

# Part the Children Will Play in the Coronation Festivities

**R**ESOUNDING of gongs through the Ak-Sar-Ben Den Saturday, October 9, will announce the triumphal entrance of their gracious highnesses, the mighty Emperor and Empress of Japan, who have invited all the nations to a grand tea party.

This will be the children's fête and will rival all of the other affairs given in honor of King Ak-Sar-Ben. A group of boys will represent the powerful warriors and personal guard of the emperor. Those will be followed by a score of Chinese coolies, who will wait upon their august highnesses. The beautiful empress of Nippon, gorgeously gowned, will enter with her little pages, closely followed by her special maids and ladies of the court, and all of the subjects and guests bow down with their foreheads to the ground in the presence of such grandeur.

After the great rulers have been seated upon the golden throne a gong will announce that they are ready to receive their guests. But meantime a wonderful program has been prepared to entertain the royal pair and the great company present for the festivities. Each of the nations present will vie with each other to give the best entertainment.

Gorgeous robes of oriental coloring and huge chrysanthemums to be worn by the dancers and large butterfly bows and sashes of rainbow hues will make a kaleidoscope of colors rarely seen. The wonderful cherry blossoms and wisteria of the flowery kingdom of Nippon will make a fitting background for the tea party, and those who are fortunate enough to attend will think that they are visiting in Fairyland. All nations of the earth will be there, dressed in their native costumes and representative ballets and dances will be given by the children ranging in ages from 3 to 16 years. There will be the toe dancers from gay Poree, dainty in their fluffy costumes of tulle and in skill rivaling some of the best toe dancers. The Tyroleans, Sicilians, Hungarians, Polish and many other countries will share the honors for giving this enjoyable entertainment. The warbling Tyroleans from the Alpien mountains will give their country dance in brilliant attire.

From sunny Italy and Spain will be dark-eyed and graceful maiden in costumes of red



SOME OF THE LITTLE FOLKS WHO WILL TAKE PART IN THE JAPANESE TEA PARTY AT THE DEN.

and yellow, who will give the tambourine and Cicola dances. Germany and Holland will send their fair sons and daughters and they, too, will dance for the pleasure of the emperor and empress of Japan and their guests. From the United Kingdom will be the English, Scotch and Irish young people, and they will give their native dances in costume. Leading all of these will be the subjects of Uncle Sam under the Stars and Stripes. Scores of geisha girls and Japanese boys, all in magnificent kimonos and sumarak coats, will wait upon the imperial rulers, and hundreds of Japanese cups and numerous miniature tables have been imported for this great tea party. The guests will all sit upon mats on the floor around the little tables in genuine Japanese style. Much speculation and curiosity as to whom the emperor and empress

will be is shown by the children, as even their august highnesses have not been informed. For what child could keep so important a secret? And no one must know until the great day.

One of the prettiest parts of the performance will be the grand march, led by two little tots about 4 years of age, who will lead the 500 children through a most intricate figure, weaving in and out serpentine fashion. This will be accompanied by weird Japanese music and gongs, all of the children taking the tiny little steps or hops which are characteristic of Japan and China. Then the children will divide into groups of six and all join in a circle dance.

The children's ball is not unlike the Ak-Sar-Ben ball in numerous ways. Here you will find the little daughters and sons of mil-

lionaires marching with the children of the baker, the butcher and the candlestick maker, and probably the cook's children.

One of the prettiest groups at the ball will be the geisha girls from the flowery kingdom, who wear huge chrysanthemums in their hair. These will be represented by girls ranging from 12 to 14 years of age, and the brilliancy of the colors in their costumes add materially to their natural loveliness. They will assist the emperor and empress in entertaining the guests from all nations who will sit at tea with royalty.

Dixie will not be overlooked in the various national airs which will be played during the afternoon, and when Uncle Sam sends his delegation to do homage to the royal pair their feet will keep time to the good old southern air which all love so well.

In the midst of these graceful and dainty entertainments there will be a wild hurrah and the startled guests will turn to find a band of Zulus from darkest Africa. But their intentions are perfectly good and no one will be harmed, for they are on a peaceful commission and wish to show obeisance to the royal host and hostess. After a wild and weird dance they will retire to one corner and await order from the court.

After their royal highnesses have been entertained in this manner for about an hour half a hundred charming little geisha girls will bring in the tiny tables and the guests will be seated upon the floor upon Japanese mats, and tea will be served. These little geishas will wear charming costumes, with

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