

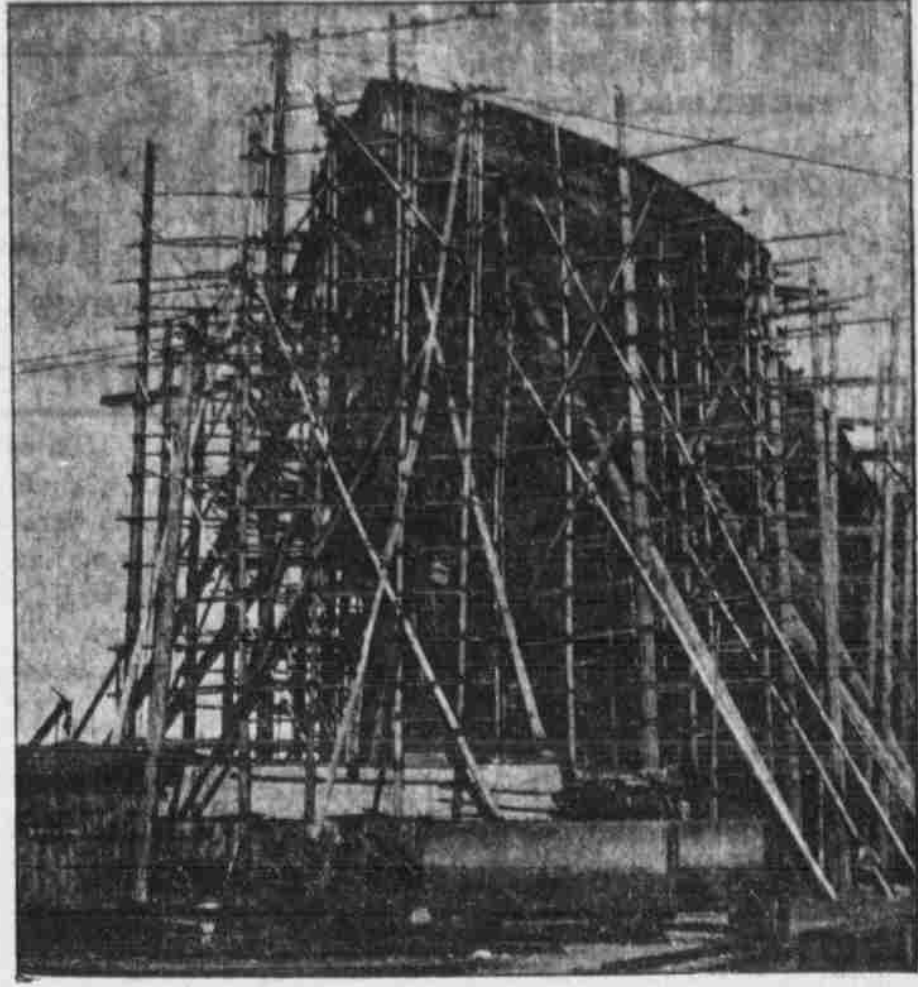
Plans of Japanese Government to Gobble Up the Trade of the Orient



MEN AT WORK IN SHIP YARDS AT KOBE—THEIR AVERAGE WAGE IS 40 CENTS PER DAY.



JAPANESE BUILT BOAT ON THE YANG TSE KIANG RIVER.



SIX THOUSAND-TON STEAMER NOW BUILDING AT THE KAWASAKI YARDS.

(Copyright, 1909, by Frank G. Carpenter.) OBEY, 1909—(Special Correspondence of The Bee)—Will Japan gobble the trade of the Orient? It is laying out its plans to do so, and from now on will strain every nerve to that end. I have just returned from an investigation of one of the lines along which it is working. I refer to shipbuilding. Since its war with China Japan has established great shipbuilding yards in different parts of the empire, and it has now tens of thousands of men making steel vessels for its foreign trade. Coming into this harbor of Kobe the most striking thing I saw were two huge unfinished steamers just launched from the Kawasaki dock yards. Each was of 9,000 tons and is intended to form a part of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha line, plying between Japan and Europe by the Buz canal. These vessels will be completed within a few months and they will be among the biggest steamers going to Europe. In addition to them a half dozen 6,000-ton ships are now being built for the same line here and at Nagasaki, and there are many other steamers under way. The country has over 1,100 steamers of various kinds which it has built at home, and of these 172 are of steel. It has 4,000 home built sailing craft, and the total tonnage of its steam merchant marine aggregates more than 1,200,000 tons.

In the Kawasaki Shipyards.

Some of the best and biggest of the home built steamers have been made here at Kobe, and the largest in the Kawasaki ship yards, which I visited today. These yards are on the left of the harbor as you come in. They front the west shore and they cover more than forty acres. The water front is a forest of scaffolding surrounding the ships now under construction, and the berths include two for 8,000-ton vessels, one for 5,000 tons, another for 14,000 tons, and one for 30,000 tons. There are also berths for ships of from 900 to 8,000 tons each and for ships of every kind, from torpedo boats up to great ocean liners. Out in the harbor a 150-ton steel crane is being erected. The Kawasaki company has lately constructed ten gunboats for the Chinese navy. It built a yacht for the late emperor dower and something like thirty of its steamers are now plying on the Yangtze, Kiang and other Chinese rivers. It has built one destroyer and three torpedo boats for the king of Siam. These have just been delivered and three more have been ordered. A 6,000-ton ship for the Pacific trade will be completed this month and there are other vessels under way. Altogether since its organization the Kawasaki company has built more than 300 vessels of different kinds. Its works have had in its employ during the last year on the average between 9,000 and 10,000 men. This force has been somewhat reduced on account of the hard times, but the prospects for improvement are good, and the managers tell me that this will be soon running full again. The company has a capital of \$5,000,000 and it pays dividends of 12 per cent.

How Japanese Handle Machinery.

Going through the works I was interested in the up-to-date machines and in the mastery with which these almost-eyed laborers handle them. The 10,000 employees are paid from 15c cents to \$1.25 a day, the average wage being about 40 cents, or not more than one-sixth that of our men. For these wages the Japanese mechanics are doing all the work that you will see done in such ship yards as Cramps or in our big naval gun factory in Washington. The managers of these works are the three sons of the famous financier, Count Matsukata, the president being Kojiro Matsukata, one of Japan's best known business men. These men have all been educated in the United States and Europe. Mr. Goro Matsukata, who showed me through the establishment, is a graduate of Yale; one of his brothers was graduated at Harvard, and another has spent eleven years in Belgium and Germany. I mention this to show the kind of training possessed by the men who are doing the big things of Japan.

Made by Government Subsidies.

I am told that the Kawasaki company could not have grown to its present proportions had it not been for the government subsidies. This is so with the other ship-building companies; and the home-built ships of today are all due to government support. As it is now, there is a bounty of \$1 a ton on all vessels of from 50 to 1,000 tons, and one of \$10 per ton for vessels of more than that. There is also a bounty of \$250 per horsepower on the engines used. Bounties like these run into big figures when the ships are large. At \$10 a ton, the two 9,000 ton ships in the harbor will each receive \$90,000, with a large cash-off for their horsepower. These bounties have been given since 1898, and, as a result, Japan is now able to build about as good vessels as any other nation. Other countries are awarded to all ships the carrying trade; and Japan's mercantile marine now amounts to more than 1,500,000 tons, the greater part of which has been created within the past few years. The nation has now a half dozen big steamship companies which cover all parts of the Pacific and Indian oceans. Most of its

big liners are run by Japanese captains and there is a national college at Tokio whose graduates furnish the principal officers.

Japan's Ocean Liners.

The largest steamship company here is the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. It has ninety-three steamers with a tonnage of more than 500,000, and its vessels trade regularly with America, Bombay, Australia and Europe. The company also does business on the Asiatic rivers, and it has ships to Siberia, Formosa and Siam. The length of its services is altogether about 45,000 miles. This company has a capital of \$11,000,000, and it pays dividends of 12 per cent. Another big corporation is the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, the Osaka Merchant company, which has a capital over \$7,000,000, and a third is the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, whose capital is a little over \$1,500,000. The latter company has a regular service to San Francisco, and it will eventually ply to South America as well. In addition there are the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, which has a large number of coasting ships, and the Japan-China Steamship company, which is running steamers on the Chinese rivers. All of these companies are paying dividends and all are heavily subsidized.

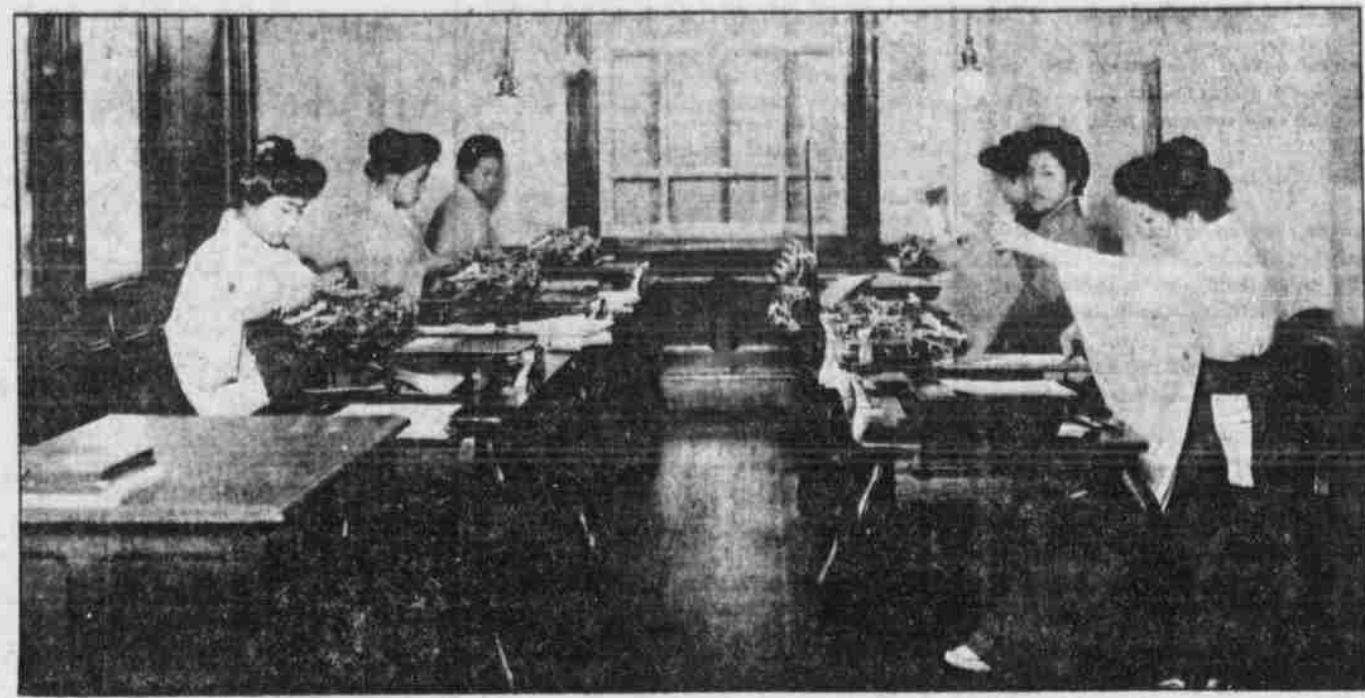
Patriarchal Government.

Indeed, the government of Japan is decidedly patriarchal. It is nursing industrial kind, and is doing all it can to stimulate trade. There is a higher council of agricultural commerce and industry. This is composed of twenty members, five of whom are government officials, and the other fifteen well known business men. This council investigates all matters of foreign trade, and schemes as to how Japan may take advantage of them. Its discussions deal with the various markets, and also with such things as international banking, the encouragement of certain exports and the tariff.

In addition to this, the government had been sending out special students and others to look up foreign markets. These go not only to the Orient, but also to Europe and the United States. In the eight years ending 1903, 124 agents were sent abroad. Another method to encourage trade is by sending young men to be trained in the factories and commercial establishments of other countries. These students are under the control of the Japanese consulates, and they send back regular reports concerning the establishments and localities where they are stationed. There are probably 100 or more such men abroad now. A large number of them are in America and Europe, many are in China, and some in the Straits Settlements, Java and the Philippines.

In the Commercial Museums.

Japan is establishing commercial bureaus and museums throughout the far east. There are now about forty of these, including many in Japan. One is located in Korea, another in Singapore and a third at Bombay. Similar museums have been started in Hankow, Chungking, Shasi and elsewhere in China, and one was recently opened in Bangkok. Of the local institutions, the largest are in the big cities of Tokio and Osaka. I visited the Tokio Museum the other day. It takes up the better part of a large three-story building and it has about 25,000 samples of foreign and native made goods. It is somewhat like the Commercial museum in Philadelphia, save that it is larger and more like an exposition. It contains all kinds of foreign raw materials and manufactured products, shown side by side with those of Japan. There are large displays of machinery and electrical works of home manufacturers, and all sorts of metal articles from aluminum to iron. There is Japanese lacquer made in Germany side by side with the beautiful native product, which is worth its weight in gold and which no European artist can copy. There are Japanese clocks and watches, and even Japanese pearls. The latter are magnificent and they are homemade. They are gotten by introducing grains of sand or other offending particles into the shells of the oysters while they are still alive. The bivalve coats the sand with layer after layer to protect itself and the result is a pearl. As far as I know, this has been done successfully only in Japan. The in-



AMERICAN TYPEWRITING MACHINES IN A JAPANESE OFFICE.

ventor of this product has become rich through the sale of his pearls.

Japan now has sixty chambers of commerce and is now sending commercial commissions abroad. During the past year it has been inviting American merchants to visit this country and there have been several large delegations from the Pacific coast, which have been taken through the factories and entertained generally. The empire has also many commercial schools and it is establishing technical schools in which all branches of industry are taught. In Tokio I found one industrial school for young women with more than 1,000 students who were learning embroidery, sewing and the making of silk flowers and other articles for export.

Big Foreign Commerce.

As a result of such efforts, Japan's foreign commerce is rapidly increasing. It is now more than double what it was in 1900, and it has greatly increased since the Russian war. It made a jump at the close of the Japan-China war, and until our last panic exceeded its exports and imports were larger than ever. Today it is doing more business with the United States than with any other nation. We are its biggest customer, and it sells us in the neighborhood

of \$60,000,000 worth of goods every year. Next comes China which it sells \$43,000,000, and then France, which buys \$30,000,000 or more.

As to imports, Japan gets more from the English than from any one else, and we come next. We are now shipping something like \$40,000,000 worth of stuff here annually and there is no reason why our trade should not be increased. The people like American goods and if the war scare does not spring up from time to time they will buy more and more. That scare has affected our trade. The merchants say that they bought of France and England while the American papers were full of a possible war with Japan. A bright young Japanese who sells our typewriters, linotypes and office furniture in Tokio tells me that the war scare has materially affected his business, and that the drummers from other countries have used it to influence the natives, by buying their friends in other countries instead of from the United States, who are anxious to fight them.

The Chinese and the Boycott.

The fuss which Japan has had with China about the seizing of a lot of guns which are being smuggled into the latter country has cost the Japanese no end of money. The Chinese about Hongkong, Canton and other cities in the south instituted a boycott against Japanese goods. For months they would not send their freight in Japanese vessels, would not patronize Japanese merchants, nor buy anything from Japan. For a long period some of the biggest Japanese steamers left Hongkong practically empty of Chinese goods, and today the boycott is still felt.

Japan has, in some years, sold as much as \$50,000,000 worth of goods to China, and the loss of so much of that trade has added to the commercial distress of the past year. The boycott was of such a nature that the Japanese could not go to war about it. There was no way to retaliate without hurting themselves, and they could only grin and bear it. As it is now, they are doing all they can to recover from the ef-

fects and their agents are everywhere in China, drumming up trade. In the meantime, the Chinese have learned the power of the boycott. They used it with great force against the Americans, and they will employ it in any international contest that comes up. I understand that they are now talking of boycotting the Germans, on account of disputes which have arisen over certain concessions in the coal mines of Shantung. The people of that province are refusing to buy German goods, and they say they will not travel on German railroads, nor go to schools which employ German teachers, nor have anything to do with the Germans until the trouble be settled their way.

Referring again to the boycott against the Japanese, I talked with a leading business man from Shanghai. He told me that the Chinese merchants had decided to make Japan lose \$150,000,000 on account of its action in that matter, and that they would not let up until they had created damages to that amount.

Our Trade with Japan.

I find our American goods popular in Japan. They are to be seen in nearly every shop on the chief business streets of the big cities and often in the little stores of the Japanese villages. These people are buying more and more foreign goods. The war with Russia taught the soldiers the use of shoes and the advantages of foreign clothing. They learned to eat canned stuffs, and as a result the masses are beginning to buy such things.

There should be a big opening here for American shoes. The army now wears footgear of foreign style, although it is made in Japan. In some of the higher schools still are the whole nations of temple, or, indeed, any of the finer buildings. The floors are covered with the softest and cleanest of white mats, which would be ruined by the nails of an American shoe.

Japan is now taking a great deal of leather from the United States. It buys our calfskins and cowskins and also goat leather. It takes considerable wheat and flour, canned goods of all kinds and the greater part of its kerosene oil.

Nation Wants Drawers.

There is a big opening for our cotton underwear. In the past the ordinary Japanese has never worn anything under his kimono, and a strip of wadded cotton was all that shielded his bare legs from the blast of winter. He is now beginning to buy knit stuffs, and the whole nation wants drawers. The men here often wear these without kimonos, so that a union suit forms full dress. This demand is bound to grow and our exporters should study it.

The prices of all things are now high. Cotton elastic which retail at home for from 1 to 5 cents a yard are selling in Tokio for 20 cents, and the whole stock of the herring from the shores of its new possession of Saghalien. Many trade marks are imitated, and one has to watch carefully to protect his goods. This is also the case with merchandise intended for Manchuria and Corea. It should all be marked with Chinese characters, as well as with the American trade marks.

Our Machinery in Demand.

I find there is a great deal of American machinery coming into Japan. Most of our big exporting firms have agents here and many machines and machine tools are sold. Steam turbines are being introduced, and with the electric possibilities of the country there is bound to be a big demand for electrical goods in the future. The various kinds of American typewriters are for sale in all the large cities, and our sewing machines, graphophones and phonographs are to be had everywhere. In my trip through the Kawasaki dock yards I saw many American machines in operation, and in the planing mills and carpenter shops found the men working on them with glasses, and every large structure is a blaze of light. Indeed, the conditions are changing so rapidly in this part of the world that if our manufacturers and exporters would take advantage of them they should keep men on the ground to study the markets and to push their goods in accordance with the demand of the times.

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Macbeth on Trial Charged With Conspiring to Murder Banquo

AFTER taking an immunity bath that worked for almost 600 years, Macbeth, alleged murderer, arch-conspirator and regicide, is to be brought to book before an Iowa court. To be condemned, perchance, at the end of a piece of Iowa hemp or to have his shady reputation whitewashed by a verdict of acquittal is the fate that is awaiting the old Scotch trouble maker. For Macbeth has been indicted for the fourth murder of his old friend and suspected co-conspirator, Banquo, and a third in the law school of the State University of Iowa will pass upon the guilt of the defendant and deal out tary justice to him according to the law and the evidence. The indictment has been drawn with that profound regard for legal technicalities which the criminal lawyer at the bar has so solemnly proclaimed in court that one Macbeth did enter into a conspiracy with a certain person or persons to give the legendary progenitor of the house of Stuart an effective boost toward the better land. Of course, the prosecuting attorney does not hope, as he will probably readily admit, to prove that the noted defendant struck down the unfortunate Banquo with his own hand. He will depend entirely on evidence tending to show that the prisoner at the bar was the brains of the conspiracy that ended in the death of the said Banquo.



Verner E. Gahleson, Harcourt.



Max Hemingway, Hampton.



Charles Herriok, Exter.

The cast as "murderers," the author, usually careful about libel suits and Nashville run plays, not even deeming it necessary to make it "alleged murderers." But, on the other hand, make the defendant's lawyer, was the defendant, whose standing in the community has been heretofore unquestioned, heard to conspire with these two wicked men for the destruction of the victim?

Not at all. It is true he called attention to the wrongful conduct of the said defendants and worked upon their class prejudices, but if every one were to be hung who had been guilty of that offense who would there be to occupy the bench or the jury box?

The state, of course, will further show that shortly after this meeting the said Banquo was set upon and slain while in the company of his son Fleance on the way to a dinner at the invitation of this same defendant. Further than this, the prosecution will disclose, unless this evidence comes under the ban as incompetent, immaterial and hearsay that before the energetic newsboy had begun to cry his "waxtrials, all about the horrible murder," the defendant was troubled by a vision which caused him involuntarily to cry out, "Thou canst not say I did it; never shake thy gory locks at me."

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this damaging evidence. Was it part of the res gesta? the learned lawyer will ask. Was it an exclamation pressed involuntarily from the lips of him who planned the murder, was it a confession of guilt or was it, after all, only a creation of the brain of a sick man?

To overcome the prejudice this evidence might arouse in the jury, the defense will have to make a master stroke. "Why," the learned attorney will ask, "did not the defendant show his grief at the death of his old friend? Was not his heart rent in twain by the awful news? Did he not show his anger by meeting summary justice upon the two guards who ought to have been watching and were not, being stupefied by drink? Was not his every act that of an innocent man torn by grief and sorrow at a deed so horrible. Does this not show him to be an innocent man and entitled to a vindication after centuries of calumny?"

Take as a whole, the state's attorney has not by any means a one-sided job to prove the guilt of this ambitious old conspirator, had as his reputation is, Macbeth has had his defenders, though they have been few. He has been called a weak, pliable tool in the hands of his more ambitious wife, and he has been justified by a desire to free his country from tyranny.

The disputants will be under lasting obligations to the law students at Iowa City if they finally decide once and for all whether he was really guilty of any crime under the statutes in such cases made and provided or not.

Quaint Features of Everyday Life Out of the Ordinary

Woman in Man's Clothes.

ONE of the many oddities gathered up by the police of St. Louis, recently, was a young woman of 23 years masquerading in men's clothes. She gave her name as Lillie Winters; has worn men's clothes for nine years. Miss Winters is of medium height, weighs 140 pounds, has black hair and deep, brown eyes. Her cheeks are rosy, showing that she enjoys good health. In fact, she says she has never been sick a day since she became a "man." The shoes she wore yesterday were padded with cotton to make her feet appear large, but she had no way of concealing her hands, which, notwithstanding the hard work which she has done, are still those of a woman, and were largely responsible for the discovery of her sex.

Miss Winters is a rather comely girl, but she has paraded in men's attire so long that she has acquired the walk and talk of men, and experienced little difficulty in passing as one. "I know I shall fall down and break my neck when I put on long dresses," said Miss Winters. "My dresses only reached my shoe tops when I discarded them, and I don't know how I 'm going to get along

in skirts. But I suppose I will have to get used to them, and might as well begin now as any time. In the future I shall wear dresses, and suppose I will have to find employment suitable for a woman."

Police Get the Hook.

Because the voters at the annual town meeting, a few weeks ago, refused to appropriate a sum sufficient for its maintenance, the entire police department of the town was discharged by the selectmen. When the annual town meeting was held last January, some frugal taxpayers attacked waste of public money in connection with the department, with the result that the appropriation was cut down to \$1,500.

Girl's Stomach a Junkshop.

The ostrich and the goat are mere amateurs in the art of eating indigestible articles compared to a young woman who was described at a meeting of the Chicago Homoeopathic Medical society. Dr. C. E. Kahle declared that at the last surgical congress in Berlin a case was recorded of a girl of 16 from whose stomach

the following miscellaneous collection was removed: One thousand one hundred and eighty-four nails, 192 small hooks, 128 bolts, twenty-seven straight pins, seventy-nine bits of wire, six nail heads and four pieces of glass.

The operation was entirely successful and the girl is now alive and well.

Heroine of a Divorce.

Mrs. Gisella Swarik is the "heroine" of Chicago's first "divorce dinner." It was given to her by the jury which heard her case and which recommended that Judge Honore enter a decree of absolute divorce. The words of Mrs. Swarik which touched the jurors so deeply were: "My husband was the meekest man in the world, because— "For nine years he never kissed me. "He never took me out for entertainment. "He never bought me a flower in his life. "He made me sleep in a dog kennel. "If there is anything meaner than these things he could do to me he didn't do them because he was not original enough to think of them." The jurors gave her a big bunch of American Beauty roses and, as they expressed it, "a swell feast."