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JAPAN FINANCIER ON THE WAY TO THE UNITED STATES

Some Interesting Sidelights on Matter of Japan's Finances

POINTS TO A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP IN NATION

He Points That the Reports Have a German Origin and That Germany Has Never Wished America-Japanese Relations Well.

Rome, Aug. 23.—(Correspondence of The Associated Press)—Before leaving for the United States, Baron Yoshiro Sakatani, president of the Imperial Japanese Commission of the Economic Conference of the Allies to the war, held at Paris, recently Entente Powers, at the request of The Associated Press, explained to a representative of the Japanese commission and discussed from a financial point of view the relations of Japan and the United States as developed since the war and as affected by the new Russo-Japanese treaty.

Baron Sakatani is well known to many Americans as the financier who straightened out the ebbing finances of Japan after the Russo-Japanese war. He for a time held the position that correspondents in the United States to that of secretary of the treasury. He also was mayor of Tokio. The other members of the commission are S. Tenrumi and K. Yabe, with S. Idzourka, acting as secretary. The commission reached Europe by way of the Siberian railway, crossing from Petrograd to London, thence to Paris, and finally to Rome.

Baron Sakatani, who speaks English fluently, said: "The Imperial Commission was appointed for the purpose of attending the Paris conference and also of visiting those countries in Europe now our allies and of ascertaining in a definite way how the commerce of Japan can be increased with them, what they can sell us and what we can sell them, especially as relates to products they formerly obtained from Germany and Austria-Hungary. There is also the question of delivering goods. Japan has three large steamship lines at present and they are building as rapidly as possible more ships, as rates in the Far East have risen out of all reasonable proportions since the removal of German ships from this trade. We are willing to trade heavily with Europe, since in my opinion Europe will not be so long making up its present war losses as might be thought. Of course the amount of these losses will depend on the length of the war, and that depends on the success of the Russian and other powers' offensives. But should the war end in a reasonable time, the people of Europe will have been quickened by the war spirit, they will work harder to make up their losses.

"As regards the relations between Japan, it must be remembered always that the United States and that we look with gratitude upon the United States as the country which sixty years ago opened up us in communication with the outside world, after a period of twenty-five hundred years of almost no communication with any other people than those of our own islands except in rare instances.

"In recent years there have been world-wide reports that these two countries had conflicting national interests which would eventually bring them to war. First the United States thought we might attack her, according to these reports. Now the reports have been shifted the other way. At home our people are made to believe that the United States is preparing to attack us. It is most amusing. I have many American friends and of course we discuss these things. All of us know that there are all reasons for both nations to be friendly. The whole body of this talk would be ridiculous in the extreme if it were not that such reports lead to the maintaining of expensive fleets, to the building of coast defenses. I have had some experience in war costs, I think, and I know that such foolishness means in money.

"I sincerely believe these reports have a German origin, since Germany has never wished us well and would like to see us in difficulties with the United States, but the United States and Japan are too far away from each other to have the same jealousies that exist among the nations of Europe, with neighboring frontiers.

"On the other hand, there has sprung up a large commerce between the United States an Japan, and it has steadily grown since the present war, since we have been unable to buy in European markets many supplies formerly obtained there. With both countries prosperous, our buying has led to return buying in silks and many other articles on the part of the United States. Our own foreign commerce, export and import, reached an average of seven hundred million dollars yearly before the war and I expect it is better now.

"It has been stated we want the Philippine Islands. It is far better for Japan to have the United States develop those islands. She is able to spend the money needed to do it and we are not, and it is a fine thing for us and our trade to have peaceful and prosperous neighbors, no matter who they are. It is one of the economic errors of the present, for instance, to suppose that the losses of Europe are the gains of the United States and Japan because they happen to be selling supplies. We are sure to feel those losses in Europe in the end.

"Now for the Russian treaty and Japan's attitude towards China. It has been freely stated that there is a good deal of dishonest in business. I will admit that there is a good deal of truth in this, so far as concerns us in the past. It must be remembered that when the United States and European merchants began to trade with us, silver was worth about one-fifteenth as much as gold among them, whereas, with us, it was worth one-fourth as much, by our act. These merchants took advantage of this situation and exchanged their silver for gold. Our people had the idea that foreigners were here to get what they can, it may be said they retaliated in kind, as a matter of self-protection. Later, however, we have started men to commercial schools and our young men have learned international business, and I feel sure we will no longer suffer in ways which grew out of a misunderstanding as to what business methods are.

"Now, and the Japanese questions are well understood since the war of 1904-05 the nations of each other, and become quiet friends. merely puts this is not inimical American interests

lode the old Japanese want the East. facts are to ally ours, an

in China on an equal footing with England, Russia, France, the United States, or any other country. Economically, we couldn't handle the job by ourselves. Japan insits that there shall be no outside, armed interventions, like that of the Germans who fortified themselves at the port of Kiao-Chow, a port which we have taken from them. Such fortified positions constitute a menace to China and to the interests of every nation wishing to do business there, and eventually brings about the troubled situation, on a smaller scale, that has so long existed in the Balkans of Europe.

"We cannot read the future, but for the present these are the facts regarding Japan's attitude, and I am glad to state that The Associated Press has in the past admitted Japan to place the truth before the people of the United States. In so doing, it renders a service to the mutual interests of these two peoples."

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PLAN CIVILIZING MOROS BY PHYSIC

Malay Manslayers To Be Made More Decent by Modern Medical Treatment.

New York, Aug. 21.—A plan for civilizing the 200,000 Moros of the Sulu archipelago by giving them medical relief from the many diseases rampant in the native isles was announced today by the Rockefeller Foundation.

In co-operation with the International Health Board of the Rockefeller Foundation, the Philippine government will send a hospital ship to the island group inhabited by the Moros and kindred tribes. The ship is now being equipped and will be maintained for a period of five years under the joint supervision of the government and the Foundation.

The scope of the plan and the methods to be employed are given in the following announcement made today by the Foundation:

"For more than 200 years the Moros, who were the famous malay pirates that devastated the Northern Philippine islands, have resisted all attempts by Spain and the United States to pacify them by military force. Since their entrance into history they have been a people apart. On the large number of small islands comprising the Southern group of the Philippines about 200,000 of the tribes still lead a semi-nomadic life. They are of the Mohammedan faith.

"Investigation has shown the Moros to be suffering from skin disease of severe form, malaria, hookworm, dysentery and other preventable infections. As the Igoso band and other hunting tribes of Northern Luzon were civilized largeyl by the men who brought them medical relief, it was decided to reach the Moros in the same way.

"Although dispensaries have been successfully established among the Moros on the larger islands of Mindanao and Jolo, they can reach but a small fraction of the people. The hospital ship will go from island to island, meeting the people at estalished points bringing [illegible] relief to the sick, training midwives, and [illegible] instructions to the natives.

"The board hopes that by the end of five years the hospital ship will have proved its usefulness and that the work will be continued on the basis of government and local support. If this should be the case, the method of medical relief in [illegible] civilized countries will show [illegible] of wide application [illegible]

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