

# The Oriental Economic Review

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## The Oriental Economic Review

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Proprietor and Editor.....Mr. MOTOSADA ZUMOTO

Associate Editors.

Prof. Masujiro Honda and Mr. Tsunego Baba.

Publishing Office—The Oriental Information Agency,  
No. 35 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

All checks and money orders payable to Mr. Motosada Zumoto.

**The Oriental Information Agency**  
35 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y.

Telephone: 4920 Cortlandt.

This Agency was established in August, 1909, with the support of the leading financiers and merchants of Tokyo and Yokohama, for the purpose of disseminating in the United States and elsewhere, reliable information concerning affairs in Japan and the Far East in general, with particular reference to the financial and economic situation in that part of the world.

It is hoped that the spreading of such knowledge will materially contribute to the promotion of intimate relations and incidentally also of friendship and good-will between the nations of the East and West.

Beside the publication of the present REVIEW, the Agency undertakes for nominal charges:—

To supply, upon application, information on any subject about Japan, especially on matters connected with finance, trade and industries.

To introduce would-be traders with Japan to suitable mercantile houses there.

To arrange for lectures, illustrated or otherwise, by competent Japanese, before clubs, schools and other institutions, on subjects relating to Japan, China, Korea or Manchuria.

To translate from English into Japanese, and vice versa.

MOTOSADA ZUMOTO, *Director.*

MASUJIRO HONDA, *Associate Director.*

TSUNEGO BABA, *Associate Director.*

## Japanese Money, Weights, and Measures

Yen=100 sen, 2s. 0½ d., or about 50 cents (U. S. C).

Kin=160 momme.....1.323 lb. avoirdupois

Kwan=1,000 momme....8.267 lbs. avoirdupois

Sün=.....1.193 inch

Shaku=(10 sün).....11.930 inches

Ken=6 shaku.....5.965 feet

Cho=60 ken.....1/15 mile, 5.4229 chains

Ri=36 cho.....2.44 miles

Ri sq.=.....5.9552 sq. miles

Cho, land measure.....2.45 acres

Koku, liquid.....39.7033 gallons

Koku, dry.....4.9629 bushels

To, liquid.....3.9703 gallons

To, dry.....1.9851 peck

Besides, the system of weights and measures based on the metric system is acknowledged as legal in the following ratios:

1 metre.....3.3 shaku

1 gram.....0.26667 momme (4/15 momme)

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## Our Aims

This modest journal is published in the interests of commerce and peace between the East and the West in general and of Japan and the United States in particular.

Mighty developments have taken place in Eastern Asia during the past few decades, but still mightier developments may be expected in the coming quarter century. The spirit of change and rebirth is abroad throughout the whole breadth and width of Asia, but it is nowhere more active or more widely spread than in the eastern section of that continent where the situation is fraught with many political and ethnical problems of the most far-reaching consequences to the welfare of the human species. What is the future of the Yellow races? How will their awakening affect the posi-

tion of the Occidental Powers? What is the immediate outlook in the political situation in China? Will not a hasty introduction of a parliamentary system in China in the present chaotic condition of its government tend to precipitate a disastrous dynastic conflict? What will be the future relations between Japan and China? What will be the future of Japan in its new career of continental expansion? These are only some of the problems that are now attracting the attention of the world. From time to time we shall venture to submit to our readers an Oriental view on some of these questions, and should any of our readers feel so inclined, they will always be welcome to utilize these columns for the ventilation of their ideas on these and similar subjects.

But the questions to which we propose to devote our especial attention are those relating to commercial and economical development in East Asian countries. These are of all questions the most practical and of the most immediate importance, and unlike political and ethnic problems, admit of a more definite handling by the use of statistics and other data equally easy of verification. Thus while addressing ourselves to all classes of people, the diplomats, the politicians, the scholars, etc., it is our ambition to appeal in a particular manner to the financier, the merchant and the manufacturer, in a word to those who take an active interest in the unique opportunities for legitimate profit offered by the economic awakening of five hundred millions of hard-working and intelligent people in one of the oldest and richest quarters of the globe.

It will be seen that the task we have set before us is one very ambitious in scope and character. We enter upon our career with no small diffidence, as we are keenly sensible of our own shortcomings.

We fondly hope, however, that with due encouragement from the enlightened public of the Occident, it may be within the power of this humble publication to make some contribution, however small, to a better understanding between the East and the West and to the cementing of the two more securely with the surest and strongest safeguards of peace, commerce and trade.

### The Financial and Economic Situation in Japan

We want particularly to call the attention of our readers to the clear and comprehensive statement by Marquis Katsura, the Premier and Finance Minister, of the policy of Japan, a translation of which is printed elsewhere.

It is very gratifying to learn from the highest authority in the land that the scheme of naval increase which the Imperial Government will recommend to the Diet in the coming session is extremely conservative, as may be inferred from the fact that the outlays required will be only 80,000,000 yen (\$40,000,000) to be spread over six years. What is equally satisfactory is that all this expenditure will be provided for by the ordinary revenue of the Government.

What is also most reassuring is the declaration that, notwithstanding the increased demands upon the national treasury from this and other causes, the Imperial Government will not depart from the policy of setting aside a yearly sum of at least 50,000,000 yen for the redemption of the national debt. It may, in passing, be observed that, thanks to this wise policy, Japan has already succeeded in repaying 300,000,000 yen of her debt since the late war. It had been feared in some quarters that the alleged demand for naval expansion on an extravagant scale might necessitate the temporary discontinuance of this sound financial policy; but either Marquis Katsura has been able to repress the ardor of the more extreme section in naval circles or possibly the rumored scheme for a radical increase of the fleet was merely a rumor after all. In any case, we are pleased to learn that no untoward departure is contemplated in the Government's financial policy.

Marquis Katsura takes an encouraging view of the economic situation in Japan—a view in which he is sustained by ample evidence. Apart from the reviving activity in the promotion of new companies and the enlargement of the old ones, to which reference is made by the Premier, there are other unmistakable signs of returning prosperity. In the first place, prices generally are slowly but steadily rising. According to the index numbers of prices of the forty-six principal commodities, prepared and published by the *Toyo Keizai*, the leading



economic journal of Japan, the movement of prices reached its lowest point in April, 1909, when the general average stood at 122. For about a year it remained nearly stationary, until May, 1910, when it began to show a decided upward tendency, and this has since been steadily kept up, the average price for the first week of October, 1910, the latest date available, being 130.

Returning prosperity is usually accompanied by expansion in the volume of currency, and this is exactly what has happened in the present case. In March, 1910, the Bank of Japan reported that the amount of money in circulation was 270,000,000 yen. Since then the volume has steadily continued to swell until it reached 310,000,000 yen in September, 1910. Another indication of Japan's economic recovery is furnished by her foreign trade. During nine months ending September 30, the total exports and imports aggregated 325,800,000 yen and 347,100,000 yen, respectively, an increase of about 37,000,000 yen in either case over the corresponding period of the preceding year. As Japanese trade is generally more brisk in the closing months of the year, it seems not unreasonable to expect that the total of transactions this year may possibly reach a thousand million yen in value.

Bankers generally complain of a feeble demand for money, and the rate of interest remains low, but it now seems safe to believe that Japan is entering upon a new period of industrial prosperity and development.

### The Chinese Loan

American financial enterprise is to be congratulated upon the brilliant success it has just achieved in securing from China the privilege and profit of floating a large loan. It is somewhat strange that the announcement of this hard-earned success has thus far failed to arouse much public interest in this country. Possibly the American public is indisposed to think anything about it pending the publication of more definite information as to the nature and scope of the transaction. What the public has thus far been allowed to know is not only meagre but perplexing. We are told, for instance, that the principal ob-

ject of the loan is to enable China to carry out the much-discussed and long-delayed reform of her impossible currency. In the same breath, it is also stated that a portion of the proceeds of the loan will be diverted to industrial purposes in Manchuria and other parts of China, and that a large part of the money will be invested here in the form of purchases from American steel works and possibly also dockyards. Exactly what proportion of the loan is to be devoted to the so-called industrial purposes, no indication is given, although it is believed it may possibly be as much as fifty or sixty per cent. How a paltry sum of twenty-five or thirty million dollars would suffice for the reforming of the currency system of an empire of 400,000,000 souls, is beyond our comprehension. Even the whole amount of the loan (\$50,000,000) would fall far short of the need. Can it possibly be that the present loan is only a small instalment of a great sum which is to be advanced to China in the near future? Otherwise, we are at a loss to understand how even a beginning could be made in the task of placing the Chinese monetary system on a sound and enduring basis. Unless some such large and comprehensive scheme has been matured, nobody at all conversant with the financial situation of the Chinese Government can resist the suspicion that the greater part of the funds realized by this loan will be absorbed in making good the fast-augmenting deficits in the central and provincial treasuries. Everybody knows that China is badly in need of money. She wants money to rehabilitate her army and navy, to carry out her scheme of buying back the railway concessions to foreign companies, and to build more railways; but above all she most urgently needs money to keep her machinery of government going. Her public expenditures are increasing at a rate altogether out of proportion to her revenue, which is almost stationary.

We would not be understood as in any way criticising the present financial transaction. As China needs money, it is well that she should get what she requires from whatever quarter she likes, and personally, we are pleased that that quarter should be Wall Street. Our only concern is as to whether or not the

question of currency reform has been taken up in earnest at Peking. If it has been, it certainly will be good news to all interested in China's economic development. Unfortunately nothing has yet transpired to justify any such optimistic view. One of the greatest obstacles to the successful carrying out of a comprehensive scheme of currency reform, is the apparent absence in China of any statesman strong enough to shoulder the great responsibility for a change, almost revolutionary, and certainly more serious than the inauguration of a parliamentary regime. There is no evidence that a man of that virile type is coming to the front under the present regency at Peking.

### The Korean Situation

All information from Japan tends to confirm the view that the Korean people have accepted the new order of things with quiet resignation, if not with entire satisfaction. At all events, the country is in profound peace. From several of the principal towns in the peninsula come reports of mixed convivial gatherings of Japanese and natives in commemoration of the annexation. The one at Seoul which occurred about a month ago was attended by several hundred persons, the majority being Koreans, including many of the so-called elder statesmen and other leading figures in the native community. From this and other circumstances, it seems justifiable to hope that the relations between the Japanese and their new fellow subjects will steadily improve. What specially encourages this hope is the radical change which is coming over the mental attitude of the Japanese toward the Koreans. The fact that the latter have become their fellow-citizens cannot but have the most profound effect upon a people like the Japanese who are still very clannish and passionately devoted to the idea of common nationality. The leading organs of Tokyo and Osaka are unanimous in emphasizing this very point. They also strongly advocate intermarriage between the two people, the *Jiji*, the most influential paper in Tokyo, advising the Japanese officials and school teachers in the peninsula to set examples in this respect.

### Notes and Comments

Commenting upon what various nations have thus far achieved in aviation, the *New York Sun* says: "But wait and see what Japan will do."

Such a word of generous encouragement goes deep into the hearts of the Japanese and must in itself tend to disarm the jingoes to say the least.

One of the newspapers "out West" said in an editorial recently that because the forces of an Empress of Japan invaded Manchuria nearly two thousand years ago, it was a fact historically established that Japan must entertain evil designs upon a portion of China. Apparently, the writer thought Korea was a part of Manchuria. At this rate, newspaper historians of a millennium hence, may say something like this:—Japan fought with Russia in the heart of Siberia somewhere near the twentieth century B. C.

A Japanese who had looked too long upon the wine, etc., was taken to a New York police court recently. The magistrate asked the man if he knew that the Mayor of Tokyo was in this country. Upon receiving a negative answer, the official discharged the offender with this remark: "Unless you behave better, all your people at home will find out through the Mayor what you have been doing in this country." Whether this newspaper report be accurate or not, it is decidedly pleasant to hear of the good nature and real humaneness of an American magistrate.

The Mayor of Tokyo is reported to have told his New York interviewer that there was no "graft" in his city. Being a man of integrity himself, he may not see any evil in others. But it is not to be inferred from this that Japanese politicians are incapable of the high finance of "grafting." If there is less of it in Japan, it is because the country is smaller and the risk greater, just as there is relatively less petty larceny in a prosperous country like the United States.

The name of the Korean gentleman who attempted suicide on being made a Japanese Baron, will go down in history, whatever the real motive or cause, as a follower of the two Chinese worthies of the eighth century, B. C., who hid in a mountain and starved themselves to death, rather than to live on the grain grown under the direction of the new dynasty of Chow. All Japanese can heartily sympathize with this feudal attachment to one's liege lord.

Dr. Arthur Judson Brown, Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Minors, makes the mistake of stating, in a report of his visit to the Far East, that the Korean people fare worse in a material way, under the Japanese rule, than they did under their own officials. Just and sympathetic observer as he is, the reverend gentleman could not help seeing things with an American eye accustomed to plenty and luxury. Similarly, those are grievously mistaken who say the present generation of the Japanese is worse off than its ancestors under the feudal regime.

# The Policy of the Japanese Government

A STATEMENT BY MARQUIS KATSURA

Cable advices from Japan are that Marquis Katsura, Premier and Finance Minister, made his usual financial statement at the meeting of the associated bankers of Tokyo on the 23d ultimo.

The Marquis at the outset reiterated the oft-made declaration that the cardinal financial policy of his government consisted in keeping a balance between the ordinary expenditure and income without resorting to loans and in strengthening confidence in public bonds by redeeming at least 50,000,000 yen of the national debt every year. He stated that this policy has been consistently followed with very encouraging results, and added that it was the Government's determination to adhere to the same policy in the coming financial year.

Continuing, he said:—"From my experience as Prime Minister during the late war with Russia, I am thoroughly convinced as to the absolute necessity of peace, and since I accepted my present position for a second time, I have always directed my endeavors to the promotion of peace. In this connection, I am particularly happy to be able to assure you, gentlemen, that our alliance with Great Britain is more firmly established than ever, the two Governments being completely in harmony in working for the cause of peace. It is no less gratifying that our relations with all other nations are more and more friendly."

Turning to the question of national defence, the Premier said that the maintenance of peace demanded a serious consideration of the subject of armament. He then made a reference to the recent remarkable innovations in the naval ship-building plans of the more advanced naval Powers, and said that in view of these innovations, the Imperial Government considered it necessary that a corresponding alteration should be made in its naval plan, so that the armament of Japan should be in line with that of the other Powers. It had been, therefore, decided, he said, to add a sum of 80,000,000 yen to the already fixed expenditure to be spread over a period of six years, commencing with the coming fiscal year. The proposed increased naval outlay is to be met from the ordinary revenue of the Government.

After a brief reference to the appointment of an Imperial Commission to investigate measures for the prevention of floods, the Premier touched upon the annexation of Korea, declaring that this measure was absolutely necessary in order to dispose of in an effective and permanent manner one of the standing menaces to the peace of the Far East. As to the financial consequences of the annexation, Marquis Katsura believed that Korea would not be a drain upon the Imperial Treasury, but that on the contrary would mean a valuable addition to the financial resources of the Empire.

Reverting to the question of national finances, Marquis Katsura stated that, as the result of the financial operations conducted since the beginning of the current fiscal year, 500,000,-

000 yen worth of the 5% bonds has thus far been converted into 4% bonds. The new bonds, he was glad to say, maintained a firm position in the market. The Government, he explained, intends to persist in the policy of conversion until the market shall be rid of the last bond bearing a high rate of interest. He also observed that in order to secure the money market against any evil effects from sudden inflation as the result of the redemption of bonds, the Government had taken measures to absorb floating funds in the market and divert them to the provinces to be used there for industrial purposes.

In conclusion, he quoted figures showing that the capital of the newly-organized banks and companies and the capital added to the existing banks and companies during the nine months of the present year from January to September aggregated 363,000,000 yen, and that the liabilities newly incurred by the different companies during the same period in the form of debentures and loans amounted to 60,000,000 yen. What is particularly satisfactory is that these borrowings by the companies were effected at a rate of interest considerably lower than before. In view of these circumstances, the Marquis was convinced that there was no longer the slightest justification for any complaint of economic depression in Japan.

## "Representative Japan"

What is undoubtedly the most useful and at the same time the most comprehensive book on the Japan of to-day, is "Representative Japan," published by the Yurakusha, Tokyo. A thousand photo-pictures, creditable to the surprising progress of the art of printing in Japan, depict the art and nature of the country of the Rising Sun, and its people, with text also in English. Mr. T. Abiko, general manager of the publishing house, is now in New York. He intends to issue another publication to be called "The World of To-day," on a similar line with the "Representative Japan," and is collecting material for it.

## Japanese Commercial Agent in New York

Mr. Akira Shito has been appointed Japanese Commercial Agent in New York.

Japanese Commercial Agencies abroad are new institutions started this year by the Japanese Government, with a view to promoting foreign trade. Four have already been established, two in China, one in London and one in New York.

Mr. Shito until his appointment to New York was attached to the Department of Commerce and Agriculture, and was also connected with the Silk Conditioning House, Yokohama. His long experience in the silk trade and his wide technical knowledge in other fields of activity eminently fit him for the distinguished post he has just been appointed to.

# Industrial and Commercial Notes from Japan

**RICE CROP.**—An official estimate published on September 24, puts the rice crop in Japan this year at 47,474,889 koku, or 235,000,000 bushels. This shows a decrease of 9.4 per cent. as compared with the crop of last year and of 3.1 per cent. as compared with that of an average year.

**THE RAW SILK INDUSTRY.**—Based upon the results of recent investigations, the number of families engaging in the raw silk industry in Japan on July 31, this year, was 382,939. The number of factories with power installations and employing more than 50 operatives was 1,107. The total value of silk thread manufactured last year was 148,023,894 yen, including:

Quality.	Kwan.	Value Yen.
Raw silk .....	2,740,790	139,468,743
Tama silk .....	161,556	4,213,645
Noshi .....	152,829	999,496
Kibiso .....	460,829	2,527,136
Waste silk .....	260,270	714,874

**TROLL FISHING.**—The Japanese Government abolished on September 1 the subsidy on steamers engaging in troll fishery. The law for encouraging deep-sea fishing was first enacted in 1898, and since then there has been a steady increase in the number of steamers engaging in troll fishery. The Government believes it is time to stop the subsidy, not only because of the sufficient encouragement already given, but because of its conviction that troll fishery is not one just fitted to Japan.

**THE JAPAN STEEL FOUNDRY.**—Negotiations have recently come to a successful conclusion between the Japan Steel Foundry and Japanese bankers for the issue of 10,000,000 yen bonds (\$5,000,000) of the foundry. The steel foundry is a joint enterpriser of the Armstrong & Co., and Vickers Sons and Maxim of England and of the Hokkaido Colliery and Steamship Company, and is erecting big plants at Muroran, Hokkaido. The bonds will bear interest at the rate of five per cent., are not to be redeemed within five years and the loan is to be paid off in twenty years. The issue price is 95. The cost of constructing the foundry has been approximately 21,000,000 yen (\$10,500,000.) Of this sum 15,000,000 yen (\$7,500,000) was met by stock capital and 3,500,000 yen (\$1,750,000) by a loan from the Armstrong & Co. and Vickers. There still remains 2,500,000 yen (\$1,250,000) to be paid for the construction of the workshops. Of the proceeds from the bond issue 6,000,000 yen (\$3,000,000) is to be expended in paying for this construction and repaying the loan from the British companies. The remaining 4,000,000 yen will constitute the working capital of the foundry. The foundry will manufacture ordnance for the army and navy of Japan and especially material for making guns.

**HOKKAIDO GAS COMPANY.**—A gas company with a capital of 10,000,000 yen (\$5,000,000) is being formed in Hokkaido, a large island lying to the north of Japan proper. The company will first lay gas mains in the five principal

cities of the island, Hakodate, Otaru, Sapporo, Muroran and Asahigawa.

**KYUSHU ELECTRIC COMPANY.**—An electric plant capable of generating 8,000 horse power is soon to be installed on the Kawakami River bank in Kyushu, Japan. Mr. Momosuke Fukuzawa, of Tokyo, Mr. Tokushichi Nomura, of Osaka, and other influential business men are interested in the project. They purpose forming a company to be called The Kyushu Electric Company with a capital of 2,000,000 yen (\$1,000,000). They are the owners also of the Hirose Water Power Electric Company, capitalized at 600,000 yen (\$300,000) and with a capacity of 1,600 horse power. This plant has been supplying many nearby towns with electric light power. The owners of the two companies intend to amalgamate them. They have also decided to purchase the electric works on the Kawakami River, belonging to the Hassuni Gold Mining Company. The combined plants will yield 8,000 horse power, as mentioned before.

**OSAKA MERCANTILE MARINE COMPANY.**—The Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which operates a regular steamer service to Tacoma, Wash., has placed an issue of bonds to the amount of 3,500,000 yen (\$1,750,000) at 98 yen upwards, and bearing interest at 5.5 per cent. The bonds must remain outstanding for two years and are for a term of eight years. A group of brokers of the Osaka and Tokyo Stock Exchanges succeeded in forming a syndicate to purchase the issue, and was successful in outbidding a group of bankers. The purchasing syndicate receives a commission of  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. from the issue.

**MOJI HARBOR WORKS.**—A plan is on the tapis to organize a company with a capital of 2,000,000 yen (\$1,000,000) for the construction of a harbor at Moji in Kyushu. Mr. T. Nagamori is the chief promoter. He has recently acquired the Moji Industrial Company which has been in existence for some time. The new company will reclaim land from the sea, construct piers, lay rails, and engage in the sale of coal and in a general transportation business. Moji is an important port at the western entrance to the Inland Sea. Its population is only 40,000, but every year it registers nearly five million tons of steamers entering the port for coal. Moji is essentially an export port for coal, a great percentage of steamers plying in the Far Eastern waters touching there. An adequate harbor has been greatly needed for a long time. There is no doubt of the harbor company prospering, if only its plans shall be successfully carried out.

## Japanese Military Attaché at Washington

Colonel Ichiji Inouye, of the infantry branch of the service, has been appointed Military Attaché to the Japanese Embassy at Washington, D. C. Lieut.-Colonel Tanaka, of the cavalry, who was attaché to that embassy, has been relieved of his duties.



# Public Debt of Japan

## CONVERSION TO FOUR PER CENT.

One of the greatest events in the financial history of Japan has occurred this year, attracting but slightly the attention of the world, probably because of the difficulty of comprehending its technicalities. The event is that of the conversion of the 5% Japanese domestic loans into 4% loans. It is a question of only one per cent., but it means the lowering of the ruling rate of interest, as it seemed to be Government, from 5% to 4%. That this view is correct on the whole is borne out by well-maintained quotations of the newly issued 4% loan bonds.

In order to facilitate the conversion, fifteen leading bankers of Japan in February of this year formed a syndicate to take up the 4% bonds. They were:

### IN TOKYO.

Baron Matsuo, Bank of Japan.  
Baron Takahashi, Yokohama Specie Bank.  
Baron Shibusawa, First Bank.  
Ryohei Toyokawa, Mitsu Bishi Bank.  
Kokichi Sonoda, Fifteenth Bank.  
Senkichi Hayakawa, Mitsui Bank.  
Zenzaburo Yasuda, Yasuda Bank.  
Kenzo Ikeda, One Hundredth Bank.  
Juichi Soyeda, Industrial Bank of Japan.

### IN OSAKA.

Kenzo Koyama, 34th Bank.  
Tetsujiro Shidachi, Sumitomo Bank.  
Chuji Machida, Yamaguchi Bank.  
Jiro Harada, Konoike Bank.  
Seishu Iwashita, Kitahama Bank.  
Nisuke Nagata, Naniwa Bank.

The Government then immediately announced the issue of the conversion loan, and in an accompanying statement said that the Japanese public debt amounted to 2,585,000,000 yen (\$1,292,500,000) in round numbers, bearing an interest of 122,000,000 yen (\$61,000,000) a year. The Government believed that "the loan must be converted into one bearing a lower rate of interest so that the nation's burden might be lightened." "Moreover, in view of the enhanced position of Japan in the comity of nations," the statement proceeded, "the 5% standard in the rate of interest on public debts was deemed too high. In consequence the Government in deciding upon a fundamental financial policy in 1908, had made the conversion of public debts one of its principal objects. The amount of the outstanding 5% domestic loans, excepting those sold abroad with an indorsement of the Government, was 1,323,000,000 yen (\$661,500,000), bearing an annual interest of 66,000,000 yen (\$33,000,000). If the loan be converted into 4% bonds, to mature in sixty years, and to be issued at the price of 95, the Government will be able to save 10,170,000 yen (\$5,085,000) in the annual payment of interest alone. Add to this the foreign loans also to be converted into 4% bonds it will be seen that the profits accruing to the national coffer will be considerable."

"Should the conversion be carried out successfully, and 4 per cent. be taken as the standard rate of interest in Japan," the statement continued, "there would be a general decrease in the rate of interest on local and other debentures and a general change in the attitude of the investing public. It would also bring about increased smoothness in the circulation of capital and promote the industrial activity of the country."

With these objects in view, the Government issued two blocks of 4% loans, each consisting of 100,000,000 yen (\$50,000,000). The first issue was announced on February 2, as above mentioned, and the second on March 15. Both loans were issued at a price of 95 per cent., to remain standing for ten years and to be called in the following fifty years. The syndicate was to receive a commission of one per cent. Interest to be paid for the first year was that of a full coupon. This was a kind of bonus to the subscribers, for the rate of interest for the first year would actually amount to 6.6 per cent. as against the money paid in. From the second year, the actual interest was 4.23 per cent. In order to make the issue a success, the Government lowered the interest on Postal Savings Bank deposits, and caused the Bank of Japan to take a similar step. Moreover it permitted the intending subscribers to the new loan to offer 5% bonds in exchange under very favorable terms.

Under these circumstances, the issue of the 4% loan amounting to 200,000,000 yen (or approximately \$100,000,000) was successfully carried out. There were 589,049,635 yen's worth of domestic loans, at the end of January of this year, which the Government could call in if it wanted to do so, their term having expired. On account of the issue, therefore, the Government could call in nearly 190,000,000 yen (\$95,000,000) of the 5% bonds.

After the redemption there remained roughly 400,000,000 yen (\$200,000,000) of domestic bonds still to be repaid. In order to partly cover the difference, the Government announced on April 30 the issue in France of a 4% loan amounting to 450,000,000 francs (174,150,000 yen, or \$87,075,000), and on May 6, that in England of a similar loan amounting to £11,000,000 (107,393,000 yen, or \$53,696,500). Both were to remain standing for ten years and to be repaid in the following fifty years. The issue price was francs 95.50 for the French loan and pounds 95 for the British loan.

The Government receipts from the French loan, after subtracting commissions and other expenses, are presumed to be 158,000,000 yen (\$79,000,000) approximately. With this sum, the Government announced the calling in of 190,092,000 yen worth of 5% bonds. The deficit had to be made good by an appropriation of nearly 20,000,000 yen (\$10,000,000) from the Debts Readjustment Fund (in the General Budget) and also from the British loan.

The bulk of the latter loan, amounting to 107,393,000 yen, was spent in calling the domestic 5% bonds, which had been sold in London in 1897 and 1902 with the Government indorsement as regards the exchange quotations. These bonds amounted to 93,000,000 yen (\$46,500,000). After the redemption, it is believed, there must be a balance of the Government receipts from the British loan of about 5,000,000 yen (\$2,500,000).

To recapitulate, conversion loans were issued:

1st Domestic loan.....	Yen 100,000,000
2d " " .....	" 100,000,000
French loan .....	" 174,150,000
British loan .....	" 107,393,000

Total ..... Yen 481,543,000

Japanese Domestic loans on January 31 amounted to 1,419,874,589 yen (\$700,000,000 in round numbers). Of this sum, 830,824,954 yen belonged to that category of bonds which must still remain outstanding. Of the remaining 589,049,636 yen, 500,000,000 yen (\$250,000,000) have been repaid thus far during this year from the proceeds of the conversion loans and from the general Budget Account. The balance is covered by Exchequer Bonds (3d issue), to be repaid from the General Budget next year.

### Japanese Laborers in Brazil

During the Premiership of Count Okuma diplomatic relations were first opened between Brazil and Japan with a view to sending Japanese laborers to South America. Toward the end of the monarchical regime in Brazil, slavery was abolished and the country was in need of foreign immigrants for the development of her natural resources. When the present Republic was organized in 1889, government officials were dispatched to Europe to invite laborers to Brazil. Private companies also offered exceptional facilities to immigrants to encourage their coming. In consequence, large numbers of working people began to arrive in the country. Soon afterward, however, financial difficulties overtaking the young Republic, it became necessary to abandon this scheme for the encouragement of immigration, and foreign immigration then practically ceased after a very brief period of prosperity, Japan's efforts to send out her laborers to Brazil, with those of other countries, being naturally doomed to failure.

During the Russo-Japanese War, however, the Japanese Minister to Brazil, Mr. F. Sugimura, made extensive investigations of conditions in order to introduce Japanese laborers there. Upon his unfortunate death at Rio de Janeiro, Mr. S. Uchida, who succeeded him as minister, became instrumental in bringing about the first contract between the Provincial Government of San Paulo and the representative of the Imperial Emigration Company. This took place in November, 1907, and it was stipulated that 3,000 peasants, with at least three members of each of their families be sent out in three years. Work was to be found for them in the coffee plantations of that province. Being quite a new experiment, it was not in any sense an easy task to enroll the first batch

of one thousand men, and only seven hundred reached their destination some two months later than the stated time. In order to harvest coffee they were needed on the spot by the end of April, but they went there late in June. The San Paulo Government gave them, however, a hearty welcome, and free passage was given from the port to the city. For some days, before proceeding to their place of labor, they were shown the sights of San Paulo. They were also promised that, in two or three years when they had saved some money, farms would be given them for the cultivation of rice.

Unfortunately this first experiment proved a partial failure, because all of the seven hundred men were not experienced laborers or farmers; former students, policemen and teachers being included in the number. Some of their so-called relatives, too, were not relatives in fact, and this did not help the situation. And also the Italian laborers on the coffee plantations, numbering nearly a million at the time, were not slow in turning these various circumstances to their own advantage. The genuine farm hands, however, satisfied their employers with their diligence and honesty, and thus the way was paved for a second batch of 1,300 men who landed in Brazil in June of this year.

On the whole, it must be admitted that Japanese emigration to Brazil is still only in an experimental stage. With regard to trade and manufacture there is a large field here for Japan's activity, and because Japanese labor is comparatively cheap, her merchandise can well compete with European imports, despite the heavy tariff imposed.

But the great distance offsets this advantage to a large extent; and this points to the conclusion that the best plan to adopt would be for Japanese capitalists themselves to engage in manufacture in Brazil. For this, of course, a thorough knowledge of the language, customs, as well as of the economic conditions of the country must first be obtained.

A Mr. Large, of San Paulo, a dealer in shipping machinery, coffee and coal, is deeply interested in Japan, and is educating four Japanese orphan boys in his own apprentices' school.

### Japanese Aeroplanes

A new type of aeroplane devised by Commander Ushioku of the Japanese Fleet Administration Bureau has been registered at the Patent Office.

This machine is of the biplane type, but different from the Wright or Curtiss biplanes in that the planes are placed obliquely one above the other. It resembles very much two Bleriot type of machines put together. A special feature of the new machine is in its having a hydroplane, an apparatus designed to cause the machine to rise from and descend to the sea. This will, of course, make it possible to use areoplanes for naval purposes.

Another aeroplane registered at the Japanese Patent Office by Baron Iga, of Tokyo, is a monoplane, resembling Santos Dumont's machine. A special feature is its being able to stay still in the air. This is made possible by its flexible wings and steering gear divided into three distinct parts.



## Humane Work in Japan

The First American Humane Conference was held in Washington, D. C., October 10-15, and was productive undoubtedly of lasting good to the human race through the interchange of ideas by men coming from every civilized quarter of the earth.

Those able to speak with authority addressed the Conference, and among them Mr. Takashi Sanagi, Prison Commissioner of the Department of Justice of Japan, representative of the Japanese Government at the Eighth International Prison Congress, on the subject of "The Treatment of Criminal Children in Japan," and Mr. M. Honda on "The Japanese Attitude Toward Animals." Reports were sent by Mr. T. Hiroi, secretary and founder of the parent organization of the Japan Society for the Humane Protection of Animals, and President Hattori of the Society's Kobe Branch. Mr. Sanagi said:

The work of reforming child criminals of juvenile delinquents is still in an experimental stage in Japan, although we have been carefully studying the best methods adopted in the occidental countries. We cannot, therefore, recount any definite results, the only thing I can tell you now being the main points in our treatment of young criminals.

1. In order to avoid the vicious influence of adult criminals, all the offenders under the age of 18, who have been sentenced to imprisonment of two months or more, are kept in special jails or entirely separate quarters of ordinary prisons. And they may remain there till 20 years old. Even when they reach that age, those whose term will expire within three months may be allowed to stay on in the same place of segregation. But in the exceptional cases, where their physical and mental development demands, minor offenders may be put in prisons for adults.

There are seven jails at present intended exclusively for juvenile offenders. This number is far from being sufficient and we are going to add more.

There is also an old gun-boat, formerly used by the Naval College as a training ship, in which fifty to sixty boys at a time are trained to be seamen. This new departure has proved a success, and some of the former inmates of this floating jail have become useful and trustworthy sailors.

Previously those under 16 years of age were classed as juvenile offenders, but in 1908 we revised our Prison Law and extended that age into 18. And this revised and important prison law defines more clearly than ever the meaning of segregating minor offenders from adults.

2. In giving them work, not only their health, the length of their term, their aptitude, and their future station in life are carefully considered, but also special stress is laid on training and discipline. Their industrial employment may, therefore, be in some cases largely different from those imposed upon adult convicts. The main object of their industrial work is of course to develop their physique and to steady their minds. Because there are many children from agricultural families, we have farms attached to special jails for young offenders, where they can be profitably employed.

3. All minor delinquents, whether of longer or shorter terms, are given the education of the primary school course. The subjects taught are morals, reading, writing, arithmetic, gymnastics, and the like, and the children must study four hours or less every day. Those, however, who have already gone through primary school course study two hours or less every day in a supplementary class. Professional teachers are employed in the special jails for young offenders, or in other prisons where a large number of juvenile delinquents are kept in separate quarters. In other places prison Chaplains fill the office of teachers.

It is a noteworthy fact that the large majority of juvenile offenders are illiterates. For instance, out of the whole number of criminals between sixteen and twenty years of age in 1908, only 13.4 per cent had the benefit of some schooling. And out of the whole number of criminals under sixteen years of age in the same year, only 6.6 per cent had more or less education. This has taught us to attach great importance to education as a means of reforming minor delinquents.

4. Their dress is also distinctive and is blue, whereas adult convicts wear yellow-brown. The idea is to save the young minds from the constant reminder of being criminals. As has been well said, despair is suicide. And in order to reform their morals the influence of outward forms should be counted upon. The use of the word penitentiary, instead of prison, in the United States, must be from the same principle.

5. Prison punishment of young delinquents must also be differentiated from those of adults. The diminution of food, for instance, cannot be applied to young persons, because it is injurious to the growth of their body.

6. When a criminal child is released, its parent or guardian is summoned to tell him how to bring up the child in the future. If the parent or guardian cannot come in person, a chaplain will accompany the child to its destination, however great the distance, in order to give minute instructions to those responsible for the future of the child.

7. Formerly, the age of legal responsibility was 12 years and upwards, but when we revised our penal code a few years ago it was changed to 14 years and upwards. Children under 14 whose mind and body require delicate attention, are entrusted to the care of reformatories. Our reformatory law encourages the establishment of institutions where children of tender age can be reformed and educated without imprisoning them.

Representing the Japan Society for the Humane Protection of Animals, organized some eight years ago in Tokyo, Mr. M. Honda read the following paper on "The Japanese Attitude Toward Animals":—

"Japanese mythology indicates the fact that our early ancestors became settled agriculturists without passing through the pastoral stage of evolution. The physical conditions of the island country preclude pastoral industry almost entirely. We have not therefore sufficiently learned how to take care of animals, and what domestic animals we have are poor in size, quality, and variety.

"Buddhism, on the other hand, instilled in our minds the sinfulness of taking life in whatsoever form it may be. Confucianism has also taught us to extend our benevolence even to plant creation. One of our classical poets expressed in his immortal verse, the idea that he would offer flowers to Buddha as they stand and thrive in the field, because the hands that cut and mutilate the beautiful things must surely defile them. The Japanese art of floral arrangement was in itself inspired by an untold compassion on the blossoms that people carelessly picked for momentary enjoyment and threw on the ground without thought. The desire to keep alive those discarded flowers as long as possible was the origin of floral compositions of graceful lines and harmonious colors.

"Dogs and cats are allowed to bask in the sun in the middle of the street or road without molestation on the part of drivers and foot-passengers. The late George T. Angell of Boston wrote to us and praised us for this. Farmers as a rule keep only one ox or horse for plowing and as a beast of burden and the animal is a member of the family. He lives usually under the same roof with the family, at one end of the house. If therefore the animal coughs, or sneezes, or shows any other signs of ill-health, it will be cared for at once. As our domestic industry passes into factory labor to some extent, steam and electricity are gradually lightening the burden of carrier animals.

"Cruelty to dumb animals does exist, we must admit, but it is largely from mere ignorance rather than malice. And our extreme abhorrence to take lives produced a negative kind of cruelty in allowing

sick or wounded animals to linger on in their suffering. We humane workers of Japan, therefore, are endeavoring to educate the public in the sentiment of positive love and better care of the dumb creation. The name of our organization has lately been changed into the Society for the Humane Protection of Animals, as the word cruelty was considered undesirable and unpleasant. As yet we do not feel the need of penalizing maltreatment of animals. What cruelty there is is dealt with by police regulations, the means employed being admonition, fine, detention, or immediate redress of the wrong done.

"Our method of work being essentially educative, books, booklets, and lectures are much resorted to. Such works as 'Beautiful Joe,' 'Black Beauty,' 'The Strike at Shane's,' 'A Dog of Flanders,' have been translated into Japanese. One popular writer of fairy tales writes and lectures along the line of kindness to animals, and his influence among young children is very great because he has endeared himself to those little ones with his other stories. A young and earnest friend of animals has organized a children's Band of Mercy in Tokyo. He is lecturing to the children of his neighborhood from his sick bed. There are some daily papers and magazines that pay special attention to our subject and write often to promote kindness to animals. In the Police force, in the Army, among teachers and professors and writers—almost every circle in society—there are some preachers of our gospel to extend the kingdom of love and mercy.

"The President of the Parent Society at Tokyo is a Shinto Priest, Baron Senke, ex-Minister of Justice, and its two Vice Presidents are a Buddhist Preacher and a Christian ex-M. P. In this way, animals are teaching men of diverse religious opinions to work harmoniously together for one common cause of humanity. A well-known jurist is our legal adviser and among the most distinguished promoters we find such names as Count Okuma, Baron Kanda, Baron General Fukushima, ex-Vice-Minister of Education Sawayangi and so on. The President of the Yokohama branch of our Society is Governor Baron Sufu, and that of the Kobe branch, Governor Hattori. Enrolling the services of these distinguished persons as officers of our Society helps to dissipate the foolish notion that it is a maudlin sentimentalism to make such fuss about lower animals. A third branch has sprung up at Shimoda through the earnest efforts of a Buddhist Priest. This place is well-known in Japanese history in connection with Commodore Peary's expedition to open our country to Western intercourse and commerce. It goes without saying that we owe much for the founding of these humane societies to the direct and indirect assistance and encouragement of American, English and German friends of animals, either in Japan or at home.

"Memorial services were held for the horses killed and wounded in our wars with China and Russia, and a Buddhist Priest is traveling all over Japan to raise funds for erecting a monument to the memory of the war-horses lost in our recent national struggle. His idea is to set up in a suitable place a statue of a horse with the Buddha of Mercy, Kwannon, on its back. The author of "Human Bullets" (its English translation published in Boston and London), a most sanguinary story of real experiences of a young army officer in that horrible siege of Port Arthur, has told to his readers a soldier's tender feelings toward the most faithful of all animals, perhaps except dogs.

"Fortunately we have abundant material, both in history and in literature, from which we can tell stories and stories to children in nurseries, kindergartens, and schools to illustrate our inborn kindness and sympathy toward the dumb creation. Just to name a few instances, our 16th Emperor and his queen consort banished a man to a distant island for slaughtering a deer to offer the venison to their majesties. This animal had lived not far from their Palace in Osaka and been accustomed to entertain them by its nightly calling. This compassionate act took place before Buddhism was brought to our shores, and before Confucianism had hardly time to humanize our ancestors. About fourteen hundred years ago, our 29th Emperor distinguished a man by appointment to an important post in his government, because he had been brave enough, and good enough to save the life of a wolf that had been fighting with another. This humanitarian Emperor's daughter became our 33d sovereign. This gracious Empress thought that hunting, which was one of the court functions of the Emperors, was not becoming her sex, and instituted gathering medicinal herbs in the field with her ladies-in-waiting and other court

dignitaries. And the herbs thus collected were given to the government dispensary for the good of the sick. From this we still call flower-viewing excursions *cherry-hunting*, *maple-hunting* and so on. There are, also, many instances in our history of women who gently persuaded their husbands or fathers to stop shooting for mere amusement. In this way, love of nature and abhorrence to cruelty have become part and parcel of our national character, and I believe and sincerely hope that even the modern life of strenuousness will not lead us astray very much."

Mr. Honda, speaking generally of humane work in Japan, says that there is as yet no society for the protection of children in Japan. Foreign writers and travelers almost unanimously assert that Japan is the Paradise of children and animals, thereby implying the needlessness of anti-cruelty crusade there. "We must, however, frankly own the existence of some maltreatment of children, either positive or merely negative, from ignorance," he says, and he has recently sent a letter to a Tokyo paper, pleading the cause of children to the humane public of his country. "True," he adds, "there are some individuals or societies devoted to the work of protecting children neglected by selfish foster parents or born in prisons. But such problems as child labor, beggars' employment of little children, and child acrobats, ought to be made a matter of systematic study and campaign." It was suggested in his letter that the urgent need would be, not to organize a new humane or anti-cruelty society, but to establish a humane education branch in the existing Imperial Education Society, the Women's Education Society of Japan, and the like.

## Electricity in Japan

According to the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce report, the number of electric works at the present time in Japan is 879, using 400,000 kilowatts of electric power. All the electric progress has been made in the last twenty years, especially since the Chino-Japanese War of 1894-5.

Leading electric works are those in electric lighting, tramways and telephones. The number of electric light companies is 162, generating 113,594 kilowatts of electricity. The Tokyo Electric Light Company alone uses 27,790 kilowatts, generated by water power, with a reserve heat plant.

The number of electric tramways is thirty-one, with a total length of tracks amounting to 567 miles. These use electricity amounting to 22,334 kilowatts. The principal electric traction system in Tokyo is owned by a single company, the Tokyo Railway. It has a paid-up capital of \$20,644,625 and an electric power of 13,620 kilowatts. The Government is also running electric cars on the suburban lines of its steam railway.

In Osaka, the second largest city in Japan, the electric traction is owned by the Municipal Government. The length of tracks is twenty-four miles, and the power generated is 3,000 kilowatts.

The number of subscribers for telephone connection is 109,782, of which 46,883 connections have not yet been constructed. The total cost of construction is estimated at \$12,899,000.

# The International Prison Congress and Japan

At the Eighth International Prison Congress held in Washington, D. C., October 2-8, Japan was officially represented by Mr. Takashi Sanagi, Prison Commissioner of the Department of Justice. Mr. Sanagi came to this country after making a careful inspection of prisons and other institutions connected with crime in England. Other Japanese delegates to the Congress were Dr. Shigejiro Ogawa, two prison chaplains (Buddhist Priests), a Japanese student at Harvard, and Mr. M. Honda. Dr. Ogawa was the first Japanese representative ever sent to the International Prison Congress, that being in 1895 when the Fifth Congress was held in Paris. He had studied in Germany under that world-famous penologist Kohnne, and for the last two years has been employed by the Chinese Government to train prison officials at Peking. As none of these Japanese visitors could join the ten days' tour of inspection of American prisons and reformatories, which was arranged as a part of the programme prepared for the foreign delegates by the National Prison Association of this country, they paid private visits to institutions of special interest after the Congress was over.

A full report on prison conditions of Japan had been submitted to the Congress by the Tokyo Government, and Mr. Sanagi read a brief paper on the same subject as one of the public lectures under the auspices of the Congress. His address is reproduced in the following pages. At the banquet tendered by the American Prison Association, Dr. Ogawa referred to the fact that the work of prison improvement in Japan was instigated, to a large extent, by the American medical missionary, Dr. John C. Berry, some thirty-five years ago. Dr. Berry lived and labored in Japan for more than twenty years. After making a thorough investigation of our prisons, he presented a memorial to the Tokyo authorities to suggest reformation. Through this new impetus, our then Minister of Home Affairs, the great Okubo, commenced the thorough reorganization of prisons as soon as the Civil War of 1877 was brought to a close. The Prison Association of Japan is planning the erection of a statue in grateful remembrance of what Dr. Berry did for Japan. Dr. Ogawa paid a special visit to the old gentleman in Worcester, Mass., before sailing for Europe. The late E. C. Wines, practical founder of the International Prison Congress forty years ago, visited Japan to induce that government to join the Congress, and at a Congress held shortly after told the whole world how Japan was improving her prisons, and of her recognition of her prison experts' indebtedness to such American authorities as Brockway, Barrows, Scott and Henderson.

Mr. Sanagi's address, "A Brief Account of the Present Condition of Japanese Prisons," is as follows:

"With regard to the improvement of the prisons in the Japanese Empire, every effort has been made to adopt measures to that end during the last forty-two years, that is, ever since the accession of the present Emperor. In 1872 the principle and course to be adopted in the treatment of prisoners was for

the first time defined; and at the time the essential point of prison government was indicated in the following terms: The prison should be a place for the treatment of men with humanity and not with cruelty; it should be a place for correcting them, and not for inflicting pain upon them. Punishment is resorted to under unavoidable circumstances when the object is to remove evils from the State. Prison-governors should bear this carefully in mind in the treatment of their prisoners. The intention was thus clearly expressed to put an end to cruelty and infliction of pain in the treatment of prisoners, and to adopt exclusively what is known as the principle of improvement and reform based upon the doctrine of humane correction. Since then, by the observance of this principle, efforts have been made to reform the prison system and to bring about improvements in the enforcement of penalties to keep pace with the reform and development of the penal system. Three years ago, in 1907, the Criminal Code was revised, and with a view to insure the effective enforcement of penalties, the Prison Law was also established and promulgated. In this manner a new era was opened in the penal administration of our Empire.

"The social changes have been remarkable in our country. From institutions and social conditions and manners to arts and sciences, there is nothing but has undergone entire transformation; and when we look back to the times, more than two decades ago, when the Criminal Law and the Prison Regulations which were in force up to the year before last were first established, we feel as if we were then living in an altogether different world. Now, law is the reflex of society; and it need hardly be stated that since it is the true character of law to develop simultaneously with institutions and social conditions and to advance with the progress of science and acquirement of experience, it should always keep abreast of the times. And when regarded also from the standpoint of penal administration, the necessity for the revision of the Criminal Code was recognized; and after careful study of the sciences and institutions of the various countries of Europe and America and mature consideration of the social conditions of our country and the results of our scientific knowledge and experience, additions and amendments were made upon subjective principles and the Criminal Code Revision Bill was drafted, it was presented to the Imperial Diet and was, with its approval, promulgated in July, 1907, and brought into force on the 1st of October, the following year.

"Thus, the Criminal Code was revised; but since the effectiveness of a penalty is revealed only when it is enforced, no judicial decision, however just and to the point, can be of effect unless it is carried out in a proper manner. Hence, it became more necessary than ever to bring about a reform in prison administration and the Prison Regulations, which had been issued in the form of administrative regulations, were abolished. As it was deemed necessary to enact a law in their place in order to strengthen the basis of the enforcement of penalties, the Prison Law was framed in accordance with the principles of the Revised Criminal Code. It was presented to the Imperial Diet in 1908, and upon obtaining its approval, was immediately promulgated, and was brought into force on the 1st of October of the same year simultaneously with the Revised Criminal Code. The detailed regulations relative to its enforcement were, so far as they harmonized with the spirit and principles of the Prison Law, issued at the same time in the form of an administrative ordinance, that is to say, in this case, as an ordinance of the Department of Justice. In this manner, penalties and their enforcement were made to harmonize with each other; and this harmony has been of great service in the penal administration of the Empire.

"With regard to the results of the enforcement of the Revised Criminal Code and the Prison Law, it would be premature to speak with confidence, as the enforcement is still of a recent date, but if we were to compare the number of persons convicted during the twelvemonth following the coming into force of the Revised Criminal Code, with the number during the same period immediately preceding that event, we should find a decided decrease. The Revised Code has generally extended the range of penalties and left room to reach the proper mean between severity and leniency by letting the degree of punishment vary with the circumstances of the offence and the character of the offender. And as persons who have previously transgressed the law



are in most cases condemned to longer terms of imprisonment than was the rule under the old Code, those with previous convictions are struck with fear and there are not a few habitual offenders who have taken up honest callings. The decrease in the number of cases of gambling and larceny is an instance in point; and it goes far to show that the deterrent effect of punishment is recognized and its object, the general prevention of crime, has been attained. Further, many prisoners, fearing that if they committed crime after leaving prison, they would be condemned to long terms of imprisonment, become careful in their conduct in prison and make up their minds to take up honest callings when they are released. Moreover, whereas in the old Code it was prescribed that to be admitted to the special favor of provisional release those condemned to penal servitude for life must serve fifteen years in prison and those condemned to a definite term must serve for two-thirds of that term, under the new Code provisional release may be granted after ten years in the case of servitude for life and in the case of penalty for a definite term, upon the lapse of one-third of such term. As this special favor may thus be enjoyed much sooner than was formerly the case, the prisoners, in their eagerness to qualify themselves as soon as possible for the enjoyment of this favor, have shown a tendency almost unconsciously to become careful in their conduct. The adoption of the finger-print method for the detection of previous convictions, the consequence of which is to eliminate the blind trust in good fortune that a light sentence might be obtained by concealment of such convictions, has not been without fruit in the prevention of crime.

"Among the various reforms made in the Prison Law with a view to the effective enforcement of penalties, should be mentioned the fact that the wages for the industrial work done by prisoners, which they received under the old regulations as a matter of right, are now given them in the form of rewards, and in the conditions for determining the rates of rewards to be given conduct has been included; and this intimate connection between their conduct and the amount of their rewards has produced a good impression upon the prisoners and brought about an improvement in their conduct. As a part of the whole of a reward may, according to circumstances, be withheld under the new Law as punishment for breaches of discipline, the prisoners have, from fear of losing their reward, naturally shown a disposition to be careful in conduct and diligent in their work. In short, as they have come to understand that their punishment is strict and not to be slighted, and its enforcement fit and not to be evaded, it is a fact that the condition of the prisoners has changed and is now tranquil. It would not, therefore, be far from the truth to say that the enforcement of the Revised Criminal Code and the Prison Law marks an advance in our prison administration, and its object has already been attained in part.

"But it need hardly be stated that since laws and regulations are lifeless things, they will be of no effect unless there are proper men to put them to practical use; and as it was necessary to foster men of character at the same time as the revision of laws and regulations, the training school for prison officials which had been closed for some time, was re-opened in Tokyo upon the enforcement of the Criminal Code and the Prison Law. Once or twice every year one or two of the chief jailers in actual service are selected from every prison and admitted into the school, where, during a term of four months, they receive instruction in law and other subjects useful to prison officials and acquire theoretical and practical knowledge, and at the same time are taught the application of the various laws and ordinances relating to prisons. Thus, the school is made the means of obtaining men of special fitness for the work. Since last year two terms have passed, and in that time one hundred and seventeen persons have completed the course at the school. As the school has so far given good and effective results, it is intended to keep it up hereafter.

"It is not enough for the improvement of prison administration merely to obtain proper prison officials. A great deal depends without doubt upon the prison buildings. But the prisons hitherto erected in our country are mostly of wood, and the arrangement and construction of the buildings are both imperfect so that it is to be feared that perfect confinement and true reform and amendment cannot be confidently expected in such places. The rebuilding of prisons was perforce recognized to be as urgent as the reform in prison administration. Accordingly in 1900, it was decided that the prison expenses, which had until then been defrayed out of the local accounts, should thereafter be defrayed out of the national treasury; and at

the same time, a programme was formed with respect to the reconstruction of prisons, and after a careful consideration of prison architecture in Europe and America and close study of the actual convenience and advantages attached to it, it was planned to build our prisons entirely of brick or stone; and the scheme was adopted of rebuilding prisons one after another at the annual expenditure of 300,000 yen. First, the rebuilding of six prisons was commenced as an undertaking extending over five years; those belonging to the first period have already been completed, and the rebuilding of four prisons which belong to the second period have been commenced. The work is going on at present and will, it is expected, be completed in a year or two. In order to make the work of reconstruction as complete as possible, it is desired to rebuild the remaining prisons as well, and application has been made for funds to meet the cost of such reconstruction; and although the object in view is, for financial reasons, yet unattained, a plan is being made to apply for an annual grant of not more than 500,000 yen and to expedite therewith the rebuilding of the prisons of the whole country.

"As regards prison education, lessons are daily given to prisoners under eighteen years of age, while as to those of eighteen years and upwards, the lessons are given only in cases where they are deemed necessary. The subjects taught are those of the primary school course. In large prisons professional teachers are specially engaged for the purpose; but in small ones the prison chaplains are made to take charge of the classes in addition to their proper work. Moral instruction in prisons is based entirely upon religion and the chaplains are all Buddhist priests.

"As the provisional release previously referred to has had a marked effect upon the condition of the prisoners, it is here proposed to give some details of the procedure connected therewith. If any prisoner, who has been of good conduct and received reward-badges and has been in prison for ten years in the case of one under a life sentence, and for one-third of the term in the case of one condemned to a definite term of imprisonment, is considered by the governor of the prisoner to show unmistakable signs of repentance and reform and to be fit to be provisionally released, the governor reports to that effect to the Minister of Justice, and if the Minister approves, he gives the required permission. When such prisoner leaves the prison, he receives from the governor a certificate of provisional release; and after the release, he must of course take up an honest calling and maintain his good conduct and must also be under the control of a police office.

"The police office, however, may, after hearing the opinion of the prison governor on the matter, delegate the control to a private individual, who must be a competent relative or friend of the prisoner, a person engaged in the work of protecting discharged prisoners, a priest, a school teacher, or a person of high moral reputation. If a prisoner on provisional release desires to change his residence or to travel for ten days or more, he must obtain the permission of the controlling police office, and if he desires to travel outside the Japanese dominion, he must obtain the permission of the Minister of Justice. He must, further, present himself without fail once a month at the controlling office and report on his occupation and other matters connected with his livelihood. If he commits a crime and is condemned during the period of provisional release; if he is condemned to a major fine or a more severe penalty for an offence committed prior to the provisional release; then, in the case of one who has been condemned to a major fine or a more severe penalty for an offence committed prior to the provisional release, such penalty is to be enforced; or, if he has violated any provisions of the Regulations relating to Provisional Release, the Minister of Justice may, upon receiving the report of the public procurator or the prison governor, revoke the order for provisional release.

"The number of prisoners provisionally released during the last five years (1905-9) is 8,281, while the number of those whose provisional release was rescinded during the same period is 264. The provisional release system has on the whole given good results and has been effective in bringing about the reform of the prisoners so released. Although there is no fixed rule respecting the protection of the prisoners upon their provisional release, those for whom such care is necessary are given suitable attention by societies for the protection of discharged prisoners, charitable persons, or persons to whom their control has been delegated.

"A remark may be made, in conclusion, regarding the work of protecting discharged prisoners. With a view to the development of this work, the Govern-

ment has been distributing 10,000 yen annually among the protection societies of the country and has made every effort to stimulate its expansion and encourage the establishment of societies; but the object aimed at has not yet been completely attained. The present number of societies for the protection of discharged prisoners throughout the country is fifty-seven; but it is much to be regretted that they are organized on a small scale and their field of activity is consequently limited. It is, however, now recognized by both the Government and the people that the protection work should not be neglected; and as the present tendency of society proves the urgency of this work, we are not without hopes that with its steady progress, we shall fully attain in the near future the object we have in view."

The following supplementary statement was sent to the leading Washington papers by Mr. Sanagi on the day after the delivery of the above address:

There are some points which I could not fully explain in the brief account of the present condition of Japanese Prisons, which I read last night at a public lecture in connection with the International Prison Congress now sitting in this city. I venture, therefore, to add a few remarks to my paper through your columns, as my audience evinced their interest by the questions they asked.

First, there are two kinds of schools in Japan for training prison officers. One is for new warders and is attached to every prison. The course of study extends over two months or more and the teaching, which includes both theory and practice, is given by chief warders. The subjects taught are:

1. The prison law and rules of procedure for the execution of the prison law.
2. The duties of warders.
3. Outlines of the criminal code and the code of criminal procedure.

4. A summary of the official service regulations.
5. Outlines of various laws and regulations concerning prisons.
6. Rules for surveillance and restraint.
7. Rules for the treatment of prisoners.
8. Rules for inspecting the behavior of prisoners.
9. Rules for prisoners' work.
10. Items concerning prison sanitation and rules for the treatment of sick prisoners.
11. Rules regarding signs and reports.
12. Rules regarding posture, etiquette, dress and discipline in general.
13. Gymnastic exercises; training in the use of implements; fire drill; fencing; jujitsu; the method of searching; the method of personal description.

The second kind is the school for prison officers and is situated in Tokyo. The pupils consist of chief wardens, one or two of whom are chosen from each prison. Every year one or two classes are held at different times and the term of instruction extends over four months. The instruction is given in the duties of prison officers, the theory and practice of inflicting penalties, practical working of laws and regulations, as well as the outlines of prison administration. As a result of the training acquired in the school many graduates have effected improvement or alteration in their work.

With regards to the wages of prisoners, one to seven parts of their earning is given to them as rewards for their merits, etc., and the remaining parts go to the national treasury. If there is a necessity to support father, mother, consort or child, a prisoner may receive a part of his income even while in confinement. No trades union can interfere with prison industry, and prisoners work from seven to eleven hours a day.

All juvenile delinquents under the age of 18 are kept in separate places, but juvenile courts are not established in Japan yet. We are investigating European and American systems with a view to organizing juvenile courts in the near future.

## "Tramps in Dark Mongolia"

BY THE REV. JOHN HEDLEY, F.R.G.S.

(Charles Scribner's Sons, \$3.50.)

Only those portions of China proper and Manchuria that are "modernized" are known at all to the Western world, and but a cursory interest in Thibet is felt in Europe on account of it's British-Indian relations. But the Chinese dependencies together are much larger in area than China proper, although very much smaller in population. Mongolia is almost the same size as China proper, whereas Manchuria, Thibet, Chinese Turkestan, etc., together are a little larger than Mongolia. Of 4,277,170 square miles of the Chinese territory, only 1,532,420 square miles constitute the eighteen provinces of China proper.

From the descriptions and the map of his itinerary, the Rev. John Hedley, the author of "Tramps in Dark Mongolia," does not seem to have really travelled in Dark Mongolia at all but only in that portion which is now virtually a part of China proper. His accounts of most interesting experiences and observations in the northern parts of Chili Province, as far as the River Shara Muren, are made doubly entertaining by his thorough knowledge of the Chinese language and history. No doubt he must have seen some glimpses of real Mongol life there, but we fail to see why his valuable book bears what is really a misleading name. In the next issue of the REVIEW we shall give our readers a Japanese woman-teacher's impressions of real Mongolia.

Perhaps in this connection it may be well to note that Russia has been steadily pursuing a policy of winning the people of Mongolia by various acts of kindness and benevolence. The policy has been attended with such a marked success that the Chinese Government has become considerably alarmed at the possible prospect of losing Mongolia. She purposes, in consequence, to tighten her grip on the inhabitants in every way possible.

A witness of the working of this policy states in a recent Japanese newspaper that Russia at present does not apparently seek trouble with China in order to gain control of Mongolia; but that she attaches great importance to that territory is clearly shown by the fact that she has set up in Mongolia alone four consulates, all occupied by the ablest consuls she has in her official list. She pursues a benevolent policy with regard to the Mongolians in the most thorough-going manner. The Mongolian poor never fail to find a helping hand in the Russians. The sick are given medicine by the Russians. When a road or bridge has to be constructed, the same Russians come forward with the offer of loan, for the repayment of which they never ask.

The Mongolian people naturally have begun to like the Russians and many of them have become naturalized citizens of that country. In order to prevent the denationalization, the Chinese Government contemplates the application of the Nationality Law now applicable in China proper only, to Mongolia also.

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