TAFT RIDICULES IDEA OF WAR BETWEEN THE U. S. AND JAPAN

At No Time, He Says, Has the Probability of War Been Seriously Entertained by Either Country.

TRENTON, N. J., March 23.—Secretary of War Taft and Baron Takahira, Japanese ambassador to the United States, spoke before the Chamber of Commerce banquet tonight. Earlier in the evening they attended a special reception, in the assembly chamber in the state house. The two houses were in session and the galleries and lobbies were crowded with spectators.

Secretary Taft and Baron Takahira entered the assembly chamber accompanied by Governor Fort. Baron Takahira was accorded a great reception. He spoke only briefly. Secretary Taft was next introduced. He was given a rousing reception. He said in part:

It is a great pleasure to everyone in our government in the administration at Washington that Baron Takahira has returned as ambassador. The relations between Japan and the United States during the past two years have much occupied the headlines of sensational newspapers of this country and of Europe.

A number of the European press were determined that there should dbe war between the United States and Japan, even if both parties were determinedly opposed to it. The unfortunate disturbances at San Francisco and the diplomatic controversies that arose were made the occasion for the circulation of the most distressing rumors which were from time to time repeated.

It was found, however, that nothing had occurred at San Francisco which it was not within the power of the two governments to settle by ordinary diplomatic methods. The question of immigration seems quite within the power of the two governments without legislation on either side to bring to a satisfactory adjustment.

Then these same scribes and prophets of evil made themselves hoarse with their shouts about the sending of the fleet of battleships to the Pacific. Alas for the reputation of these prophets of evil, no sooner has the fleet reached our western shores upon the Pacific than the government of Japan sends a most cordial invitation, couched in the friendliest tones asking that our fleet visit the ports of Japan. This invitation the government has accepted in the same cordial tones, because it realizes the sincerity of the hospitality which is offered.

The Japanese have their energies directed toward the civilization and settlement and progress of Korea, which has come under their protection and control, of the Liaotung Peninsula, of which they now have a lease from the Chinese government and of Formosa, which they took over from China, after the Chinese war.

The uplifting of these countries and their peoples present problems sufficient to test the highest statesmanship of the leading men of Japan and furnish every reason for saying that they have no desire for such a purposeless task as a war with the United States.

But Japan is manifesting the greatest enterprise in the organization of steamship lines and the government assists one of them so that in a reasonably short time, much of the Chinese trade is likely to be done between the United States and China and between other countries and China in Japanese bottoms.

We are today an Asiatic power. We exercise sovereignty over an archipelago of 140,000 square miles, with a population of eight million people.

We have undertaken a system of general and political education, which we hope in the course of one or two generations may prepare them to maintain an independent government free from guidance of ours, if their people so desire.

Is it not of the utmost importance that in order that our influence may be felt, that we should maintain a navy and army commensurate with our resources, with our coast-line, with the extent of our country and our population?

I speak of this in anything-o spirit. I do not favor the war or the prospect of it more than I do. But I am convinced that the maintenance of our navy and army should be commensurate with our resources and the re-organization of our army in such a way as to permit its speedy expansion upon the outbreak of emergency. It will be most useful to secure the continuance of the peace under which we will thrive, and attain the highest aims of popular government.

MR. COHEN HAD NARROW ESCAPE

A man named Cohen who runs a tailor shop on Union street was thrown from a carriage yesterday and landed on the car tracks, his scalp from serious injury being remarkable.

There were Cohen's father and son in the carriage at the time and the horse was travelling at a high rate of speed. A delivery wagon belonging to Jones' brewery approached on the opposite side of the street, but the distance allowed for the Cohens to pass was misjudged and with a crash the two vehicles met. At the same moment the elder of the two Cohens was thrown into the air by the jar and turning a somersault in the air he landed on his head on the car tracks. The street was very muddy and the old man was a sight when picked up. He did not appear to be hurt however, and resumed his journey.

JOHN'S LITTLE JOKE.

Mrs. Stubbs (angrily)—The idea, John, of that man wanting $5 to trim our hedge! Why, I think he is a regular hog!

Mr. Stubb—Not a regular hog, Martha, I think he must be a hedgehog.—St. Louis Republic.

N. B. MILITARY VETERANS MAY GET THEIR LAND GRANTS

Speaking at Their Annual Banquet Last Night Hon. H. A. McKeown Promised to Do All He Could, and Messrs. Wilson and Sproul Agreed to Stand by Him

The New Brunswick Military Veterans held a most successful dinner at Scammell's restaurant last night. The dinner itself was served in Scammell's best style, while the excellence of the speeches and the enthusiasm of the Vets and their friends combined to make the occasion memorable. There was a very large attendance and guests from outside were in attendance.

Hon. H. A. McKeown, M.P.P., John E. Wilson, M.P.P., Fred Sproul, M.P.P., His Worship Mayor Sears and several of the aldermen were present and spoke. The most noticeable feature of the speeches was the promise of the members of the legislature to again bring to the front the matter of land grants for the Fenian Raid veterans.

After sufficient time had been given to the discussion of the menu, the toast list was taken up. President A. Embree, who was in the chair, acted as toast-master.

The King was responded to with musical honors.

The Dominion and Provincial Governments, coupled with the names of Hon. H. A. McKeown, M.P.P., John E. Wilson, M. P. P., and Fred Sproul, M. P. P., was the next toast.

Hon. Mr. McKeown thanked the veterans for the hearty way in which the toast had been received. He thought the many aldermanic candidates who were present might be given an opportunity to address the gathering in view of the fact that the civic elections were so near. (Laughter.) Messrs. Sproul and Wilson and himself had passed through the waters. He hoped on his part that he would not soon have to take the plunge again.

Mr. McKeown then complimented the association on the style in which the dinner had been served. Referring to provincial matters Mr. McKeown said he felt that the gentlemen that would compose the provincial government on the morrow would exert themselves to the utmost to further New Brunswick's interests. (Applause). A change of government was sometimes beneficial. Mr. McKeown closed his remarks by appealing to the representatives of St. John and Kings county to support him in an attempt to bring about some recognition on the part of New Brunswick for the services of the veterans. (Applause).

Fred Sproul, M. P. P., was the next speaker. He agreed with Hon. Mr. McKeown in what he had said concerning the New Brunswick Veterans' Association. The province could not give a generous recognition of the services of the veterans but it could give a liberal recognition. For his own part he would support any measure such as that mentioned on the floors of the house. (Applause).

John E. Wilson, M. P. P., followed Mr. Sproul. He also agreed with Hon. Mr. McKeown in being of the opinion that the veterans' services should be recognized. He understood and he hoped that Hon. Mr. McKeown would take his remarks in the right spirit, that there was very little money up there to do anything with. (Laughter). However, he would do his best. (Applause).

There were repeated calls for Hon. A. T. Dunn. He gave a short account of the attempt to give the Fenian raid veterans each 100 acres of land. While surveyor general he had asked for the names of veterans and had received a great number of names, many of which were not those of veterans. For this reason the matter had hung over from one session to another and been finally dropped. Now that the premier, the government and the opposition were all in favor of making the grants he would advise the Veterans' Association to prepare another list of names and make another demand. (Applause.)

Charles Colbert at this juncture sang "Britannia, the Pride of the Ocean."

The Active Militia was the next toast. With it was coupled the name of Lt. Col. Wedderburn of the 8th Hussars.

Col. Wedderburn said he appreciated being called on to reply to the toast, but as he had replied to the same toast at every veterans' dinner for the past six years, he thought he was rather a chestnut. He never had had the opportunity of being under fire, but before the evening was over those who had seen service would tell their reminiscences. Col. Wedderburn brought his speech to a close with the suggestion that a strong delegation of veterans attend the big review to be held at Quebec in the summer and take part in the ceremony.

Our City was the next toast. To it Mayor Sears and the aldermen present replied.

His worship was the first to speak to the toast. He said he had been responding to that toast off and on for twenty-five years. He went on to speak of the struggle that St. John had engaged in to gain recognition as a great port. He called on both citizens and their representatives to do all they could do to advance the city's interest.

Ald. McGoldrick followed the mayor. He thought there were too many wallflowers in the parliament at Fredericton and that at Ottawa. (Laughter). Down in the Common Council they had seventeen of the finest orators in the world. In fact the Common Council took a back seat to no parliament this side of Europe. (Laughter).

Ald. Sproul followed with a brief speech.

Ald. Wilet was the next speaker. He gave a short account of the circumstances of the Fenian Raid.

Ald. Kelley was next called upon. In the course of his remarks he suggested that the veterans should ask that they be given a hundred acres in the great West rather than in the back woods of New Brunswick. He also touched on the matter of flags for the schools.

Letters of regret on account of inability to be present were read. They were from Hon. J. D. Hazen, W. Frank Hatheway, M.P.P., Captain Thomas McKenzie of Fredericton, J. P. McInerney, M.P.P., J. S. Willison of Toronto and Robt. Maxwell, M.P.P. Secretary Hunter explained that Colonel Blaine was absent on account of the death of his wife, and Capt. Parris and James McAvity on account of illness.

The Day We Celebrate was next proposed. William Hawker and James McKelvie responded. The latter also gave a reading. Mr. Tunge then sang a song.

Comrade Brown favored the gathering with a reading, "The Private of the Buffs."

Mr. Nokes followed with a song, For England, Home and King.

The South African Veterans was the next toast. Three cheers were given for the South Africans and then three more for the old vets.

Mayor Sears replied to the toast as also did W. H. Irving and others.

God Save the King brought the dinner to a close.

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ONLY A HORSESHOE.

How Young John, the Farmer's Son, was Taught a Lesson.

A farmer was one day walking to town, and his little son, John, was by his side.

"Look," said the father, "there is a horseshoe on the ground. Pick it up and carry it home for good luck."

"Oh," said John, "I do not think it is worth while stooping for."

His father made no reply, but he picked up the iron himself, and when he reached town he sold it to a blacksmith for 2 cents and bought a few nuts with the money.

On the way home John grew very hungry. As if by accident, the father let one of the nuts fall. John picked it upquickly and, cracking the shell, it up quickly and cracking the shell er dropped a second nut and John grasped it from the ground as eagerly as if it had been a piece of gold.

In this way the nuts kept dropping until the boy had stooped for them all one by one.

As John was eating his last nut his father turned around with a smile and said:

"See, now, if you had been willing to stoop once for the horseshoe you would not have had to stoop twenty times for the nuts."

John had been taught a lesson.—Philadelphia Ledger.

GLEN'S FALLS, N. Y., March 23.—Bartley Connolly of Portland, Maine, had the better of a six round bout with Charles Hitts of Albany tonight at the Casino Athletic Club. Connolly forced the fighting after the first round.

PARIS, March 23.—Three notorious hotel thieves, who were dressed in black silk skin tights, were taken red-handed last night as they were collecting valuables in the vestibule of a San Remo hotel.

ALL IS QUIET AT PORT AU PRINCE BUT NATIVES ARE GREATLY EXCITED

The British Cruiser Indefatigable, which was ordered to Hayti.

Entrance of the principal market place in Port-au-Prince. President Nord Alexis and the official residence is shown above.

PORT AU PRINCE, March 22.—President Nord Alexis, in an interview at the palace today, declared that conditions in the republic were absolutely tranquil. He said that he did not question his ability to preserve order and protect foreign interests here.

The city is tranquil, but the natives are still greatly excited and the situation remains tense.

The German cruiser Bremen will sail today to take on board the refugees in the consulate of Port Le Paix and Saint Marc, and convey them to Kingston. Septimus Marus, who is a refugee at the French legation here, says the combined intervention of the powers is absolutely necessary to prevent anarchy.

NIGHT RIDER BAND KILL FARMER IN TOBACCO WAR

Shoots Him as He Talks to Them from His Porch—First Murder of Kind in Region

CARLISLE, Ky., March 23.—A band of "night riders" early today shot and killed Harlan Hedges, an independent tobacco farmer, several miles northwest of Carlisle.

C. H. Hedges, son of the murdered man in giving an account of the killing, said he and his father were awakened after midnight by some one throwing rocks against the house. My father suggested that they go to the front door and see what was wanted. Men in front of the house asked the elder Hedges to step out on the porch. He did so and said:

"I know who you are. But I want to say to you that I have never done anything but what is right towards the society. I want to do what is right. I have planted one tobacco bed, and had intended planting another, but if you will go away and not do any harm, I will plow up the bed I had intended planting and never put canvas on the beds already planted."

Young Hedges, in describing what followed, said:

"Just then some one in the crowd fired a shot, and my father staggered back, crying, 'Oh, I am shot!' I dragged him into his room and laid him on the bed. Then I went back to the door and faced the mob. I said: 'Gentlemen, you have already shot him. Please go away. I am in trouble and want some one to help me.'

"Several men put down their guns, and three went into my father's room with me. Three others stood at the door watching us. The three that went to the bed with me looked at my father and turned to the others and said: 'Boys, he is shot.' One of them said: 'Well, it was an accident.' Then they rode away."

CASTORIA
Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher
The Kind You Have Always Bought

ROCK ISLAND, Ill., March 23.—The Daily News office was dynamited early today. The press room was badly damaged. The paper had been attacking the gambling and advocating local license. No one was injured.

INSURE YOUR HEALTH AND COMFORT on stormy days by wearing a

WATERPROOF OILED CLOTHING

Clean - Light Durable Low in Price

TOWER CANADIAN CO LIMITED TORONTO CAN.

DOUBLE BURGLARY LAST NIGHT AT LEWISVILLE

Grace's Store and a Milk Factory Entered—Thieves Did Not Get Very Much Stuff.

MONCTON, N. B., March 24.—C. L. Grace's general store, and the Moncton Pasteurizer Milk Company's Factory at Lewisville were broken into last night and burglarized. The two buildings stand side by side and the burglary was evidently the work of some one well acquainted with the premises. In the grocery store the front door was sawed through and the belts pulled themselves liberally to goods in the thieves rifled the till taking some seven or eight dollars, and also helped themselves liberally to goods i nthe store, including boots, gloves, and other articles, quantities of goods being littered all about the floor. In the milk factory they were not so successful. After gaining an entrance by the side door which is left open at night they made an effort to enter the safe by chiselling off the lock. Evidently they did not have time to complete the operation for they left before finishing. There was a large sum of money in the safe.

RIGHT IN TH.

Wiggell—Charley isn't a bad fellow socially, but he's a dead failure in money matters. Why, I actually believe he owes everybody in town! Weggett—And you call that a dead failure? I should say that Charley is a Napoleon of finance.

PLAYS GAME OF CARDS WITH FIERCE MADMAN

Lunatic Produces Razor With Which to Cut Off Head of King.

PARIS, Mar. 23.—M. Rahen, a member of the Paris Boulevard Club, today told the story of a very disagreeable experience he had on Thursday night.

He strolled into the cardroom of his club, and found that the only occupant there was a man whom he slightly knew as a fellow-member, but whom he had not seen for some time. He casually saluted the man, who asked him if he would have a quiet game of cards. The two men sat down at a card table and began to play.

M. Rahen was soon absorbed in the game, and presently, very much to his surprise began to realize that his partner was openly cheating. Suddenly looking up, he was horrified to see the man leering at him over the top of his cards.

The look in the man's eyes and his whole demeanor at once caused M. Rahen to guess that his partner had gone mad. But he did not lose his presence of mind, and went on playing in the hope that somebody would come into the room.

The suspense lasted a quarter of an hour, during which his partner talked loudly about "cutting the king's throat" if that card were produced, and drew a razor from his pocket and placed it on the table.

Happily several people came into the room at this point. One of them went up to the madman and said: "Your highness, the carriage is below."

Without a word the madman got up and followed the doctor, for such the visitor proved to be, into the street.

It appears that the madman, until a few months ago, had been a frequenter of the club, but as he had a mania for personating royalty he was confined in a private asylum. He escaped from it on Thursday, and search was made for him in vain until it was remembered that he belonged to the club and had probably gone there.

CURING AT RATTLER'S BITE.

While crossing the arid deserts of Nevada some years ago before Milwaukee's fame had become great enough to keep him home a now permanent resident of the brewery city was bitten by a rattlesnake and gave up all hope. The guide threw him to the ground and, breaking open a cartridge, covered the wound with powder. The powder was touched off, cauterizing the wound effectively. The next morning nothing more serious than a stiff leg resulted.—Popular Mechanics.

A GREAT MAN.

Ascum—Your father was an actor, you say?

Bragley—Sure; Bragley, the tragedian, you know.

Ascum—Funny I never heard of him. He played Hamlet, I suppose?

Bragley—Sure. He originated the part.—Catholic Standard and Times.

RELIGION AND APPOINTMENTS

Government Trying to Keep It Out

Opposition Taking Dangerous Course in Parliament—Mr. Graham's Sensible Appeal

OTTAWA, Ont., March 23.—This was private members' day in the commons and was chiefly devoted to a discussion of a British Columbia bill for the booming of the Shushwap and Thompson rivers.

A return was moved for by Dr. Sproule, showing the names and salaries of employes of the commons and senate, and whether they were Protestant or Roman Catholic. He asked the same information for the employes of the printing bureau.

Mr. Fielding asked Dr. Sproule not to press the motion, as it was not desired to introduce religion into the administration of parliament.

Dr. Sproule replied that he had made the statement that there were three Roman Catholics to one Protestant employed around the House of Commons, and he was told that this was not true. Now he wanted to have his figures verified, and that was why he moved the motion. Mr. McIntyre of Perth said there were reasons why there should be in a place like Ottawa, where the two languages prevailed, a preponderance of those who spoke French and English.

Mr. Graham, Minister of Railways, said that if efficiency were to prevail in the public service the question of religion had no more to do with a man's employment than as to the boots and shoes he wore. Canada was too big a country to go and make a cry that there was a preponderance of one religion over another in any one department.

Mr. Talbot (Bellechasse) wanted the motion answered to include all departments. Dr. Sproule did not object to this.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier moved the adjournment of the debate.

R. L. Borden explained that Dr. Sproule wanted the return because his statements were contradicted, although in the main he agreed with what Mr. Graham said.

Mr. Aylesworth said that if it were put to a motion he would vote against it. He strongly objected to dividing the civil service on religious lines. Parliament should follow the mother of parliaments, who had abolished religious tests. He opposed the introducing into this country of religious feuds from three thousand miles away and which never should have been introduced here.

The debate was then adjourned and the house adjourned.

PROMINENT MILITIA OFFICERS NOW IN FREDERICTON

FREDERICTON, March 23.—Col. F. L. Lessard, Ottawa, adjutant general of the Canadian militia, accompanied by General Drury and Lt. C. C. Wadmore of Halifax, arrived in the city today, and are registered at the Queen. Tomorrow Col. Lessard, in company with the other officers, will inspect No. 3 regimental department and in the evening will be entertained by Col. Chinic and staff at the officers' mess. This is Col. Lessard's first visit to the capital.

HELD FOR EXTRADITION.

CHICAGO, Ill., Mar. 23.—Minota Zernosakow, the young Russian who was arrested in this city several days ago, was today committed to jail by United States Commissioner Foot to be held for extradition to Russia. The committal followed the filing of information by Baron Schlippenbach, Russian consul in Chicago, who says that the man is wanted in Vilna, Russia, in connection with the murders of four Jewish women.

Baron Schlippenbach declared further Zernosskow was a soldier and that with four other soldiers he stopped to spend the night in a house where the four women lived. During the night they strangled the women and stole their jewelry. Four of the men were captured, but Zernosakow made his way to this country.

CHICAGO, Ill., Mar. 23—An animal, declared by several persons to be a gray timber wolf, was shot near North Kedsac, and Deven Avenues tonight by Roy Bairstow, 19 years old. The animal was killed while traversing a residence quarter.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Mar. 23—John Ware Whiston, one of the old-time actor managers, died today at the age of 81 years. He was one of the first variety performers in America and by some was called the father of vaudeville. He was widely known as the original facial caricaturist and was called the man of many faces. For many years he was a manager of several of the Jacob's Theatres.

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Mar. 23—The boiler of a Delaware and Hudson freight locomotive was blown out while the engine was taking water at Schenevus about midnight last night and thrown about 400 feet. Engineer Hendricksen and Brakeman A. Korage were instantly killed and Fireman Smith was so badly injured that he died today.

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