

of these, Yokoi, Ebina, Miyagawa, Ichihara, and others are members of the Advisory Council on the Parliament of Religions, and have written of their earnest gratitude that such a congress is to be held, and of their confidence that it will advance the cause of truth and brotherhood. "I believe sincerely," writes one, "that such a congress will be conducive, not only to the better understanding of different systems of religious faith, but that it may also help the progress of religious truth among all nations and the promotion of the cause of humanity in general." Another says: "The idea seems to me lofty and uplifting. What can be more impressive than an assembly of the representatives of all the diverse religions of all the world?" The Rev. Yoshiyas Hiraiwa, of the theological department of the Methodist Seminary in Tokyo, believes that the Parliament will have an immense influence on the religious thought of mankind, and "give a new, great impetus to the world-wide Christian evangelization movement."

The Rev. John T. Gulick, of Osaka, Japan, famous as a profound student of Buddhism, believes "there will be great benefit from the enlightening and elevating influence of these religious congresses. In the early training of the human race, God has separated the nations by many barriers. Surrounding each by a special set of conditions, He has left it comparatively free to work out its own civil and religious institutions, to mature its own science, philosophy, and religion, and to realize its own ideals in special customs and ethical codes. Each race, and, in some degree, each nation, formed a separate school of investigators and experimenters, to whom an independent position had been assigned, that it might reach unbiased results; but now that the results have been reached, the barriers are being removed and a great competitive examination is being opened, in which sciences and arts, moralities and religions are being tested. The broad oceans that were once the greatest barriers are now the highways by which each nation meets every other without crossing the territory of other nations, as would be necessary if there were no ocean."

The first day of the Parliament will be given up to addresses of welcome and fraternal fellowship by representatives of the World's Congress Auxiliary, of the World's Columbian Exposition, the National Government of the United States, American Christianity and American Womanhood, with responses by representatives from Great Britain, Continental Europe, India, China, Japan, Australia, Canada, Africa, and South America. It may be mentioned that Count A. Bernstorff, of Berlin, will respond for Germany on this day. Principal Grant will speak for Canada and Miss Frances E. Willard for American womanhood. The second day of the Parliament will consider the idea of God, its origin and universality, the primitive form of theism, the harmonies and distinctions in the theistic teachings of the various historic faiths. The third day will have for its theme man, his nature, dignity, imperfection, spirituality, immortality, the