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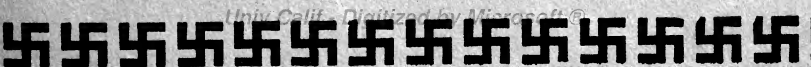
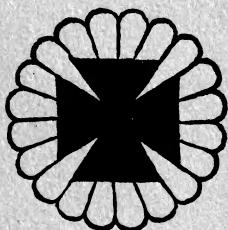


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# Anti-Japanese War Scare Stories

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SIDNEY L. GULICK





**Anti-Japanese  
War-scare Stories**





# Anti-Japanese War-scare Stories

BY  
SIDNEY L. GULICK

1860-



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## FOREWORD

IN speaking widely over the country I constantly meet open-minded men and women who desire to know the real facts with regard to American-Japanese relations. They have heard so many alarming statements, made apparently on the best of authority, that they have developed serious doubts of Japan's character and especially of her attitude toward, and purposes regarding the United States.

As I have answered question after question and have presented unimpeachable facts, their minds have become profoundly relieved and they have urged me to write down my statements, and the refutations of the stories which had so distorted their opinions.

This repeated request I have tried to meet in the following pages. I have tried to present the material as though I were talking to a personal friend. If in looking it over the reader finds assertions that do not accord with what he believes to be the facts, I will consider it a personal favor if he will kindly

J. D. Phelan estate, 1932

write me, giving his understanding of the case and the evidence supporting his viewpoint. What we all wish is the truth and nothing but the truth; the facts and all the facts.

It may not be amiss to say in the standard phrase, that "I hold no brief for Japan." I do not maintain that her international policies and procedures have been immaculate. I do not hold that her treatment of China has been above criticism.

But I do contend that nothing that Japan has done or failed to do justifies Americans in circulating falsehoods about her plans, purposes, character and doings. We must be true and fair in our thinking about her, and this for our own sakes, no less than for hers. We cannot expect her to be friendly toward us and fair in her plans and preparations for the future, if our people are fed by a continuous stream of falsehood in regard to her and are made to distrust her every move and discount her every word.

It is to be hoped that the period of active anti-Japanese propaganda has ceased. The poison of the past, however, still remains in our system. It is to be hoped that this brief statement concerning widely circulated false-

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hoods may serve as an antidote for the poison. It may be well to add that no one is responsible for anything in this pamphlet save myself.

SIDNEY L. GULICK.

New York, Nov. 15, 1917.



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# ANTI-JAPANESE WAR-SCARE STORIES

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## VISCOUNT ISHII AND HIS MESSAGE IN AMERICA

THE coming to the United States of the Japanese War Mission headed by Viscount Ishii has proved a notable event in the history of the relations of America and Japan. From the time of their landing in San Francisco (August 12, 1917) until the culmination of their work at the memorable dinner given by Mayor Mitchell in New York City, September 29th, the Mission has received a steady stream of welcome in the cities visited. The Viscount made a memorable series of addresses. His utterances were notable for their form as well as for their noble sentiments. The addresses of members of the War Missions from Europe were not more notable and worthy of wide hearing than have been those made by members of the War Mission from Japan.

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Among the matters which the Viscount repeatedly emphasized was the disastrous consequences of the insidious German campaign of misstatement and insinuation carried on for ten years to estrange the feelings of America and Japan.

Not only in this country but before he left Japan the Viscount often referred to the German propaganda.

“Notwithstanding the indefatigable efforts of Germans to bring about discord between Japan and the United States the two countries are now practically allied, making common front against Germany.”

These words, spoken at his farewell dinner in Tokyo, have found frequent reiteration in his addresses in America. Both in the House and in the Senate, as reported by the press, he referred to this matter.

“He warned the House to be on guard against the insidious treachery ‘that has found hiding-place in our midst and which for the last ten years has sown seeds of discord between us.’ ”

Senator Saulsbury, introducing the Viscount in the Senate, said: “We know how industriously insidious attempts have been made by the Prussian masters of the German

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people to bring about distrust and hatred in the world. The yellow peril was made in Germany." The Viscount in his addresses referred incidentally to the "hired slanderer" and "the criminal plotter" who seek to embroil international relations.

On the occasion of the welcome given by the National Press Club at Washington (September 22) the Viscount made the following statements, as reported in the press:

"I am quite confident that some day the eyes of all men who honestly endeavor to present the truth, will be opened and that the truth about Japan and about America will be revealed.

"For more than ten years a propaganda has been carried on in this country, in Japan, and, in fact, throughout the world, for the one and sole purpose of keeping the nations of the Far East and the Far West as far apart as possible; to break up existing treaties and understanding; to create distrust, suspicion, and unkindly feeling between neighbors in the east and in the west, and all in order that Germany might secure advantage in the confusion.

"The world was flooded with tales of Japan's military aspirations and Japan's du-

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plicity. Have these been borne out by history? Even now the German publicity agent whispers first in your ear and then in mine. To the accompaniment of appeals to the human heart, he tells to me stories of your duplicity and to you of mine.

“These agents have been supplied with unlimited resources. No wonder we have been deceived. A short time ago, a bad blunder gave us a clue. The Zimmermann note to Mexico involving Japan, was a blunder. It made such a noise that we were disturbed in our slumbers and so were you. This gave a check for a time, but since then the agents have been hard at work.

“Let me tell you a piece of secret history. When it became known to us that the American and British Governments were alike desirous of entering into a general treaty of arbitration, but that they found the making of such a treaty was precluded by the terms of the British alliance with Japan, as they then stood, it was not with the consent of Japan, but it was because of Japan's spontaneous offer, that the stipulations of the alliance were revised (July 13, 1911) so that no obstacle might be put in the way of the proposed treaty. As you know, Article four of

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the new Anglo-Japanese treaty, now in effect, excluded the United States from its operation. This is a true account of the genesis of that clause. It was Japan's own idea—her own contribution to the cause of universal peace.

“Now, if Japan had the remotest intention of appealing to arms against America, how could she thus voluntarily have renounced the all-important coöperation of Great Britain? It would have been wildly quixotic.

“There is, one may surely be safe in saying, only one way to interpret this attitude of Japan. It is a most signal proof—if, indeed, any proof is needed—that to the Japanese Government and nation anything like armed conflict with America is simply unthinkable.”

In New York Viscount Ishii returned to the matter of German anti-Japanese campaign in the address given at the welcome dinner of the Japan Society.

“The strange thing about all this muddle of misunderstanding in the past years is that we have discovered a common characteristic in both the Japanese and Americans. We have both been too confiding, and at the same time too suspicious and sensitive. We have

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harbored the German and we have received him as a mutual friend. His marvelous self-centered and ordered existence, his system, his organization, and his all-pervading self-assertion, coupled with the insistence of the greatness of his fatherland, have appealed to us until, in a state of hypnotic sleep, we have allowed him to bring us almost to the verge of mutual destruction.

“The agent of Germany in this country and in ours has had as his one purpose the feeding of our passions, our prejudices and our distrust on a specially prepared German concoction until, drugged and inflamed, we might have taken the irrevocable step over the edge, and at his leisure the vulture might have fattened upon our remains.

“This is not a picture overdrawn. It is true.”

At the tomb of Washington, Viscount Ishii made a statement in his address which should be known by every American who wishes to understand the attitude of Japan toward America.

“Washington was an American, but America, great as she is, powerful as she is, can lay no exclusive claim to this immortal name. Washington is now a citizen of the world,

to-day he belongs to all mankind. Japan claims interest in this holy circle. She yields to none in reverence and respect, nor is there any gulf between the ancient East and the new-born West too deep and wide for the hearts and the understanding of her people to cross."

These are words of sober earnestness and fact. For no people outside of America has so completely and enthusiastically adopted for reverence and veneration the name of Washington—and I may add of Lincoln also—as has Japan. In tens of thousands of her schools the stories of their lives are admirably instilled into the minds of the youth. Their portraits hang in thousands of Japanese schools. Japan has literally adopted our Washington and our Lincoln into the Pantheon of her heroes.

These utterances of the Viscount and what they reveal should be widely proclaimed among our people.

## THE ANTI-JAPANESE CAMPAIGN IN AMERICA

THE writer does not believe that German intrigue and German gold are the exclusive cause of the anti-Japanese campaign in America. It seems to him, as the result of much study of this matter, that other causes have also been at work.

First of all there has been a real problem on the Pacific coast. There have been real conflicts of interest and real economic struggle. There has been real friction between American and Japanese laborers and between American employers and Japanese labor. Certain large interests also have had a part in this matter. They have desired the expenditure of United States army and navy appropriations on the Pacific coast. One of its advocates admitted to a friend of mine, in 1910, that there was no real danger to the Pacific coast from Japan, but it was important to insist that there was, because the expenditure of tens of millions of United States funds for fortifications, barracks, docks and the commissary supplies for large



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naval and military bases would bring the Pacific coast great and permanent prosperity.

Furthermore, it has been notable, that for a dozen years whenever bills have been before Congress calling for substantial increase in the navy, a flood of scare stories has gone out over the country telling of the dangers we face and the need of more battleships. In these scare stories, Japan figured prominently. Honorable R. P. Hobson was an ardent advocate of a larger navy, basing his arguments to no small degree on the menace of Japan. He repeatedly prophesied most definitely on the date of Japan's impending attack—namely, before the completion of the Panama Canal.

And finally, there is the natural human interest of Americans, as indeed of any people, in startling stories of danger and of imminent war. The press too often readily accepts sensational "news" without trying to find out whether or not the "facts" alleged are really true. We all read with avidity "news" sensationally and plausibly written with startling headlines, especially when it is assigned to a "responsible source," whose name, of course, "cannot be given."

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Now, I do not for a moment believe that the press or the men referred to in general in the above statements had any interest whatsoever in the German propoganda, or received any German gold for what they did. And yet it is not difficult to see how German influence could utilize the above agencies for pushing forward its own ends.

In the statements given in the following pages I shall not attempt to estimate the sources for the various stories. This, indeed, would probably be impossible save, perhaps, in a few instances. I content myself with a brief recital of those particular anti-Japanese stories that I had had occasion and opportunity to investigate and the results of that investigation.

### THE HEARST YELLOW-PERIL HOAX

IN October, 1915, The San Francisco *Examiner* published in two successive Sunday editions on a double page, the alleged translation of a Japanese book. The startling headlines read:

“Japan’s Plans to Invade and Conquer the

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United States Revealed by Its Own Bernhardt."

Other prominent titles read as follows:

"The First Presentation to the American Public of a Highly Significant Book (the Most Popular in Japan and Issued by Its Powerful and Official National Defense Association), Which Tells Why the Japanese are Determined to Declare War upon Us and How They Expect to Win. This First Installment Deals with Japan's Opinion of Our Men and Women, Our Morals and Our 'Contemptible Army and Navy'."

"How Japan is Inflaming Its People Against the United States and the First Hint of Its War Plans."

The editorial introduction states that the book was "not written by one writer but by a very powerful society in Japan known as the National Defense Association, and that naval officers, army officers, cabinet and government officers are members of this society; that its president is now Count Okuma, the Premier of Japan and its last president was ex-Premier Count Yamamoto." The editorial also states that "more than a million copies had been sold." The translation is "strictly literal" by "the well-known

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American writer, Lawrence Mott, in collaboration with Mr. Hain Jon Kia, a distinguished Chinese writer and scholar."

"In view of General Bernhardi's similar book and its sequel, this paper believes that it is performing a real service to its readers by making them acquainted with the ideas and plans of this Japanese Bernhardi, who is, as Mr. Mott says, 'a composite of the most influential leaders of all Japan'."

A facsimile of the title page of the Japanese book is given, and also of a "popular picture of Japan's Invading Army Landing at San Francisco."

The following week in addition to the general headlines and introduction repeated from the previous week, a large amount of freshly invented "translation" is given and also "The Humiliating Terms of Peace which Japan Expects to Force upon a Beaten United States." Among these alleged terms are the surrender to Japan of the Philippine and Hawaiian Islands; permission of free Japanese immigration; permission for free marriage of Japanese men to American women; Japanese rights in American schools; rights of naturalization after three years; full rights of land ownership; preference for

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Japanese in educational positions; payment of one-half of Japan's war expenses; the use by Japan, free of charge, of all dry docks and harbors; and also specifications as to taxes and import duties.

Investigation showed that these two issues were reproduced in many Hearst and related papers in many parts of America. They were read with avidity and aroused intense indignation, at least in California, against Japan and the Japanese.

### *What now are the facts?*

1. The title page of the book reproduced in facsimile by the *Examiner* has, in addition to the main title "Nichi-Bei Kai-Sen" (Japan-America Open-War), the added title, "Yume Monogatari" (Dream Story). The book itself professes, therefore, on its front page to be a romance! No Japanese would be for a moment misled as to the nature of the contents.

2. Published in 1913, by 1915 the first edition of 2000 was not sold out!

3. The author is anonymous. It is not the work of Count Okuma or of any other important man or group of men.

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4. There is in Japan no "National Defense Association." There is, of course, an "Imperial Defense Commission" composed of high officials of the army and navy appointed by the regular authorities, but no "Association" as asserted by the translator.

5. The allegation that Count Okuma is its president is of course pure fabrication.

6. The alleged translation is almost wholly barefaced invention of the "translator."

7. The "Humiliating Terms of Peace" are the imaginings of the translator and not the work of the anonymous author!

## MAGDALENA BAY STORIES

FOR many years, stories have been periodically circulated to the effect that the Japanese Government was negotiating with Mexico for a naval base in Lower California. The place chosen by the myth-makers for such a base was Magdalena Bay.

President David Starr Jordan has repeatedly exposed the folly of the proposal. A recent renewal of the story led a friend to

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write President Jordan about the matter to which the following reply was made:

May 2, 1917.

DEAR SIR:

"I have had no particular information from Magdalena Bay within the last four years. It is a remarkably fine harbor but situated in a rainless district and the only water near the little village is from a spring that bubbles up on the edge of the sea on one of the islands near by.

"There was once a colony composed of New England people who collected from the rocks the lichen called orchil which made a yellowish dye which was called cudbear and which disappeared from the market when the German aniline dyes came in. The village was then virtually abandoned.

"Some years ago my good friend Aurelio Sandoval, of Los Angeles, established a cannery for crabs and turtles (which are very abundant in the bay) there. He had about six Japanese, the foreman having been drawn from the Japanese sardine cannery at Sakai near Osaka. This cannery failed because of the high tariff on tin. The other workmen were crab-catchers and were picked up in Mexico; with them were about a half dozen Chinese and about 100 Mexicans; these latter did not prove very satisfactory workmen and in 1913 or '14, Mr. Sandoval gave up the enterprise.

"The old stories of Magdalena Bay were purely lies; I have no doubt the new ones are also. I will, however, write to Mr. Sandoval.

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"The distinguished general, self-appointed, Homer Lea, used occasionally to drill Chinese boys about Los Angeles with broom-sticks; maybe the Japanese cannery men amuse themselves in similar methods. Knowing that there were only six Japanese at the time when the Hearst journals insisted that there were 60,000 at Magdalena Bay, I am not prepared to place any limits on the capacity for lying which may be exhibited along this coast."

### A NEW MAGDALENA BAY STORY

April 21, 1917, members of Congress received a communication urging action on a certain bill then pending. It read as follows:

"From: Dr. A. L. Boyce, 19 West 44th Street, New York City.

"To: Members of the 65th Congress, the Capitol, Washington, D. C.

"Subject: Fish, Broomsticks and Rifles.

"I lunched last week with a shipbuilder who had just returned from a trip to the Pacific Coast.

"This shipbuilder said, 'I saw thousands of Japanese fishing all the morning at Magdalena Bay, Mexico, and drilling all the afternoon, and such wonderful drilling you never saw in all your life—perfect—and Dr. Boyce, they had modern rifles.'

"This shipbuilder, whose name and address will be furnished on request is now drilling with the civilian rookies on Governor's Island, New York City, with a wooden gun.



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"On April 12th, I bought 500 more broomsticks in order that none of our students need drill without something in his hand, but as 1500 men came to drill on April 14th, we are but little better off and will have to buy 500 more broomsticks unless we get the use of some Kregs that are stored on the Island.

"In view of all this how can anyone fail to realize the importance of Congress passing the Chamberlain Bill S. I. without emasculation."

On April 22nd I received a letter from Hon. J. L. Slayden asking me to investigate this statement about "thousands of Japanese fishing all the morning and drilling all the afternoon," and to see the "shipbuilder."

I did so, and had a personal conversation with him. It turned out that he was not a "shipbuilder" but the president of the "Vent-Lite Shade Adjuster Co." When I talked with him he told in detail of his visit to Lower California with a view to possibilities of shipbuilding. Knowing of my proposed call and the purpose of it he had prepared a statement in the shape of a letter to Dr. Boyce, a copy of which he gave me and which I here reproduce, omitting the first paragraph which merely tells of his journey.

"One evening about sunset we observed at some little distance a large number of men in the act of

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drilling. This being unusual, we made inquiry of a Mexican who informed us that the men we observed, some 4,000 in number, were 'Los Japaneso.' The drilling as observed by us and especially by myself, possessing as I do much military drilling experience, was as good as any that I have ever witnessed. I was informed that they carried Cragjorsin and other rifles. Further interested inquiry revealed the fact that these men fished part of the day and drilled the remainder, particularly in the late afternoon. The men were not uniformed but were armed.

"Nothing of any importance was placed on this at first; but, being surprised at this information I addressed our informant in Spanish, which language I speak fluently; but he suddenly became silent and the coin I offered him was of no avail. Indeed, no persuasion would cause him to speak further. On the contrary, much to our surprise he suddenly disappeared along the trail which we were to take on our return and we could procure no further information from anyone whom we after encountered. Especially reluctant was our guide whom we engaged at La Paz. Incidentally, I might state that our visit was far from welcome, especially by the Mexicans.

"This information is in line with that which I gave you in person and if I can be of any service to you or the gentlemen of Congress, I will be glad to serve you, busy as I am, for patriotic reason, irrespective of any inconvenience that it might cause me."

On reading the statement I inquired how far away were the troops which he had seen.

"About one-eighth of a mile," he replied.

"Could you recognize the faces as Japanese?"

"Oh, no."

"Did they wear uniforms?"

"No. They had on Mexican baggy trousers and big sombreros."

"Then your only evidence that they were Japanese was that single statement of the informant."

"Yes; but they drilled so perfectly that they could not be Mexicans."

"Might not the explanation of that be that a few Japanese officers were drilling them?"

"I had not thought of that," he replied.

After some desultory conversation I inquired whether there were many Japanese fishermen along the coast.

"Yes, lots of them."

"About how many do you suppose?"

"O, I could not say."

"Well, make a guess; how many do you think you saw—5000?"

"Oh, no, not nearly so many."

"Well, 500?"

"No, not so many as that."

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“One hundred?”

“Yes, more than that; perhaps 200.”

The upshot of that interview satisfied me that he had no real evidence of “Japanese troops” in Mexico.

I can supply the name of the alleged “ship-builder” if needful. I do not think he had any intention of deceiving, or any ulterior or malicious purpose in his statements.

### THE TURTLE BAY STORY

WHEN the Japanese navy was chasing German war-ships out of the Pacific Ocean in 1914-15, they searched the coasts of Lower California. In January, 1915, the *Asama Kan* entered Turtle Bay and grounded in the mud. In due time it secured help from other Japanese vessels, landed its guns and ammunition on the shore—a process that required several weeks. In the midst of it an “enterprising newspaperman” wrote up a “fine story”—what he saw with his own eyes, absolutely true as to facts and absolutely false as to interpretation, and it got into all the papers. The denial from

Washington a few days later received scant attention. The reporter "put it over" the American people, earned his money, and international relations were further embittered.

But "fine stories" do not easily die, even though denounced by our Government. In July, 1916, Mr. Henschen in an article in the *Forum*, filled with bitter denunciations of and insinuations about Japan, made the following statement: "A high United States officer told me 'that we know that the Japanese incident at Turtle Bay was not an accident; we have reason to believe that they ran the war-ship aground so as to give them an excuse to make observations and to prepare Turtle Bay as a landing place.'"

It would be interesting to know who that "High United States officer" was.

## JAPANESE TROOPS IN MEXICO

SINCE the time of our "peaceful war with Mexico," many stories have been circulated about Japanese aid for Mexico, Japanese "alliance" with Mexico and "Japanese troops in Mexico."

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On January 30, 1916, the *Boston Sunday Globe* stated that there were "90,000 Japanese in Hawaii and 30,000 in Mexico organized and ready to fight at a moment's notice."

A few weeks later, I saw the statement on "a reliable authority" that there were 150,000 veteran Japanese troops in Mexico. In the June issue of the *Century Magazine*, Mr. Frank B. Vrooman had a striking article entitled "Our Next Step." He there says "I am looking for a coalition between Germany and Japan after the war is over—I am not sure that it will wait till peace is signed—to break the Monroe Doctrine once for all.

"Another interesting circumstance was the reported discovery, among some captured papers of Villa, of a treaty with Japan giving this gentleman a million dollars for the right to land an army in the United States.

"I have been told by an officer of the staff of the War College at Washington that there are 400,000 Japanese soldiers in Mexico."

The July issue of the *Forum* contained the rabid anti-Japanese article by Sigmund Henschen, already referred to. He there states that "the latest estimate of our military authorities show one quarter of a million Japs in Mexico."

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In view of these very specific figures given on "high authority," I wrote to the Secretary of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America located at Washington, asking him to make inquiries at the Department of State and the War College. After his investigations he wrote me July 6, 1916, from which I quote the following sentences:

"At the Japanese Embassy I secured from the Chancellor a statement from an official report of Japan issued for June, 1915, of Japanese in various countries in the world. According to this statement there were in June, 1915, in Mexico 2572 *Japanese males* and 165 *females*, making a total of 2737 in all. He said of course there were no *Japanese soldiers as such in Mexico. There might be Japanese laborers who had enlisted in the Mexican army for the income*, and some of these perhaps may have been advanced to subordinate official positions. Beyond that he did not think that there was any truth in the statement of Mr. Vrooman.

"I then went to the *War College* and saw the *particular officer* whose duty it is to ascertain everything appertaining to Mexico and the Mexicans, Japan and the Japanese, and he *simply scouted the idea that there were 400,000 Japanese soldiers in Mexico.* He did not believe that there were as many as 4000, and when I told him of the number reported to me from the Japanese Embassy of all who were in Mexico, he said he did not think there are as many as that in Mexico now, because some

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of the Japanese had come out of the country since the outbreak of hostilities. *Neither he nor other officer of the College had any idea as to who had made such a statement to Mr. Vrooman.* They did not wish to be quoted, but they said I could say that the *War College had absolutely no authority for any such statement.*"

It may not be amiss to note that all these stories about masses of Japanese troops in Mexico have ceased to circulate since January, 1917. Had there been truth in them, the Japanese soldiers would of course still be in Mexico and we could not fail to hear about them.

That an able and shrewd man like Mr. Vrooman could really believe that Japan made a treaty with Villa and agreed to pay him a million dollars for the right to land Japanese troops in Lower California is to me beyond belief. Instead of describing the report as an "interesting circumstance" should he not have described it as a patent falsehood floated by sinister and malicious interests?



## JAPANESE TROOPS IN THE HAWAIIAN ISLANDS

THIS is a theme that American jingoes frequently emphasize. One statement I have already quoted from the *Boston Globe*.

An ex-cavalry officer (whose name I can give) of the United States Army who had spent some years in the Philippines told me in a personal conversation in December, 1915, that there were 120,000 Japanese old soldiers in Hawaii, and that they had their arms in their homes and were ready for an uprising at a moment's notice. Fortunately I was able to report to him the result of my personal investigations at fifteen plantations—all the principal ones—on the three important islands of Hawaii only nine months previously. Of the 89,715 Japanese population (December, 1914), Japanese males numbered 54,783 and females 24,891; these figures include children, of whom there are more than 20,000 boys and girls.

At the plantations one of my standard questions put to the managers was in regard to the story about Japanese soldiers

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and their concealed arms. Everyone without exception insisted that the story was without foundation. With many managers I went into the houses of Japanese workers—many of whom were absent at their work. Managers go freely at any time into the houses of the workers and know very completely what is in them. No military weapons of any kind have been found. The assertion that Japanese soldiers smuggle in their rifles by the thousands, with the necessary ammunition, is one which I should think the custom house officials would keenly resent. Those who circulate these stories seem to assume that all the 90,000 Japanese in Hawaii are men, whereas about 40,000 of them are women and children.

### JAPANESE TROOPS IN THE PHILIPPINES

THE ex-cavalry officer referred to above also told me that there were 200,000 Japanese in the Philippines appearing, of course, as laborers, tradesfolk, domestics, etc., of whom 150,000 were veteran troops. He rejected

my doubt saying that he had lived there and knew what he was talking about.

I wrote, however, to the Immigration Bureau at Washington, who referred me to the Department of War. From them the reply came that the first census, taken in 1903, showed that the total number of Japanese then in the Philippine Islands was less than a trifle over 900 and that the arrivals and departures in the interval made the present population (1915) 7651, not including children born in the Philippines.

How an American army officer can make such reckless statements, bound to rouse needless suspicion and unjustifiable enmities on the part of those who have no means of correcting false statements, passes my understanding.

## JAPANESE SPIES

STORIES of Japanese spies have been investigated and have also been found to be bottomless. An officer in one of our important churches in the Middle West assured me with manifest indignation that Japanese had purchased a lot near the Du Pont Pow-

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der Works at Wilmington, Del., in order to be able to blow them up in case of conflict between America and Japan.

At the close of that very meeting a newspaper reporter asked permission to say a word. He stated that an important news corporation in New York had become so interested in the story that it had sent a lawyer to Wilmington to investigate the facts. He found no evidence whatever of any Japanese-owned lot in the entire region.

I have no doubt that there are Japanese "secret service" men in America keeping watch of all that we are doing and informing their government. But does not the government of every other important country in the world do the same?

But that every Japanese who takes photographs or goes fishing or boating is to be suspected as a spy is too ridiculous for any sober man to accept; yet the daily papers frequently chronicle a Japanese who is found to be taking photographs on the Hudson river, or taking soundings of San Francisco Bay or Monterey Bay! Do our newspaper men not know that all our bays and rivers are charted and sounded and the records published and are for sale? Japanese spies are not so fool-

ish as some of our newspaper men apparently believe and would make us believe.

## AMERICAN SPIES IN JAPAN

HAS it ever occurred to critics of Japan's spy system that America sends spies to Japan? The following paragraphs are taken from the article by Sigmund Henschen already quoted above. He, of course, does not intend to disclose any American secrets, and we have already noted that his statements are not absolutely reliable. There is, however, no reason to question the accuracy of his statement here in regard to an American spy in Japan. But one cannot help wondering what Japanese think of American spies:

"An American, whose name for obvious reasons must be withheld, did secret service work for us in Japan. He is personally known to the writer. He has a scar of a bullet on his forearm; he got it for going too close to the fortifications in the harbor of Nagasaki, preferring the wound to a term in jail."

## A JAPANESE SPY IN MANILA

MR. HENSCHEN also discloses a story not altogether creditable to America in the case of a Japanese who offered a bribe to an American sergeant for the plans of Corregidor Fortress. "The sergeant delivered a false set of plans and asked for \$50,000. . . . They haggled over the price. . . . He placed the Japanese under arrest. . . . The Jap had the false plans, but ultimately the Jap had to be released because no money had changed hands."

## JAPAN'S RELATIONS WITH MEXICO

AN item frequently stressed by anti-Japanese agitators has been the effort of Mexico to secure Japanese friendship to aid her in her opposition to America.

"It must not be forgotten," says Sigmund Henschen, "that Felix Diaz was sent on a special mission to Japan and that just recently

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Carranza sent one of his high officials on a similar visit."

Such writers, of course, find it convenient not to state that Japan has systematically received with significant coolness the advances of Mexico. Did these writers ever hear that the Japanese Government went so far as to refuse official reception to Felix Diaz?

The Mexican Embassy that was on its way to Japan was actually stopped at Vancouver by the cablegram (Feb., 1913), which announced Japan's decision not to receive the Embassy. What a rebuff and affront!

And have these hysterical Japanophobists ever heard that Japan applies to Japanese emigrants to Mexico the terms of the "Gentlemen's Agreement" with America? This act of self-restraint is due to Japan's desire to maintain friendly relations with America.

## ALLEGED JAPANESE PLANS TO SEIZE THE PHILIPPINES

THIS is the theme that delights the jingoes. They see in Japanese papers, in Japanese naval maneuvers, in Japanese diplomacy, evidences of secret plans and astute policies for the annexation of those islands.

A particularly acute case of Japanophobia developed in 1913 when California passed her anti-alien land law. While Count Okuma was assuring bellicose Japanese that there was only one possible way of settling the American-Japanese question, namely by appealing to the Christians of America to apply to this problem the principles and the spirit of Jesus Christ, not only American papers but military and naval officers in America and in the Philippines, were almost hysterical over the dangers of the situation and our unpreparedness to meet it with adequate military and naval forces.

That this statement is not extreme let me quote from the report of a public hearing given by the House Committee on Naval Affairs, December 15, 1916:



"I am not suffering from any vision," declared Captain Hobson before the House Committee on Naval Affairs. "In May, 1913, and some weeks afterwards, our troops in Corregidor Island were busy by day and night with their guns. The harbors were blockaded with mines and our troops were sent out. The Government itself was ready to go to the Pacific coast. The Secretary of the Navy is present. I will ask him. In case it is not true, he can deny it."

No denial was made and the jingoes of the country were satisfied that America just barely escaped war with Japan.

Mr. Henschen, whom I judge to have been a military officer at that time in the Philippines, has described the situation so graphically that I reproduce it in part.

"There came a cipher message to General Bell. There came also our mobilization on Corregidor Island.

"It was on May 20, 1913, that a United States Officer's command in an outlying district received an order to report at once to Manila. The order was from General Bell. That night the same order was received in every outlying post of the Philippine Islands. The mobilization of our troops in Manila

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began. Speed was the command; forced marches were necessary. The command of one officer covered fifty miles in forty-eight hours. Arriving at Manila they found a strict censorship had been put on the cables. They learned their orders. All the American forces were to be concentrated on Corregidor Island. They were to prepare to combat a Japanese landing, the object of which was Manila. They were to hold out till the fleet came. If the Japanese landed at any other place it was a foregone conclusion that they would overrun the islands until they reached Manila. In Manila everything but guns, ammunition and food was abandoned. Infantry and light artillery were transported to Corregidor. The cavalry was, too; but its horses were left behind. All the ammunition that could be gathered up around the islands was brought to the fortress. (Full details follow of forces and position given.)

“Day by day messages from the War Department became more alarming; day by day, to prevent a panic, the people were told it was only a maneuver; day by day for two months an enemy’s fleet was expected, but it did not come. What happened?”

Mr. Henschen goes on to state that Presi-

dent Wilson, in compensation for securing from Congress the repeal of the Panama Canal Toll Act, got the British Government to use its influence with Japan and call her off! The agent in the case he states was Sir William Terrill!

But what really happened to cause that mobilization in Corregidor, stated so emphatically by Capt. Hobson and so graphically described by Mr. Henschen? I have repeatedly sought an adequate answer.

The captain of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's vessel that took Dr. Shailer Mathews and myself to Japan in January, 1915, told us with utmost explicitness and wrath what he knew: "The Japanese actually landed 10,000 troops not far from Manila and were on the point of attacking the city, when for some unexplained reason they withdrew!"

Dr. Mathews and I both protested that such a story was incredible. Had that actually taken place, an American-Japanese war would have been on. Moreover, had that taken place, all the world would have heard about it. It could not happen, we insisted, without some word about it getting into the papers.

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He then gave us in great detail a statement to the effect that Governor Forbes and General Bell after vainly trying to persuade the editors of the two local papers, who had secured the news, to suppress it, invoked the aid of a particularly influential citizen of Manila. This citizen was a special friend to the captain and later told him all the details. By his aid the Governor actually succeeded in stopping the publication of the news and thus in keeping the world from knowing what Japan had done! We protested our incredulity in vain. The captain stuck to his guns and told us several more equally incredible statements about Japan's outrageous behavior.

For several months thereafter I inquired of men hailing from Manila, but have found no corroboration for the captain's story.

But what was it that really happened to cause the hysteria in Washington and Manila? What occasioned the sending of that cipher message? and what caused the mobilization in Corregidor? I have heard of no adequate statement either from Washington or from the Government at Manila.

In May, 1917, however, on a train from St. Louis to New York I fell into conver-

sation with an artillery officer who had recently returned from the Philippines. He gave me what sounds like a plausible solution.

The cipher cable referred to, he said, told of a Japanese naval fleet headed toward the Philippines! It turned out that the ships were merchantmen!

Another explanation given me a little later by a civilian who had been long in Manila was that a cipher message from Washington had not been correctly decoded and that that was why General Bell mobilized the forces so precipitately.

I do not profess to have solved this question. But from the evidence thus far received I am not ready to believe that the Japanese landed troops on the islands, nor that a fleet of Japanese battleships was headed for the Philippines with plans of attack, nor that Japan had at that time any belligerent plans that would justify the scare and the mobilization of American forces in Manila.

AN ANTI-JAPANESE HYMN OF  
HATE

As a part of its anti-Japanese campaign, the Hearst papers published in the summer of 1916, the music and words of a song by Edith Maida Lessing, entitled "Lookout! California Beware!" The character of the words justifies the comparison of the song to the famous or infamous German "Hymn of Hate" against England by Ernst Lisauer.

To set off the "hymn" in striking form a full page five colored cartoon was appended, yellow, black, green, purple and white depicting Japan with green eyes and most revolting face stretching her long hands with pointed finger-nails, across the Pacific to seize Lower California, her battle-fleet being seen on the green of the ocean.

The cartoon as well as the song is copyrighted. Neither may, therefore, be reproduced. The chorus of the "Hymn of Hate," however, and a few selected lines from the successive stanzas will give a fair idea of the spirit and of the choice language used.

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### *Chorus.*

“They lurk upon thy shores, California!  
They watch behind thy doors, California!  
They’re a hundred thousand strong,  
And they won’t be hiding long;  
There’s nothing that the dastards would not dare!  
They are soldiers to a man,  
With the schemes of old JAPAN!  
Lookout; California! Beware!

“But something’s going to happen  
That will shake things up, perhaps,  
If we don’t start to clean out the JAPS!

“There’s a murmur that affirms  
We’re brothers to the worms,  
That serve us in a meek and lowly manner;  
But while we watch and wait,  
They’re inside the Golden Gate!

“They’ve battleships, they say,  
On Magdalena Bay!  
Uncle Sam, won’t you listen when we warn you?

“And they’re waiting just to steal our California!  
So just keep your eye on TOGO  
With his pocket full of maps,  
For we’ve found out we can’t trust the JAPS!

## INSULTING CARTOONS

THE Hearst papers have published a number of insulting cartoons which could not fail to instill poison into the minds of all unguarded readers—for a cartoon discloses at a glance more contempt and animosity than can be expressed in many words.

The New York *Evening Journal*, for instance, on April 26, 1916, published a large realistic cartoon showing the Japanese battle-fleet of fourteen distinguishable vessels in full steam across the Pacific with the head and shoulders of a giant Japanese soldier back of the fleet viciously grinning. Beneath the cartoon in large type are the words:

“With Japan it is not ‘by and by,’ or ‘some day,’ or ‘if we are attacked we shall see about it.’

“Japan is ready NOW. Japan has two millions of men trained to fight now, and weapons with which they can arm at an hour’s notice.

“When the eye of intelligence looks from America westward across the Pacific, this picture is seen—a great fleet, and beyond it



the face of Japan and a great army,  
**READY.**

“What WE have THEY want.”

Other cartoons of similar nature and spirit have appeared at various times in the past three years.

It should perhaps be added that since April, 1917, the Hearst papers have apparently stopped their anti-Japanese campaign.

### SOME SAMPLES OF ANTI- JAPANESE EDITORIALS

THE anti-Japanese jingo press of America has not only sedulously circulated sensational stories about Japan but has from time to time indulged in editorial attacks upon Japan.

The New York *American*, for instance, on April 10, 1916, devotes an entire page in large type to a discussion of the Yellow Peril.

**“THE YELLOW PERIL CANNOT BE AVOIDED by SIMPLY SHUTTING OUR EYES TO IT.”**

“We Americans are a gullible people . . .

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"All Asiatics are unmoral and many Asiatics are shrewd.

"The Japanese are both absolutely unmoral and extraordinarily shrewd.

"The only question which ever occurs to the Japanese mind, when considering any action is the question as to whether or not that action is expedient.

"The Japanese mind is wholly unable to understand, for instance, the indignation felt by Americans against the wrongs and indignities put upon Belgium by Germans and upon Greece by the Allies.

". . . the Yellow Peril is THE ONE VAST MENACE WHICH THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR US.

"JAPAN STEADILY PURSUES HER PREPARATIONS FOR WAR UPON US.

"OUR WEAKNESS AND OUR RICHES TEMPT JAPAN'S CUPIDITY AND SELF-CONCEIT—THE TWO POWERFUL MAIN SPRINGS OF ALL JAPANESE ACTION."

One can hardly avoid the wonder as to what may be the motives of the writer of the above editorial.

## GARBLED QUOTATIONS FROM THE JAPANESE PRESS

IN the autumn and winter of 1915-16, many syndicate articles on the Japanese menace were published. Among the writers whose productions had wide circulation was Mr. George Bronson Rea, editor of the *Far Eastern Review* (Shanghai, China). These articles were collected and issued as a pamphlet entitled "*Japan's Place in the Sun—The Menace to America*. Compiled from authoritative Japanese sources." The front page was made glaringly startling by an enormous red sun with vivid red rays streaming across the page.

When I went to Philadelphia in January, 1916, I was repeatedly questioned by men of standing in regard to the reliability of the articles. I was told that unless some effective reply was made to Mr. Rea, American opinion in regard to Japan's international policies would be seriously affected.

On looking the articles over, I found them scholarly in form, replete with damaging quotations from the Japanese and presented

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with much show of fairness and logic. For one who could judge of American Japanese relations only from Mr. Rea's articles, Japan was hopelessly convicted—even out of her own mouth.

After careful reading of Mr. Rea's arguments and alleged quotations, I prepared a brief reply, even though I did not have at hand my material for testing the accuracy of his quotations.

Mr. Rea's entire argument is a striking example of special pleading. He not only selected material to suit his purposes, ignoring important quotations that would offset the position he tried to establish, but to make his case impregnable he even misquoted his sources, as has now been proved.

I shall here deal with only one illustration.

One of his articles was devoted to Japanese self-conceit. He treats it under the suggestive title "Nippon über Alles." He brings together a number of striking quotations from Japanese writers showing that the Japanese are sensitive to insult, ambitious as a nation, resentful of wrongs by western nations and earnestly concerned with the question of her "world mission." Whether or not all the quotations given are correct I

cannot say. One of them is so garbled as to raise the doubt about all the rest.

From the Kokumin he quotes, in support of his argument the following sentence:

“After all, the average Japanese transcends every other people in respect of ability and talent.” (P. 14.)

The quotation as given supports Mr. Rea's thesis splendidly. Unfortunately for him, however, when writing another chapter on the “Weight of Numbers,” forgetting that he had already garbled the quotation, he gave it correctly in support of his new thesis.

He quotes the Kokumin as opposing Japanese emigration. “It is deprecatory (undesirable) for Japanese subjects to emigrate to foreign countries and change their nationality by naturalization. Japan is one of the rising nations of the world and it is the height of absurdity that Japan should send out many able youths as emigrants to foreign lands. After all,” the Kokumin concludes, “the average Japanese transcends every other people of *decadent nations*\* in respect of ability and talent.”—Page 47.

If Mr. Rea had included the words “of decadent nations” in his previous use of this

\* Italics mine.

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quotation it would have completely refuted his argument, so he left them out. What is to be thought of a man who poses as a leader of American thought in regard to Oriental questions, who deliberately manipulates his "quotations" to suit his thesis?

### CONGRESSMAN BRITTEN'S STATEMENTS

UPON his return from a trip to the Orient in the autumn of 1915, Congressman Fred A. Britten of Illinois made a number of speeches on the Oriental problem. His address at the Mystic Athletic Club was reported by wire in the *Los Angeles Times* the next day with a scare head,

"Japs Hate Us, says Britten."

A subhead states that "the only thing that kept them from Going After Us Some Years Ago, He Proclaims, was Their Failure to Float a Great Loan in Europe."

In the text of the report occur these words: "If Japan could have procured her strenu-

ously sought war loan of a billion and a half from Germany, England and France, I believe most of you gentlemen would right now be occupying trenches on the Pacific Coast."

I at once wrote a letter to Congressman Britten asking if the report of his address was correct and, if so, requesting the authority for so important a revelation of Japan's sinister plans. I sent the letter by registered special delivery. I have been waiting now two years for the reply. My surmise is that this outrageous slander on Japan was picked up in Shanghai or some similar hotbed of international intrigue. In view of the Zimmermann disclosure of last January it would not be difficult to think of it as originally started on its course by some skillful German hint of important state secrets.

## JAPAN'S PLAN TO ATTACK US IN 1914

IN July, 1917, a friend sent me a letter which had been received from a third party. It began as follows:

"I am not replying publicly to your letter

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in this morning's *Journal* because I do not want to attack Japan during the present war. But I would like to call your attention to the following points:

"1. Japan was preparing to attack us in May, 1914, and would have done so but for the European war. The Philippine Government at that time moved all their records and treasure to Corregidor."

I ventured to write directly to the gentleman. Among other things I called his attention to the fact that the European war did not break out until *August*, 1914, and that, therefore, the war could not have been the reason why Japan did not attack us in May! I remarked that so many anti-Japanese stories having, upon investigation, proved foundationless I would esteem it a favor if he would give me the authority for his statement, so that I might make investigations. To this he replied, in part, as follows:

"I am somewhat in doubt just what to say to you. Believing, as I do, that you are, perhaps unconsciously, playing the game of the Japanese, it is a question how far I ought to lay my own cards upon the table. I will say, however, that the statement that Japan intended to make war upon us in May, 1914,



was first told me in 1915 by a diplomat who had lived in Japan for some time. His story was recently confirmed in all its details by a man high in our governmental service in the East. In April, 1914, the Japanese servants of the former, who were much attached to him, did everything they could, short of direct statements, to get him away from California before the first of May; and left at that time to join their regiments. . . .

"Your statement that nobody in April, 1914, expected a general European war is absurd. I knew in February that it was coming . . ."

I then wrote inquiring who the "diplomat" was "who had lived in Japan for some time." Illness of the writer has thus far prevented a reply. From the statement of the first letter, however, that the government "had removed all their records and treasure to Corregidor," I surmise that the writer, or the reporter confused his dates and substituted 1914 for 1913. In that case, I have dealt with the matter sufficiently. But if this surmise is correct, then the reason why Japan did not attack us at that time (May, 1913), could not have been the impending European war! If she had such definite

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plans, why did she not carry them out? What was it that changed her plans? The true statement of the case is, I believe, that she had no such plans.

### JAPANESE BUSINESS IMMO- RALITY

MANY stories are told of Japanese business immorality—that Japanese, for instance, are so untrustworthy that they cannot trust even one another and, therefore, have to employ Chinese cashiers in all their banks. This story appears to be known in all parts of the United States, and is always accepted as true. It is, nevertheless, absolutely false. There are indeed Chinese clerks in the principal banks of Yokohama, Kobe and Nagasaki, the old treaty ports. Considerable Chinese population dwell in those cities. The chief foreign bank, moreover, in each of those cities is the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, having headquarters in China; its branches are, of course, largely manned by Chinese clerks. Most Americans going to Japan with letters of credit get their

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cash from this chain of banks, which may in part account for the story cited above.

In detecting the spurious money that comes in at those treaty ports, Chinese have proved themselves remarkable experts, which is another reason for their employment in banks. I have myself dealt with Japanese banks in several other cities and have never seen Chinese clerks. I am assured by Japanese bankers that, except in the cities mentioned, no Japanese banks employ Chinese as cashiers or in any other capacity.

As for Japanese business morality in general, let me report a conversation with the president of a large American firm which did \$20,000,000 worth of business with Japan in 1916. He told me that his company had not lost a single dollar because of Japanese business unreliability. He also stated that until 1900 his company had had more difficulty in financial dealings with Japanese than with Chinese, but that since 1900 they had had better financial relations with Japanese than with Chinese.

Facts like these ought to be widely reported to our people in order to correct the falsehoods that have been so widely and so successfully circulated in this country.

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It may be worth while to report here a particularly illuminating story about Japanese banking in California, Mr. W. V. Woehlke, in a brilliant but misleading article published in the *New York Outlook*, May 10, 1913, stated that a "low standard of business ethics" was a "distinguishing mark of many Japanese." In support of this proposition, which probably few would question (adding mentally that it is also a distinguishing characteristic of many Americans), Mr. Woehlke makes the following statement:

"In the spring of 1909, for instance, twenty Japanese banks (in California) accepted deposits from white and yellow men. At the end of the year all but three were closed, and examinations of the wrecked institutions revealed that they had been plundered by every trick and device known to the shrewdest and crookedest promoter. Simultaneously with the downfall of the banks scores of Japanese merchants, individuals and firms, hastened to the referee in bankruptcy, thus forestalling any attempt to force repayment of loans made to them by friendly directors of the defunct banks."

This statement by Mr. Woehlke was so definite that I took pains in September, 1913,

to investigate the facts. I learned from the State Banking Department of California that there never had been more than seven Japanese banks in California, of which three are still doing business, the Yokohama Specie Bank, having an annual business of \$2,073,086 (June 14, 1912), the Nippon Bank (\$94,244), and the Industrial Bank of Fresno (\$49,594). "The Kawakami Brothers Bank went out of business some months ago paying its depositors in full. The remaining three banks were closed by the Superintendent of Banks in the year 1909 and are still in his hands for purpose of liquidation."

What the final outcome was of the liquidation process I have not heard. I was satisfied, however, by the statement of the Secretary of the Banking Department of the State of California, that many of those who were accusing Japanese of a "low standard of business ethics" were themselves open to the same accusation.

## GERMAN INTRIGUE

ON March 1, 1917, the country was startled by the disclosure from Washington of the secret message from the German Foreign Office to the German Minister Von Echhart in Mexico, directing him, in case war with America should actually occur, to propose to Mexico that Mexico should join with Germany in attacking the United States making war and peace together. The gain to Mexico would be to "reconquer the lost territory in New Mexico, Texas and Arizona."

The Minister was also to say to President Carranza, that "the President of Mexico, on his own initiative should communicate with Japan, suggesting adherence at once to this plan. At the same time offer to mediate between Germany and Japan."

Many in America, having long entertained doubts and suspicions of Japan's attitude toward the United States, waited with some anxiety to know what Japan would do. The indignant reply of Japan's press to the implications of the Zimmermann proposal, the

specific statement of the Foreign Minister that no proposition had come from Germany and the assurance by the Prime Minister, Count Terauchi, that "if it ever came to hand I can conceive of no other form of reply than that of indignant and categorical refusal," did much to allay American doubts and to open their eyes to the sinister methods of the German Government.

For the first time did Americans realize that German intrigue for setting nation against nation involved the whole world. For the first time were Americans ready to believe that the anti-Japanese campaign which had been so long and successfully carried on in the United States, may have had a real source in Germany's desire to estrange these two countries.

## A FALSIFIED CABLEGRAM

THE California-Japanese situation became acute in May, 1913, when the California State Legislature, in spite of the efforts of President Wilson and Secretary Bryan, passed the anti-alien land law. There

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was considerable indignation in Japan and meetings of protest were held in many cities. Then it was that some Japanese hot-heads declared the California insult could be adequately met only by war. Then it was that Count Okuma declared that the only possible solution of the California-Japanese question was to be attained, not by war or threats of war, but by an appeal to the Christian people of America to apply to the problem the principles of the Christian religion—the brotherhood of man.

But the actual situation was ripe for insidious aggravation of the difficulty. A cablegram was sent from Japan to America, on the strength of which Mr. Chester Rowell, one of California's most able writers and responsible political leaders, in his article published in the *World's Work* for June, 1913, used these words: "While I am writing these lines a mob of 20,000 is surging through the streets of Tokyo, clamoring for war with America."

As a matter of fact, however, there was no such mob. I was in Japan at the time and nothing of the kind appeared in the press. I have since made careful inquiries and have been assured by responsible men living in



Tokyo, that the cablegram was absolutely false. The cablegram was devised apparently to stir up anti-Japanese feeling in America.

That was the time, it should be noticed, when the American forces in the Philippines took fright and were suddenly mobilized in Corregidor. It would be highly interesting and doubtless instructive to know what telegrams were sent to Washington and to General Bell and from whom.

## ANOTHER CABLEGRAM

ON August 8, 1914, four days after Great Britain and Germany had declared war upon each other, a cablegram was sent from America to Japan stating that the entire American battlefleet had passed through the Panama Canal on its way to the Orient.

Tokyo was in an uproar of excitement and indignation; for it was implied that the United States was going to take advantage of the great European war to establish its undisputed power in the Far East.

Americans who have belittled the power

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of the American fleet do not remember that at that time it was at least twice as powerful as the Japanese fleet.

Fortunately, Ambassador Guthrie was near at hand and at once published a flat denial of the lying cablegram. This quieted the uproar after twenty-four hours and as further news arrived from America it became clear that somebody had blundered or lied. But serious mischief had been done in Japan to the friendliness of American Japanese relations.

But who sent that cablegram? And why? I have frequently raised the question. I tried to secure information from one of the Tokyo papers which published the news, but was told that the source of news was not a matter for disclosure. In many of my addresses during the past three years, I have cited this as an instance of malicious international slander that should be rendered impossible. After my address at the farewell dinner given at the Astor Hotel, September 19, 1917, to the new Ambassador to Japan, Hon. Rowland S. Morris, one of the guests said to me that he knew the source of that cablegram—the German-American Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco. I regret

that no method has appeared by which to verify his statement. The entire circumstances of the case, the known methods of the German Government and the activities of the German-American Chamber of Commerce of New York, make the statement plausible, to say the least.

In this connection I may refer briefly to the efforts of this "Chamber of Commerce" to embroil the situation by telegraphing August 17, 1914, to Governor Johnson of California warning him of the danger from Japanese on the Pacific coast and urging him to take drastic action in regard to them.

I may also refer to the strain in our diplomatic relations with Germany when Baron Von Schoen, at that time just transferred from Tokyo to Washington, stated (September 22, 1914) that the "Japanese regard war with America inevitable and that they harbor an intense hatred of the American people."

## ANTI-AMERICAN WAR-SCARE STORIES IN JAPAN

AMERICANS should realize that an anti-American campaign has also been carried on in Japan. Japan's natural appreciation of and friendship for America has been continuously attacked and at one time seemed to be seriously shaken.

It is no part of the plan of this discussion to present this side of the case with any fullness. Two or three instances, however, will probably be worth while.

I have already described the excitement and indignation in Tokyo by the fabricated cablegram sent from America (probably San Francisco) to Japan, August 8, 1914, saying that the entire American battlefleet had passed through the Panama Canal. That was before Japan had declared war on Germany. It might well have been intended to inflame Japanese opinion against America and make them feel that their real foe was America. Had this object been attained, Japan, in all probability, would not have attacked the Germans at Kiao-Chau.

Early in September, a telegram was published in Tokyo from Peking telling of a banquet given there by eminent Chinese to an American admiral and his officers. According to the telegram the admiral made a speech in which he warned China to beware of Japan and her policies; that China's implacable foe was Japan and that every precaution must be taken to resist her encroachments.

The telegram caused another wave of indignation throughout Japan. Whatever the facts might be of Japan's relations to China it was manifestly a serious breach of diplomatic etiquette for an American Admiral to give the Chinese Government such advice. But, as in the previous case, so in this; the telegram was a complete fabrication. This fact, however, was not known for several days. In the meantime the poison ran free course throughout the length and breadth of Japan. But who sent it?

In October, 1914, a long circumstantial account was published in the *Yorodzu* of Tokyo, giving an alleged interview in Yokohama by "Paymaster Malcock" of the United States Navy on his way from Manila to San Francisco. "It appears as though

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war between Japan and my country were inevitable. . . . It is more than probable that within a few weeks the Atlantic fleet of our navy will pass through the Panama Canal and put in appearance in the Pacific. . . . Already immense quantities of coal and ammunition have been shipped to Hawaii and the Philippines. . . . Lieutenant Pauter will take charge of our aircraft. . . . I have received this information from Admiral Elkins on board the *Iowa*." Such were some of the explicit statements. They were so circumstantial that they immediately received credence as important disclosures of America's secret plans to attack Japan.

Of course the "Paymaster" had sailed and it was impossible for friends of America to see him and find out what he really had said. After several days, however, it was discovered that there was no "Admiral Elkins," nor "Paymaster Malcock," nor "Lieutenant Pauter" on the rolls of the American Navy. Investigation finally disclosed the fact that the whole story had been concocted in Yokohama. There had been no interview at all. For some time the concocted interview was ascribed to Germans. At last, however, it was clearly proven that

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a renegade American, to make a few dollars had taken advantage of the international situation and had "put over" the fake interview.

One would suppose that repeated experience of "exploded news" would have made the Japanese chary of accepting more of the same variety. Japanese, however, are much like Americans. Both Americans and Japanese have short memories in regard to disproved stories. Just consider how the Magdalena and Turtle Bay stories, though completely discredited, still circulate and are still accepted as "*true in spirit if not in actual fact.*" Japan would be only too glad to get a big naval base over here if she could and will do so as soon as she can—such is the "fixed idea" of many Americans. So too in Japan.

But it is ever to be remembered that many utterances in the United States have given much ground for Japanese apprehension as to America's ambitions in the Far East. To mention only one—on October 1, 1914, Congressman Mann, House Leader of the Republican Party, opposing the Democratic proposal to make the Philippines independent in the near future, stated that war in the

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Orient over commercial interests would be inevitable sooner or later. He insisted that we must hold on to the Philippines as a naval base from which to wage our war for our commercial, and therefore, for our naval supremacy in the Pacific.

This address from an official head of the Republicans of America was cabled to Japan and had its part of responsibility in confirming Japanese suspicions.

An anti-American story that has had repeated vogue in Japan for fifteen years, is that America was seeking a naval base in China in order to block Japan's legitimate rights there. The place named is in the province of Fukien, opposite Formosa, a part of China which Japan, since her annexation of Formosa in 1896, has regarded as her special sphere of influence. This story has been the basis of no little anti-American indignation.

I was for a long time at a loss to account for the story, so persistent and definite, for I never had heard in America of desires or plans for an American naval base in China. I had indeed been assured by "high authorities" at Washington that there was no truth whatsoever in the stories.

In April, 1915, however, I was told by



“high authority” that at one time (1898 or 1899) a plan was under consideration by the Chinese Government of making a contract with the Bethlehem Steel Corporation to establish a large foundry and build drydocks in the province of Fukien where *China* contemplated making an important naval base, but that the project had fallen through. It is easy to see how such a fact could easily be twisted by experts on international slander. The Japanese story about an American naval base in China is much more plausible and also of much greater significance to Japan than the corresponding American stories of a Japanese naval base at Magdalena Bay. Yet the latter stories have done much damage to the attitude of American feelings toward Japan.

Americans have developed much suspicion of Japan because of her treatment of China in connection with those important “twenty-one demands” presented to China in January, 1915. I am not one of those who exonerates Japan in that transaction. But it has become clear that the occasion was utilized to the full by German agents in China and in America to aggravate the situation to the utmost possible degree, estranging China and

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Japan and also estranging America and Japan. The full inner history of that unhappy episode is still to be written.

Had German desires been achieved of bringing China and Japan into actual conflict and especially of hurling America and Japan against each other, the ammunition of both these countries that was going in such large amounts to aid Russia, Great Britain and France would have been needed at home, which would have been of great service to Germany. Even as it was, the hold-up of Japanese ammunition in the winter of 1915 was one of the causes of Russia's frightful defeat in the spring and summer of that year.

The anti-American campaign in Japan was so far successful that in the autumn of 1914 when Japanese troops were leaving Japan for China, it was popularly believed in certain sections of Japan that they were going to fight America!

It was a providential thing for the relations of America and Japan at that juncture, when Japanese popular feeling was decidedly tense against America, that the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America sent to Japan its special embassy of friendship and goodwill. The results of

a single month (February, 1915) of wide speaking and still wider publicity given to the Embassy by the daily press of Japan, became one of several factors that served to allay those feelings and to convince the responsible citizenship of Japan that there still remained in America a large body of citizens whose attitude toward Japan was fair and friendly.

## A JAPANESE MISREPRESENTATION OF AMERICA'S AMBITIONS

It is not difficult to see how America's prosperity and spirit and also her deeds can be easily misrepresented by those who desire to stir up anti-American feeling in the Orient.

The *Yorodzu*, one of Japan's sensational and jingo papers, commenting on America's entry into the war, insists that the Monroe Doctrine has been thrown to the wind. Its argument, as reported in the *Japan Magazine* for October, 1917, runs as follows:

"The United States can no longer be said to confine her attention to her own side of the Atlantic, or even the Pacific; for she has already annexed Hawaii, taken the Philip-

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pires, and extended her influence far beyond her national boundaries; and her present participation in the European war carries an American army into Europe. How can the Monroe Doctrine be now said to exist? America is feeling the result of the enormous wealth amassed during the first two years of the war, and she is now stretching out her giant hands toward other lands, notably toward China, yes and toward Russia too. For years America has been courting the friendship of China and she is now prepared to concentrate her enormous energy on that country. As the Chinese are more influenced by money than in any other way the wealth of the United States has a great attraction for the Republic, which now has a chance to allow itself to be enveloped in money power. In the same way, America is endeavoring to get an inside place in Russia's esteem. A delegation has visited Russia, the country's railways are to be reorganized, Russian enterprise in her Far Eastern possessions is to be assisted, and concessions for mines in Saghalien may be granted. With her left foot in China and her right foot striding across the dominions of the Slav, the American giant has its eye on Europe too, where

England and France are only too glad to welcome assistance and interest. Japan has only to do with America's activity in the Orient, which must not be expected to decrease; and Japan must watch American influence in the Far East with the same assiduity that the upholders of the Monroe Doctrine watched European influence in America."

## CONCLUSION

ENOUGH has now been given I think to convince any candid person that serious international tension between America and Japan has been fomented by those who have circulated, and especially by those who have invented, false international "news." As I stated at the beginning, I do not believe that the anti-Japanese campaign in this country has been solely due to German interests. Many who have participated in it have not had the slightest thought that they were serving those interests. Most of those who have circulated anti-Japanese stories have been, I doubt not, earnest patriotic Americans in whose minds nevertheless, suspicions

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of Japan had been developed by the skillful use of alleged "news," which, nevertheless, upon investigation has proved utterly false.

Mr. George Kennan, in the *New York Outlook* for September 20, 1916, made a brief summary of the anti-Japanese stories which he had found to be false. It is so striking that I venture to give it:

"In a long series of alarms, beginning with the San Francisco public school troubles, the Japanese have been accused of preparing for war with us by buying 750,000 rifles from the Crucible Steel Company (1908); of plotting against us in Hawaii and the Philippines (1909); of excluding Americans from the Manchurian mining fields (1909); of discriminating against our commerce by means of transportation rebates on the Manchurian railways (1909); of seeking to monopolize the truckfarming lands in California (1909); of sinking the dry-dock Dewey in Manila Bay (1910); of planting mines in that same bay (1910); of taking soundings and making charts of California harbors (1910); of secretly conspiring with Mexico against us (1911); of attempting to secure Magdalena Bay, in Lower California, for a naval base (1911); of secretly taking photographs and making maps on the Coast of Alaska (1911); of trying to get supreme control in Manchuria under pretense of fighting the bubonic plague (1911); of conspiring with Mexican insurgents against us (1912); of persecuting the Ameri-

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can missionaries in Korea and trying to abolish Christianity there (1912); of conspiring with Germany to overthrow the Monroe doctrine (1912); of attacking the American Consul in Newchang (1912); of forming an alliance with our west coast Indians against us (1912); of threatening to attack Java, and thus compelling the Dutch to seek our support (1912); of trying to buy Lower California from Huerta (1914); of attempting to get spies into the fortifications of the Panama Canal (1915); of seeking to secure a foothold in Lower California by running a vessel ashore there and sending warships to assist in salvage operations (1915); of conspiring with Germany to get control of the San Blas Indian lands in Panama (1916); of conspiring with Russia against us at least two or three times in the last ten years."

In a personal note of October 14, 1917, Mr. Kennan says: "This list of false stories was taken from my own records, covering a long series of years, but it is far from complete as printed. I included only the more important lies, but there were dozens of others. I had no doubt years ago that there was some powerful agency behind these misrepresentations, but I did not begin to suspect Germany until this year."

It is to be hoped that Americans will learn to question international slander and will, in

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time, provide some effective method for exposing the falsehood of tales intended to estrange peoples and nations.

It ought to be possible to compel promoters of suspected stories to disclose the sources of their information, in order that the impartial public may be able to estimate its value.

Papers that continuously publish the misleading productions of sensational writers whose primary interest is sensation regardless of truth, ought in some way to be made to feel the heavy hand of public condemnation.

International falsehoods that tend to estrange the good will of peoples and to plunge them into conflict is a crime peculiarly heinous and should be suitably punished. The time to prevent war is not when a crisis has developed, and suspicions and enmities have become so acute that no explanations are credited—but rather months and years in advance.

From the great tragedy of Europe America should learn that full, truthful and accurate information in regard to international affairs is a matter of momentous importance.



## AFTER-WORD

JUST as the manuscript of these "War Scare Stories" goes to the printer, Secretary Lansing has made public the text of the "understanding" agreed upon by the Japanese and American Governments regarding their respective policies in regard to China. This document is so important and so well fitted to dispel misunderstandings and suspicions that it seems desirable to include it here and also some of the paragraphs of the statement issued by Secretary Lansing in connection with its publication.

"Department of State,

"Washington, Nov. 2, 1917.

"Excellency—I have the honor to communicate herein my understanding of the agreement reached by us in our recent conversation touching the questions of mutual interest to our governments relating to the republic of China.

"In order to silence mischievous reports that have from time to time been circulated, it is believed by us that a public announcement once more of the

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desires and intentions shared by our two governments with regard to China is advisable.

“The governments of the United States and Japan recognize that territorial propinquity creates special relations between countries, and, consequently, the government of the United States recognizes that Japan has special interests in China, particularly in the part to which her possessions are contiguous.

“The territorial sovereignty of China, nevertheless, remains unimpaired, and the government of the United States has every confidence in the repeated assurances of the Imperial Japanese government that while geographical position gives Japan such special interests they have no desire to discriminate against the trade of other nations or to disregard the commercial rights heretofore granted by China in treaties with other powers.

“The governments of the United States and Japan deny that they have any purpose to infringe in any way the independence or territorial integrity of China, and they declare, furthermore, that they always adhere to the principle of the co-called ‘open door’ or equal opportunity for commerce and industry in China.

“Moreover, they mutually declare that they are opposed to the acquisition by any government of any special rights or privileges that would affect the independence or territorial integrity of China or that would deny to the subjects or citizens of any country the full enjoyment of equal opportunity in the commerce and industry of China.

“I shall be glad to have your excellency confirm this understanding of the agreement reached by us.

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“Accept, excellency, the renewed assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) ROBERT LANSING.

“His Excellency Viscount Kikujiro Ishii, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan, on special mission.”

In his statement accompanying the announcement Secretary Lansing said:

“Viscount Ishii and the other Japanese commissioners who are now on their way back to their country have performed a service to the United States as well as to Japan which is of the highest value.

“There had unquestionably been growing up between the peoples of the two countries a feeling of suspicion as to the motives inducing the activities of the other in the far East, a feeling which, if unchecked, promised to develop a serious situation. Rumors and reports of improper intentions were increasing and were more and more believed.

“Legitimate commercial and industrial enterprises without ulterior motive were presumed to have political significance, with the result that opposition to those enterprises was aroused in the other country.

“The attitude of constraint and doubt thus created was fostered and encouraged by the campaign of falsehood which for a long time had been adroitly and secretly carried on by Germans, whose government as a part of its foreign policy desired especially to alienate this country and Japan that it would be

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at the chosen time no difficult task to cause a rupture of their good relations.

"Unfortunately there were people in both countries, many of whom were entirely honest in their beliefs, who accepted every false rumor as true, and aided the German propaganda by declaring that their own government should prepare for the conflict, which they asserted was inevitable, that the interests of the two nations in the Far East were hostile, and that every activity of the other country in the Pacific had a sinister purpose.

"Fortunately this distrust was not so general in either the United States or Japan as to affect the friendly relations of the two governments, but there is no doubt that the feeling of suspicion was increasing and the untrue reports were receiving more and more credence in spite of the earnest efforts which were made on both sides of the Pacific to counteract a movement which would jeopardize the ancient friendship of the two nations.

"The visit of Viscount Ishii and his colleagues has accomplished a great change of opinion in this country. By frankly denouncing the evil influences which have been at work by openly proclaiming that the policy of Japan is not one of aggression and by declaring that there is no intention to take advantage commercially or industrially of the special relations to China created by geographical position, the representatives of Japan have cleared the diplomatic atmosphere of the suspicions which had been so carefully spread by our enemies and by misguided or overzealous people in both countries.

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"In a few days the propaganda of years has been undone, and both nations are now able to see how near they came to being led into the trap which had been skillfully set for them.

"Throughout the conferences which have taken place Viscount Ishii has shown a sincerity and candor which dispelled every doubt as to his purpose and brought the two governments into an attitude of confidence toward each other which made it possible to discuss every question with frankness and cordiality.

"Approaching the subjects in such a spirit and with the mutual desire to remove every possible cause of controversy the negotiations were marked by a sincerity and good will which from the first insured their success."

The above documents made public by the Department of State have naturally called forth important commendatory editorials from leading papers throughout the country. Significant, however, of the general spirit of the Hearst papers in reporting these documents is the insertion by the *New York American* (November 7, 1917), in black-faced type of the following sentence, calculated to instill suspicion and maintain animosity in the minds of its readers:

"The understanding was reached without the United States having made any conces-

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sions concerning the question of Japanese immigration to this country."

Why do not these Hearst papers tell their readers that Japan settled the immigration question ten years ago by the "Gentlemen's Agreement," voluntarily stopping, without legislation on our part, all new labor immigration from Japan to this country? In consequence of the rigid enforcement by Japan of this "Agreement" not only has there been no increase of Japanese labor in America but there has been a positive decrease of 15,141 males between the years 1908 and 1916.

The relations, moreover, between Japanese and Americans on the Pacific Coast have been manifestly improving for at least four years. The sympathetic strike of Japanese waiters with the Waiters' Union of San Francisco (August, 1916), and the resolutions proposed by four local unions at the annual Convention (October, 1916) of the California State Federation of Labor, asking for authority to organize Japanese labor, are but two of many signs that the irritation that had been growing in California for some years is now subsiding.

These are facts of importance that all

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Americans should know. The press should bring forward the evidences of the new situation, instead of continuing to inflame the feelings of their readers by insinuations that are insulting to the dignity and honor of Japan and imply a situation that in fact does not exist.





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