

TWELVE

JAPAN FAST RISING IN STEEL INDUSTRY

Changes From Nation of Wood
Workers in Incredibly
Short Time.

No many decades ago the ruling classes of Japan addressed themselves to the formidable task of appropriating western material civilization, which in a sense has been founded upon iron and steel.

The task was approached almost empty handed, with practically nothing in the way of science, traditions, mechanical equipment or industrial experience and with but slender resources of any sort.

Barriers of language and means made acquisition of the necessary learning very difficult. There was little experience in the use of metals for construction and manufactures, wood being the standard material of the nation. Houses and even boats were put together without nails or metals of any sort.

Limited to Swords.
Well established competitors abroad could produce at costs far below Japanese enterprises. Traces of these old handicaps still cling persistently to the iron industry of the present day, and no proper understanding of the situation can fail to take them into account.

In spite of this most meagre background from which to make a beginning it should be said that from ancient, even mythological times, there has been metal and iron working of a sort in Japan.

But this was limited to sword making and to work of art under the patronage of the feudal lords. Encased in the mysterious secrecy of the guilds the knowledge and practice of metal working was never widespread.

During the latter half of the past century with the gradual introduction into Japan of ideas from abroad came the first positive attempts to establish the iron industry along modern lines. Between 1872 and 1883 the then department of public works of the government acquired and operated the old Kanamishi iron mine, but gave up the enterprise after having lost 2,000,000 yen, or \$1,000,000. Subsequently, in private hands, this mine has become the most important private one in Japan.

War Stimulates Industry.
The need of iron and steel in connection with the China-Japanese war in 1904-05 led to another government iron and steel works, which began actual operations in 1907.

Up to this time private enterprise, also stimulated by the war with China, had been making some progress, but the end of the century found the total output of steel on the decline and standing below 1,000 metric tons a year, while imports totalled over a quarter of a million tons annually. Pig iron production stood at something over 20,000 metric tons a year.

The opening of the twentieth century found the industry still a negligible factor, but it stood at the door of an expansion which cannot be called other than remarkable in view of the obstacles which had to be overcome. Although the original plan of the government works had called for an annual steel output of 100,000 tons, the country did not once equal this amount until 1907.

Nevertheless the effect of the government's operations, which effectively began in May, 1901, and the stimulus of the Russo-Japanese war may be noted in the rapid and steady increase for the next five years.

From 1901 to the end of 1905 the total yearly output increased five fold, and thereafter about tripled every five years. In 1900 less than 1 per cent of the demand of the country for steel was satisfied by domestic production; in 1902 about 15 per cent was produced at home; by 1911 this had risen to 30 per cent, and in 1912 to 33 per cent.

At the beginning of the war home production just covered imports. Within the space of 15 years the country had risen from a position of practically complete dependence on foreign supplies to the production of just one-half of its needs.

Lead.
The government's energetic leadership in the industry was prompted by a keen appreciation of the importance of iron and steel, not only in time of war, but for the general industrial development of the country. Until the war boom this second enterprise, like the earlier one, had never been able to make both ends meet.

Not being primarily a business venture, it had to dispose of its products to the other government departments at less than market prices. To it fell also the task of leading the way in all sorts of difficult and untried lines, with profits as a secondary consideration.

It also undertook to give assistance to private concerns by lending exports and trading agencies for them.

The advent of the war made clear as never before the prime importance of iron and steel, and at the same time gave extraordinary stimulus to private enterprise in the form of enormous profits. In 1917 a law was passed for the encouragement of the iron and steel industry.

The new legislation provided that companies producing over 35,000 tons of steel annually should have special privileges for acquiring land for steel mills; the free importation of raw materials, tools and machinery; exemption from taxes and other attractive privileges.

Private enterprise, which had been flagging before the war, was quick to respond. Practically all the firms extended their production, and new companies were promoted by the state.

In fact, the outstanding feature of the period was the rapid rise to prominence of a number of private enterprises, some of which may possibly outstrip the government works in the near future. In March, 1919, the total capital invested in new concerns was estimated to be about 530,000,000 yen, exclusive of investments by the government in its enterprise.

A Square Meal and A Square Deal

Here's a square deal for the people who can't eat a square meal without after pain and distress.

Go to your druggist today and get a 50-cent box of M-I-O-Na Tablets, the great prescription for indigestion and stomach troubles.

Take one, or if your suffering is intense, two tablets, with or after meals, and at the end of ten days if you can't eat a square meal without distress go and get your money back.

That's where the square deal comes in.

But M-I-O-Na is really a stomach up-builder of great merit.

The quick and positive action of M-I-O-Na on the stomach in case of gas, waterbrash, sour stomach and heartburn is worth a lot of money to any sufferer.

Why not try M-I-O-Na—at druggists everywhere. If your druggist cannot supply you, write, enclosing 50 cents, to Booth's Hyomei Company, Postoffice Box, No. 388, London, Ont.

HYOMEI
(PRONOUNCED HIGH-O-PEE)

Ends Catarrh or money back. Just breathe it in. Outfit, including inhaler, \$1. Extra bottles 50c. All Druggists.

QUEBEC'S QUARANTINE KEPT OUT SMALLPOX

Epidemic Was Held At Bay by
Train Inspection.

MONTREAL, March 17.—How the superior board of health of the Province of Quebec held out the outbreak of smallpox in Ontario, and prevented it from passing into Quebec is revealed in statistics which were given yesterday by Dr. E. M. A. Savard, general inspector of the board. In this fight against the disease it was realized that the municipalities which were on the boundary line between the two provinces were incapable of taking the necessary precautions; hence the superior board of health took the matter in hand by establishing a quarantine at the frontier. The first step taken was to order the examination of every train coming from Ontario. For this purpose thirty special medical inspectors were appointed, and the statistics which follow will convey some idea of the magnitude of the task undertaken.

Between January 8 and March 5, 1,501 trains were entered by the inspectors and 3,275 passengers from Ontario were on the trains. Of these, 49,933 travelers had vaccination certificates which were examined and stamped, and 12,549 had vaccination marks, which were verified. There were 6,839 passengers who had neither certificate nor vaccination marks, and who submitted to vaccination being performed. There were, however, 154 recalcitrants who refused blankly to be operated on, and in such cases the inspectors of the board were adamant, the result being that that number was turned back and prevented from crossing into this province.

Proof of Success.
The successful result of this quarantine is seen in the figures, showing to what extent smallpox at that period was existent in this province. The total number of cases under treatment daily was as follows: January 21, 79; 22nd, 65; 23rd, 61; 24th, 62; 25th, 57; 26th, 56; 27th, 52; February 2nd, 134; 3rd, 130; 4th, 144; 5th, 143; 6th, 143; 7th, 143; 8th, 141; 9th, 141; 10th, 143; 11th, 141; 12th, 141; 13th, 141; 14th, 141; 15th, 141; 16th, 141; 17th, 141; 18th, 141; 19th, 141; 20th, 141; 21st, 141; 22nd, 141; 23rd, 141; 24th, 141; 25th, 141; 26th, 141; 27th, 141; 28th, 141; 29th, 141; 30th, 141; March 1st, 62.

The total number of municipalities in which the presence of smallpox was reported averaged fifteen during the month of February.

Little Difficulty.
Alluding to the work carried out by the inspectors, Dr. Savard said considering the number of trains and the great number of passengers travelling from Ontario every day in this direction the result had been eminently satisfactory. Inspection was carried out with the minimum of difficulty, and most of those who raised objections subsequently agreed to be vaccinated rather than be turned back. Such passengers were taken off the trains and quarantined at certain stations, where they had the alternative of being sent back to their starting point or being vaccinated by the local doctors.

The quarantine also threw much additional work upon the head offices in Montreal, where Dr. Eliezer Pelletier and his staff had many callers and telephone inquiries. In a good many cases the inquiries asked how long the quarantine would last, and decided to postpone journeys until it was lifted, for people going down to Ontario from this province were subject to the inspection along with those who resided there. The quarantine was raised at midnight on Monday, March 8.

China Cabinet, Table and Buffet. The illustration will give you some conception of its distinctiveness. Without question it is remarkable value at the price.

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Furniture Values That
Speak for Themselves

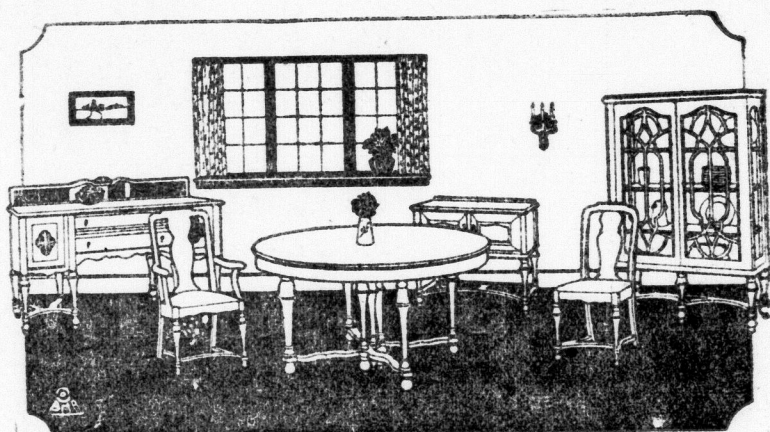
Measure This Store By Its Values

Then You'll Appreciate Its Bigness

Ever since this store was founded, it has been our ideal to handle and sell nothing but the best in furniture. Not necessarily expensive furniture, but the kind that has quality built into it, through and through. It is becoming more and more difficult to get that sort of

Guaranteed

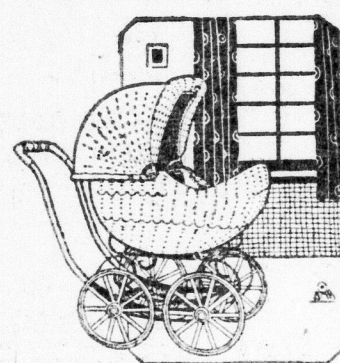
Of course, this furniture is sold on a straight policy of satisfaction. We would not sell it on any other basis.



Strikingly Handsome—This Period Dining Suite.

Wonderfully attractive, is this new Period Walnut Dining-Room Suite. Its graceful design and beauty of finish and line make it in truth an ornament for any home. Consists of six Chairs,

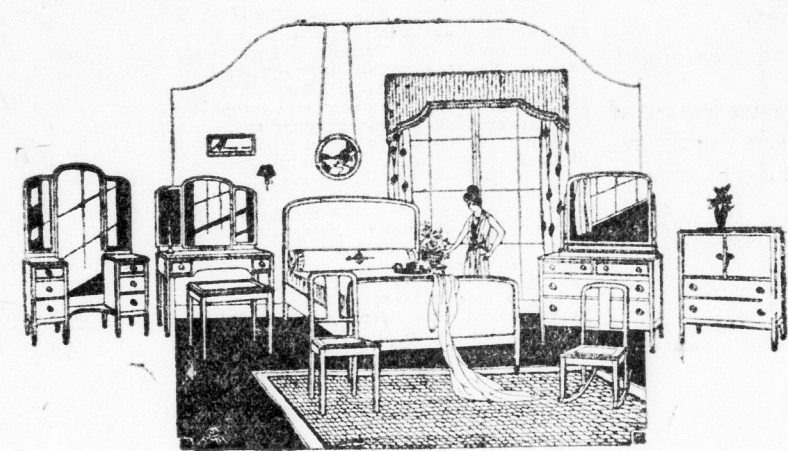
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Comfortable Cabs in Reed or Fibre

To better provide for baby's health plenty of fresh air is essential, and it is just as essential that you have one of our new Carriages for his trips in the open. We have a brand new assortment of Carriages in reed or fibre, with all the latest improvements necessary to the little one's comfort. We have them with reversible bodies, adjustable backs and ball bearing wheels with solid rubber tires.

furniture, but we have secured it, and are now offering it for sale at what are really unusual prices in the face of present conditions. An inspection of this furniture will convince you that we do not speak boastfully of these offerings.



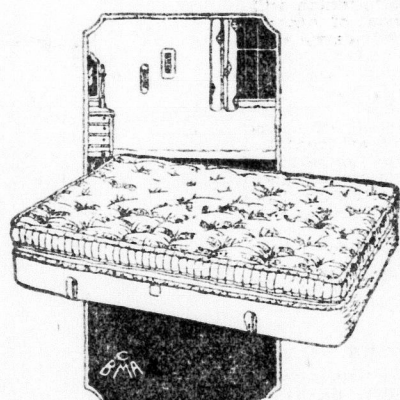
'Isn't It Splendid and So Moderately Priced'

will be the comment of anyone getting a glimpse of this quaint, attractive Bedroom Suite with its four-poster Bed, and the dainty Chiffonier, Dressing Table and Dresser that make it com-

plete. The finish on this Suite is exceptional, its appearance so distinctive, and the price so remarkable that we do not expect to keep these Suites but a day or two. Just see it yourself.

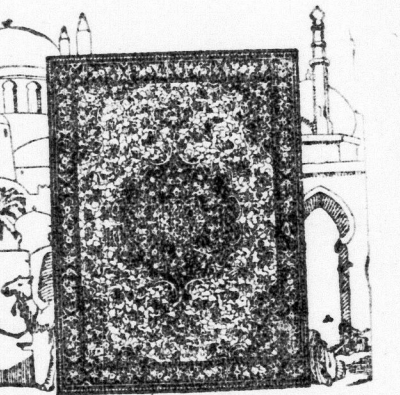
Reduced Prices on Mattresses and Springs.

- Our \$12 Mattress \$ 9.50
- Our \$16 Mattress \$13.50
- Our \$20 Mattress \$16.50
- Our \$25 Mattress \$21.00
- Our \$30 Mattress \$24.50
- Our \$33 Mattress \$27.00
- Our \$6.00 Springs \$4.75
- Our \$10.00 Springs \$8.50
- Our \$14.50 Springs \$12.00
- Our \$18.00 Springs \$14.00

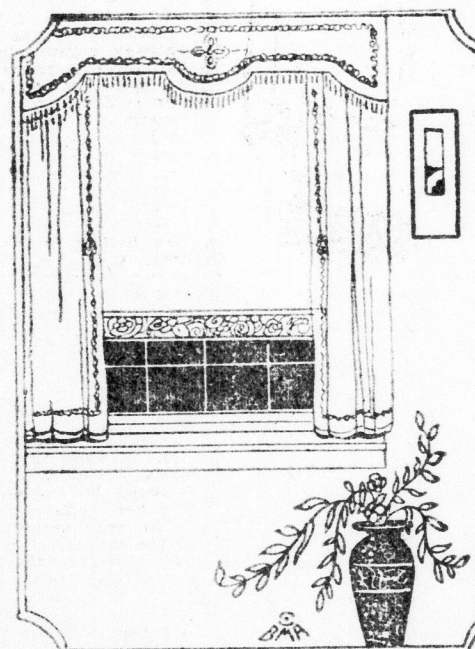


Of Course, a New Rug Is Welcome in the Spring.

Frankly, good Rugs are hard to get, but after some months of searching the markets of the country, we have been enabled to assemble as fine an assortment of good Rugs as one could wish for. In it are genuine Axminsters and Wiltons, Tapestry and Brussels, in various sizes.



The designs are copied direct from imported orientals, and the colorings are exquisite. You must see these Rugs to appreciate their real worthiness.



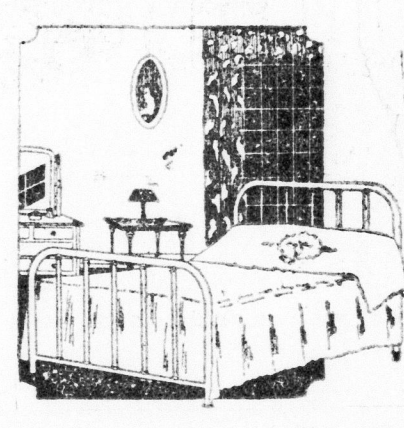
The New Spring Draperies Are Here.

Our new 1920 Spring Draperies are now on display. You will find here a beautiful stock of materials at medium prices.

Cretones from 60c to \$2.00 yard
Velour from \$3.50 to \$5.00 yard
English Madras \$1.25 to \$2.50 yard
Voiles and Marquises 45c to 1.50 yard
See our handsome Arabian Net Curtains, just received from England, also our big new range of Curtain Nets. Ranging in price from 40c to \$2.50 yard

A Metal Bed of Charm

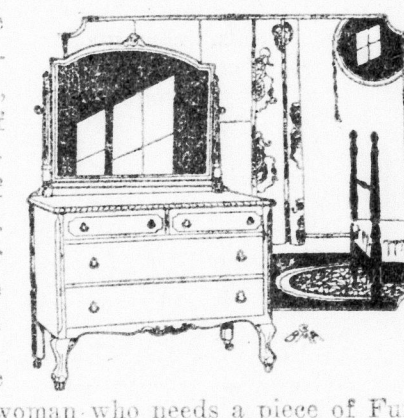
Extremely simple in its design, yet it is a delight to the eye of anyone, even the most critical; made by one of the foremost bed manufacturers in America, it carries its own guarantee of stability and worthiness.



Dressed up in snowy linen, 'twill add charm to any bedroom \$12.50

Could Any Woman Resist This?

We do not believe any woman could resist this wonderful, glistening Dresser, of genuine black walnut and its beauty of line and finish. Frankly, we never saw anything quite so charming in all our years of Furniture buying. We suspect that every woman who needs a piece of Furniture like this will want this particular Dresser, and those who are in earnest will be on the job early. Are priced at \$85.00



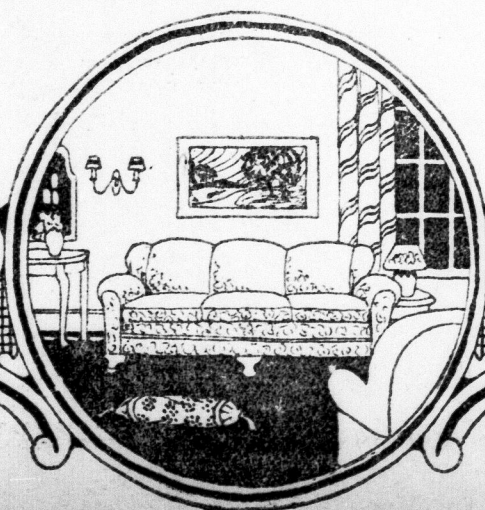
Just a word about Furniture prices. Every indication points to a continuation of present prices on Furniture. The chances are they will even go higher. The wise buyer, therefore, will be forewarned and make selection at once

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Largest
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Furnishers.



To serve all worthily and well, to sell merchandise that reflects the highest ideals of workmanship, to insist upon every customer being satisfied, to ask a fair price and only a fair price—in brief, these are our store policies daily.

AFRICAN LION IN MEXICO.
Archaeologists are puzzled by the prehistoric carving of a lion near Vera Cruz. Efforts have been made to trace the origin of this little-known relic of prehistoric America, but have thus far proved futile. The similarity to the African lion rather than the mountain lion of this hemisphere has added to the mystery.