

saw no reason for joining the Institute of Pacific Relations as there was more to be gained by taking part in the work of the Pan-Pacific Union, which it is now doing. The Institute of Pacific Relations hardly expected our Academy to accept their invitation nor did they expect an acceptance from the Mexican University, which was also approached.

However, it was already shown at the first conference that the future existence of the Institute was impossible without these big powers. At the end of the second conference the future prospects of the Institute were discussed. The question of further expansion of Institute membership was definitely brought up. Two currents of opinion appeared. One of them was definitely antagonistic to any expansion of the Institute beyond the specified limits; this current represented American opinion. When the Japanese delegates brought up the question: Would representatives of Central and South America and the U. S. S. R. be invited for the next conference? -- the American delegates were put in a very embarrassing position.

They declared that invitations had already been sent to the Mexican University and to the Scientific Academy of the U. S. S. R., but that these organizations had refused. At the same time the Americans tried to prove that future expansion of the Institute is not desirable. Concerning South America, the arguments were very amusing. They pointed out that South America is not interested in what is happening on the Pacific Ocean, and is much more closely connected with Europe than with this part of the world. One of the delegates of the United States said literally, the following:

"I think it would be well if the Institute would not further enlarge its membership. Such enlarging would not only mean an increase in the number of Institute members, but would also mean increasing the number of questions to be discussed. I doubt the advisability of an invitation to Russia. This would mean getting in a new group of experienced diplomats."

However, not all of the American delegation was antagonistic towards this question of the U. S. S. R. The other section evidently greater in numbers, and later on victorious, advanced the argument that it is impossible to discuss the problem of Manchuria without the U. S. S. R. taking part.

As to the feeling of the Dominions towards this invitation of the U. S. S. R., we have no documentary facts. But various indirect sources say that the Dominions were favorable to the invitation. An indefinite position was taken by Canada. As for Japan, though she did not state the fact definitely she favored the invitation to the U. S. S. R. An entirely clear, straightforward policy was maintained by the Chinese; they insisted upon the necessity of an invitation to the U. S. S. R. One of the members of the China group said:

"Russia today is throwing the challenge to every existing order. How will we be able to discuss these questions if they are not completely faced?"

The Chinese member pointed to the fact that Soviet Russia is very popular in China on account of its relinquishment of extraterritorial rights.

This position of the Chinese members is interesting because of the fact that on all other questions they went hand in hand with the Americans.