis.

Thousands of applications for appointments as postmasters are said to have been filed in the last month by Republicans. This would seem to show an inclination on the part of faithful party workers that the postal department is really the fire department.

A Chicago man who was discovered to have embezzled \$80,000 explained that his wife had been sick for a long time and had had to have several operations, indicating that profiteering has got into the blood of the physicians and surgeons also.