

AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN



WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE

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The American Consular Association is an unofficial and voluntary association embracing most of the members of the Consular Service of the United States. It was formed for the purpose of fostering *esprit de corps* among the members of the Consular Service, to strengthen Service spirit, and to establish a center around which might be grouped the united efforts of its members for the improvement of the Service.

AMERICAN CONSULAR BULLETIN

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George Hawthorne Scidmore

By Consul Edwin L. Neville

IN the death of George H. Scidmore, Consul General at Yokohama, Japan, the Service has lost its oldest member, the Government has lost a faithful servant, and the many who knew and loved him have lost a friend who cannot be replaced. Mr. Scidmore's life and work cover a period in the nation's history and in the history of its public service which it is hard for those of us who follow in the traditions he helped to create adequately to appreciate.

He was born at Dubuque, Iowa, October 12, 1854. His father, George B. Scidmore, of old New England stock, coming from Hereford to Cambridge, Massachusetts, in 1635, was one of the early railroad builders in what is now called the Middle West. His mother, Eliza Sweeny Brooks, was of English and Irish ancestry and came of a family that settled at Canton when Ohio was one of the younger States of the Union. George's early life, after the death of his father, was spent at Madison, Wisconsin, from which State he was appointed to the Service. As a boy of seven or eight he saw his brother march away to war, and later, as a boy in Washington, he saw the nation slowly recover from its wounds and embark on the period of material development which was so marked a feature of our history subsequent to the Civil War. It was a period of laxness in Government administration and left an indelible impression on his mind. With the faith in and love for his country which one would expect from a man of his ancestry and upbringing, he believed that the nation would one day demand that its public offices be administered on a basis of service rather than upon a basis of political caprice. He lived to see his faith a reality.

In 1876, after graduation from the National

(now George Washington) University as LL.B., he was admitted to the bar of the District of Columbia. He subsequently studied jurisprudence in England and France, and the study of the law and its development remained the dominant interest of his life. He used to insist that the perusal of a law report was frequently as interesting as a popular "thriller" and much more satisfying. His library contained practically every legal treatise of any importance and represented a collection that few private libraries could equal.

Shortly after his admission to the bar young Scidmore was appointed consular clerk (a position now referred to as consular assistant), in which capacity he served the Government in many posts until 1907, when he was appointed Consul at Nagasaki, Japan. He was one of thirteen whom President Grant and Secretary Fish are said to have referred to as Consular Cadets, in the hope that they were the nucleus of a civil service that would serve the country in a manner analogous to military and naval officers. It was thirty years before the Consular Service really emerged from the darkness, but George Scidmore never doubted the outcome. The ordeal was frequently trying, as a glance at the organization of the Service in the early days will show.

The Consul in those days was without supervision of any kind. He sometimes was in doubt as to what department of the Government he was responsible. Part of his accounts were sent directly to the Treasury, only such funds being accounted for to the Department of State as were specifically allotted to him by that Department. Some Consuls received a salary and others were compensated only by fees, but all of them re-

tained what were referred to as "unofficial fees." This class of fees consisted of notarial fees primarily, and consequently an office that collected large notarial fees was a desirable post from the point of view of an applicant for a position as Consul.

As a Consul's tour of duty usually coincided, in point of time, with the term of office of the administration that appointed him, the officer naturally felt that he should make the most of his opportunities. It would be a mistake, of course, to include all Consular officers in the category of those who "made hay while the sun shone," but it is undeniably true that a very large proportion of the appointees were men who were anything but a credit to the country they were supposed to represent. Conditions were so bad that in 1871 the Treasury sent an agent to investigate conditions obtaining in the Consular Service in South America, Asia, and Africa. His report, published in 1872,* disclosed a state of affairs that would appall our hard-working Consuls General at Large. There were many instances of downright fraud in supposed payment of seamen's relief to non-existent seamen; vessels in which there was no American interest whatever were given the protection of the American flag for a consideration, and in countries where disturbed political conditions existed local inhabitants were, likewise for a consideration, nominated Vice or Deputy Consuls or Consular Agents by the American Consul. Some officers kept no books and sent in no accounts at all. As they were not bonded or inspected, there was little the Government could do in the matter beyond dismissing the Consul. While this action might rid the Government of an obnoxious individual, it contained no assurance that the next appointee would be any better than the officer who had been dismissed.

In the matter of subordinates, the situation was, if possible, worse than that of principal officers. The Consul nominated his own staff, and the appointment as Deputy or Vice Consul seems to have been merely a formal act on the part of the Secretary of State. This was only natural, after all, as there was practically no allowance for clerk hire and the Consul usually either had to compensate his clerks from his own funds or find some one who was willing to work without pay. This naturally led to abuses, some of which have been referred to. There was no transportation fund, and the Consul and his subordinates were left to their own devices or the tender mercies of relatives, local residents, or the good nature of rail-

road and steamship companies in getting to and returning from their posts. As would be expected under the circumstances, the relation of the Consul to steamship companies was the source of much scandal, resulting frequently in a working partnership that was found mutually profitable.

In 1856, in an appropriation bill, Congress had provided for thirteen consular clerks, to be appointed by the President, at a salary of \$1,000 per annum and removable only for cause. These officers were to be under the orders of the Secretary of State, who could assign them to duty wherever the need arose. It does not appear that much was done under this act; in fact, very little could be done, as subsequent appropriation bills frequently omitted the item altogether. It was, however, included in the Revised Statutes, first edition, 1873-1874. The appropriation bill of 1874 provided that after five years of service the compensation of consular clerks should be at the rate of \$1,200 per annum. In 1876 the corps was finally filled, and since that time has been one of the most valuable branches of the Service. For many years it was the only branch that was free from partisan interference, and it was the beginning of the Consular Service as we know it today.

As a consular clerk, then, George H. Scidmore began his service. His first assignment was to the Consulate at Liverpool, in July, 1876. Liverpool then, as now, was a shipping port of importance, and Mr. Scidmore always referred to his stay there with much pleasure. He learned ships and shipping at first hand in a school that demanded decision of character. Disputes had to be settled on the spot; there was no cabling for instructions, and Mr. Scidmore's intimate acquaintance with Admiralty law and maritime practice were largely due, he stated, to the training he received at Liverpool in dealing with ships, crews, and cargo on the Mersey.

In 1877 he was placed in charge of the Consular agency at Dunfermline, Scotland, as Vice Consul, remaining there until July 5, 1878, when he was assigned to duty at the Consulate General at Paris. It was during his stay at Paris that he first made the acquaintance of the telephone, to which he always had an aversion that amounted at times to active hostility. He claimed that he had been made telephone-shy by an exhibition instrument that was installed in his office without his knowledge. He stated that he never recovered from the shock of having a raucous bell ringing in his ears, followed by a flood of French directed in and out of an inanimate contraption. In 1880 Mr. Scidmore returned to the United States, and

*A report on the Consular Service to the Secretary of the Treasury by De B. Randolph Keim, Govt. Print. Off., 1872.

the following year was assigned to the Consulate General at Yokohama, or Kanagawa, as the office was then called.

The Consular establishment in Japan, and particularly the office at Yokohama, had in times past been the object of much adverse comment. The report to which reference has already been made disclosed some very unsavory practices in vogue.

some knowledge of the rules of evidence, it was seldom that any subordinate in the office knew how to conduct a prosecution. To this office Mr. Scidmore was assigned on February 24, 1881.

The Consulate at Kanagawa had been raised to a Consulate General in 1874, and was made a supervisory office. The Consul General was Thomas B. Van Buren. Frequent complaints



CONSULATE GENERAL AT YOKOHAMA

Until 1899 the Consuls in Japan exercised extra-territorial jurisdiction. Many of them were without any legal training, and practically all the time the offices were without properly qualified subordinates. If the principal officer happened to be a capable man, conditions were not so bad. But in case of departure on leave, the office too frequently was left in the hands of a poorly equipped officer, and the fate of litigants in the Consular Court can be better imagined than described. There were no settled methods of litigation, and it was pure chance if the officer in charge happened to know enough about the law and court procedure to conduct a trial. In criminal cases, even if the principal officer who sat as judge had

come from the office that it was understaffed and that the growing trade of Yokohama with the United States called for assistance in the Consulate beyond the uncertain and too often unreliable clerks that could be employed locally. Moreover, lack of subordinates with some legal qualifications had greatly handicapped the Consul General in taking care of the judicial functions of his office. Scidmore's assignment was the result.

His first efforts were directed, on the legal side, to compiling a digest of cases which had come before the Consular Court and attempting to define the character and limits of Consular jurisdiction. This digest he afterwards expanded and

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Rogers Bill Testimony

The Secretary and Former Ambassador Davis Strongly Support Measure Before House Committee

BEFORE the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, during the recent hearings on the Rogers Bill, Secretary Hughes said, in part:

"I desire to discuss the bill in its general aspects and then it will be quite appropriate and in the natural course for the Committee to take up particular details which may or may not require, in its judgment, amendments to meet the purposes which I am sure all of us cherish.

"The desire is to have an improved Foreign Service. The provisions of the bill are in the interest of a broader basis for the selection of Foreign Service officers, for greater flexibility in appointment, transfer, and general supervision of the Service, and, of course, in those and in other respects to promote the efficiency of the Service.

"The effect of Section 2, if enacted into law, would be to take, for the purpose of gradation, the salary classification of our present consular and diplomatic officers below the rank of minister and put them into one class called "Foreign Service officers." This provision affects only the grades of the consular and diplomatic service below the rank of minister and the proposed classification into Foreign Service officers simply has the effect of establishing a salary relation of groups of men.

"Since 1906 consular officers have been selected in the Department of State under rules prescribed by the President, upon a merit basis. Politics have been taken out of the Consular Service years ago, so that men have been selected upon an examination devised in the Department, under those intimately familiar with the necessities of the work, to discover the applicant's special attention for that work. Similarly, since 1909, we have had diplomatic secretaries below the rank of ministers selected upon a merit basis under rules prescribed by the President for the determination of their fitness for that work. In 1915 the practice received legislative support by the provision that secretaries and Consuls of various sorts should be commissioned to a class, and the selection should be in accordance with the rules prescribed by the President. Now, while there is a very clear distinction between the Consular Service and the Diplomatic Service, each conceived simply as such, you have in both cases a great deal of actual work which does not differ in the one case from that of the

other. For example, you have Consuls in many places where there are no ministers, and they keep in touch with affairs and they will advise the Department as to the course of events. In some places they are called upon, if American citizens get into trouble, immediately for what a minister might be called upon if they were at a place where a minister was available.

"Again, at this time, with economic questions so closely fitting in with political questions—and all political questions, you might say broadly, have some economic aspect or some economic force lying back of them—diplomatic officers must acquaint themselves very intimately with a great many commercial or business or economic questions.

"Now, selecting young men on a merit basis through examinations, one having applied for the Consular Service, another having applied for the Diplomatic Service, you get men who have had training in language, in history, in the science of politics, so far as it can be taught. They show by their general knowledge an aptitude for the Foreign Service. It is impossible, however, accurately to foretell just what that man's special ability should lead him to in the future. Consequently, you may discover in the Consular Service a man who ought to be available for diplomatic work. His work shows this, his knowledge and his experience show it. In other words, by a rigid distinction between the two classes you make it impossible to avail yourselves many times of a service which would be of great importance to the country, which has a different name, or, in a broad sense, another aspect. You will find that there is a diplomatic agent or a secretary who may be very useful as a diplomatic agent in a way, but yet he has shown by his experience and by the character of his work that there are places in the Consular Service where he would be much better employed and could give a wider play to his natural and acquired ability. Now, what is the sense of having your service so arranged that you can not adjust this within reasonable limits, within constitutional limits? You should have a class that you can qualify as such and then have an interchangeableness which is of the greatest importance in efficiency.

"I have not, of course, any desire to blur the



distinction between the Consular Service and the Diplomatic Service, but we are in a very practical world. We want to have the foreign service of the United States as well equipped as any, and the way to have that is to have a service by which you can draw upon the right men who have had a large experience in one class of work or another class of work, and who are fitted for a certain post, to serve in that post. That is what I mean by flexibility.

"The other reason that I gave was to provide an appropriate basis of selection, or a field of selection. Now, you will observe that these salaries called for in the bill run from \$9,000 to \$3,000, or from \$3,000 to \$9,000. In the Consular Service we have at this time two Consuls General at \$12,000—one in London and one in Paris. We have our Liverpool Consul receiving \$8,000. There is a provision in the bill which safeguards during their terms of office the present incumbents. As to reduction, therefore, there would be a reduction of these high salaries, because the highest under this bill would be \$9,000; but the reduction would not be effective as to the present appointees because of the saving provision.

"In regard to diplomatic secretaries, our present classification gives us from \$2,500 to \$4,000. The new classification would embrace both Consuls and Diplomatic officers and the classification would be in charge of the President and would be based on efficiency and experience, and, of course, a considerable number of those in our Consular Service would go into the higher grades. It does not mean that there would be a general elevation of diplomatic secretaries to the highest grade. It does, however, mean this—that you would democratize the selection of diplomatic secretaries. Now, there is nothing in which I am more interested than this. Let me assure you this has no political or partisan bearing whatever."

Mr. Cockran: "Did I understand that these two officers—the Consuls at Liverpool and at Paris, the present incumbents—shall finish out their terms and not be reduced to \$9,000?"

Secretary Hughes: "Yes. This is not a matter that has the slightest personal tinge to it. It is simply my desire, while I happen to be spokes-

man for the Department of State, to use my influence to the highest degree to put this foreign service on the basis on which it should be. We have today more than twice as much work in the Department of State as we had before the war. It is not only double in volume, but far more important with respect to the quality of the work demanded, because of the problems presented in every part of the world, because of the intricacies of the questions left by the war, because of the kaleidoscopic character of conditions all over the world, the instability which is unfortunately presented to us in many parts of the world. You have the minimum of diplomatic service required

when you have the maximum of stability. You have the maximum service required when you have unstable conditions, new developments and a constant need for the protection of American interests.

"This great country can not afford to be represented by any service less than the best attainable. It is not an expensive service. When we consider the responsibilities resting upon the Department of State, the vast interests of our citizens and of the Nation itself that are at stake, I think it is the least expensive service in the Government."

Commenting upon the necessity for a trained staff, Secretary Hughes said:

"What should that staff consist of? Of course, it should consist of men who have natural aptitude and knowledge of

languages. I think our ministers should know the languages. Certainly, there must be somebody who knows the languages of the countries where they are, and who knows their history, knows all those things which constitute the "common law" of any office or any department. I mean by that, the world of things that have been done—the routine, the hundreds of interviews, the revelations of attitudes, disclosures of motives, expositions of personalities.

"To accomplish these results, you must have men of career, and, unless you provide for the career, what would happen to a young man who enters the Service? I speak now candidly and directly to you: what do you offer to a young man who has no fortune, who has just got God-given abilities and a desire to serve, who is inter-



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REP. STEPHEN G. PORTER
*Chairman of the Committee
on Foreign Affairs*



ested in international relations, who has the qualifications that come through specializing in history, in languages, and in study of world politics? What would lead him to enter upon a diplomatic career now, when all that he sees before him is a salary at a maximum of \$4,000? He knows, however, that by having an executive who is keen for the service of the country he may have a remote chance to get an appointment as minister. He might get it, but, in the main, he can not look forward to it, and, otherwise, he has got there a limit of \$4,000.

"I do not go at all upon the theory that men of spirit, of high ideals, are entirely influenced by money or money considerations. It would be a sad day for the country if our best young men had no other ambition. It is not true that they have no other ambition. Of course, you can not compete with what engineering will give or what the practice of law will give, or what the practice of medicine will give to the brightest minds. It would be folly to attempt a thing of that sort. But this country has always been able to draw upon its best blood to a considerable extent because of the desire for distinction, the desire for cultural opportunities, for the relations that are congenial, because of the ideal of public service that a technical opportunity of a professional sort or a business sort might not satisfy.

"What is necessary is to give a man an assurance that he will be able, at least, to live, that he will be able to get married, that he will be able to support himself according to reasonable and modest American standards. Is it too much to lay down the maximum for the very best at \$9,000 at this time? Well, if I thought I should have to argue that question, I should despair of any consideration of the Department. It can not be possible that I must argue this, that for a man who has chosen this career, who, year after year, sees his friends at college get rich about him, a maximum of \$9,000 and a minimum of \$3,000, should be considered excessive. The maximum will only be, of course, for the best men of long service. It runs down to \$3,000.

"It is not a good thing for the Diplomatic Service to be recruited, even on a merit basis, exclusively from men of families of fortune who can afford the life on the present basis. When I say that, I want to say that I am the last man in the world to deny the fine ambition, the qualifications, the creditable work of our young men of families of fortune who have not tried to add to their pecuniary competency but have made it available for public service. I do not know what we would do today if it was not that we can draw upon men

who not only have had the advantages of culture and refinement, but who have private means and can afford to enter the Service and are selected because of their ability and not because of any fortune they may have. With all credit to them, however, it is a great mistake, utterly undemocratic, for the Government to so arrange its affairs as to exclude others.

"This is not an extravagant proposal. This is an effort to make a reasonable classification which will give an opportunity, first, to put men where experience shows their best fitness lies, and, next, to make a career attractive within limits so that those who enter the Service can feel that if they are reasonable and modest that they can get along just as our boys want to get along if they are normal; that they can have a fair livelihood and a reasonable position in the world.

"We have another provision in this bill that is important. I can not go into an analysis of it as fully as I should like to, but you will consider it very carefully with all the details before you. That is the retirement feature. We have a general retirement measure for civil service employees. We have retirement in the Army and Navy, but, in the Diplomatic Service all you can do when a man has served his country for a very long time is to put him out or else continue him at the expense of the country in a position which he is no longer, on account of his age and on account of his wearing out in the service of the country, perfectly fitted to hold. You will notice that this, in a general way, is adapted to the standards of the retirement act of 1920, with certain modifications.

"The first modification relates to age. The age is made 65, of course, subject to the number of years in the Service, instead of age 70. The reason is that in the more or less routine positions under the Civil Service regulation to which the act of 1920 applies, the man may be quite as useful, if not more useful, at 70 than a man would be at 65 in the Diplomatic or Consular Service. This is subject to length of service, the number of years of service involved.

"The next point is that the contribution, as shown on page 10, from salaries is 5 per cent instead of 2½ per cent.

"The actual operation of the act, as I understand it, from the figures supplied me by Mr. Carr, and I need not tell you how much I value Mr. Carr's experience and services in the matter, is that there will be an initial contribution required for this purpose from the Government of about \$50,000, and that, according to the expectation, this is all that will be required until 1943. Then

(Continued on page 49)

Yucatan Unique

A Singular Land of Few, But Preeminent, Resources

By O. Gaylord Marsh, American Consul at Progreso

A FIRST casual contemplation of the extremely harsh, stony, and cavernous character of the inhabited portions of Yucatan would almost cause one to doubt the possibility of eking out an existence in such apparently unfavorable natural surroundings. Yet the half million of residents of this peninsula are not poverty-stricken or stone-hearted or gloomy; on the contrary, they are generally prosperous, generous, and happy.

It was the native of this peninsula who first sallied forth from his rocky homestead to the bordering *alcalches*, or swamps, to add to his wealth and to the world's gayety by laboriously getting out the once famous Campeachy wood that was so much in demand to give color to the clothing of the nations. And when an unrelenting science forced logwood into a practical obsolescence it was this same rock-born woodsman who penetrated the outlying jungles to extract the chicle sap to satisfy a gum-chewing propensity of mankind.

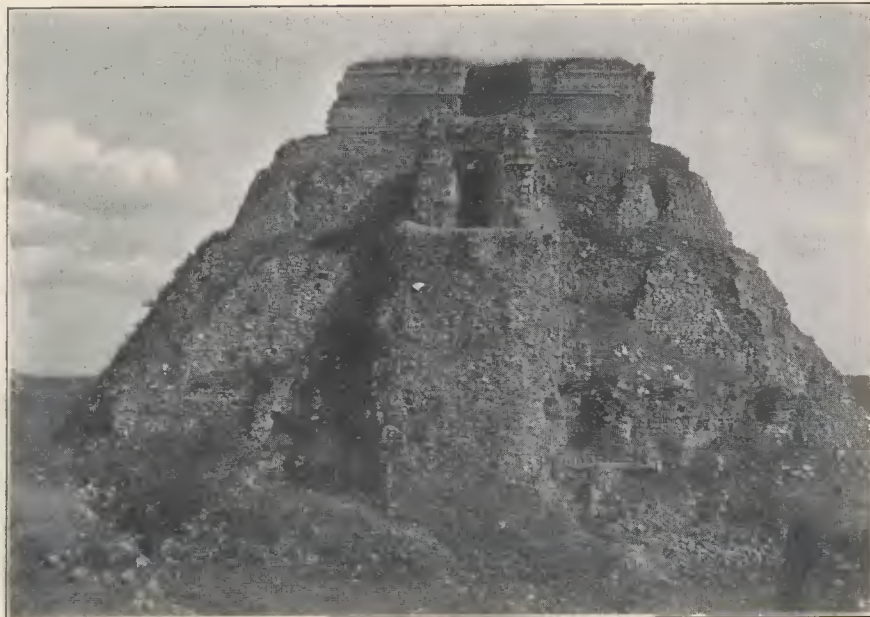
While the dye and chewing-gum industries were having their evolutions, their ups and downs, the inventive Yankee devised the self-

binder, which has meant so much in labor saving and efficiency on the world's progressive grain farms. Then amongst, and even on, the resisting rocks of Yucatan was found a harsh, spiny plant to yield the hard, smooth, and low-priced fiber that was to be found most suitable for use in the knotting apparatus of the harvesting machine. This fiber has been known to commerce as sisal, a misnomer derived from the old and abandoned port of Sisal, Yucatan, from which the fiber was first exported. Readers of the *BULLETIN* may feel a thrill of patriotic pride to know that a standard history of Yucatan makes favorable mention of a former American Consul as an early inventor of a machine for stripping the sisal; and further to know that the old American Consulate in Sisal, though abandoned more than fifty years ago, still stands, with the base of the old flagpole remaining over the door.

The Campeachy wood industry is now a matter principally of a serious commercial and industrial history, though it played its thrilling role in the activities of the buccaneers of past centuries. The present exports of chicle amount to about \$3,000,000 a year, while the exports of sisal fiber amount to about \$15,000,000. As both chicle and sisal are of almost universal daily use, and as it is probably quite generally known that these articles are almost exclusively from the Peninsula of Yucatan, no more will here be said regarding them.

But Yucatan has yet another great and unique but entirely unexploited resource, which is of sentimental and educational importance as well as of no mean commercial possibilities. The majestic Maya ruins, the equal of any other of the great ruins of the world, are referred to.

In a dark and unknown past, before the arrival



HOUSE OF THE DWARF, UXMAL, YUCATAN



HOUSE OF THE NUNS, CHICHEN ITZA, YUCATAN

of the Spaniards in America, there ruled in Yucatan a line of master builders whose structural achievements have long outlasted the purposes they were intended to serve. A kindly Nature, with a dry air and resisting rock, has preserved the houses of the legendary Mayas to awe, inspire, and puzzle the person of today who is so fortunate as to behold them; but a cruel fate has obscured, if not obliterated, a knowledge of the people who here disappeared in a losing contest with time.

In 1839 Mr. John L. Stephens was intrusted by President Van Buren with a special diplomatic mission to Guatemala. The mission having failed owing to a complicated revolutionary condition, Mr. Stephens devoted some time to exploring Guatemala, Chiapas, and Yucatan. He was so captivated with the archeological resources of Yucatan that he made a second exploration of the peninsula in 1841, entering by the old port of Sisal, discovering about forty ruined cities, and publishing four veritable classics on "Incidents of Travel in Central America, Chiapas, and Yucatan." The world is indebted to Mr. Stephens for its first general knowledge of the Maya ruins, and his books are still the most interesting and valuable treatise on the subject.

One of the best recognized authorities at present on Maya archeology is a former American Consul. It has been said that before the efficient reorganization of the Consular Service some Con-

suls in Progreso were chosen because of their archeological qualifications, but perhaps it would be more correct to say that it is quite difficult for a Consul in Progreso to keep from becoming an archeologist.

In December, 1918, as a guest of the Governor of Yucatan, a special Pullman having been placed at my disposal, I made a visit to the ancient city of Uxmal. In February, 1919, under somewhat similar conditions, I visited the ancient city of Chichen Itzá. The ruins of each of these prehistoric cities lie about twenty-five miles from a railway, and the journeys were made over the most hor-

rible rock piles that were ever heaped up out of chaos. With aching head and bloodshot eyes I beheld the most wonderful and mysterious sights of my many travels. Who were the builders of these fantastic but majestic houses, how did they live in these rocky surroundings, and why and when did they leave? It is grand to stand amidst such scenes and struggle with the unknown, and are there not thousands of sight-seers who would pay a good price to have this experience with a reasonable degree of comfort?

Apart from the sentimental, these ruins have been a latent resource capable of profitable development at a proper time. Yucatan has been very busy with the profitable sisal industry. During the war the exports of sisal amounted to nearly \$50,000,000 a year, but since the armistice this industry has suffered in the extreme. New sources of income are being sought by Yucatan to counteract depressions in their most important and almost their sole industry; hence it is but natural that they should turn to their remaining undeveloped resource—the ruins.

The prevailing government of Yucatan has decided to open its archeological treasures to the world travelers, and modern stone roads are being constructed from the railways to Uxmal and Chichen Itzá. I have again been invited by the Governor to travel the Chichen road in January, 1923, but this time to attend the inauguration of the first ten miles of completed highway.



NEXT YEAR'S APPROPRIATIONS

The expeditious manner in which Congress is handling the supply bills for the fiscal year 1923-24 is strong testimony of the value of the Budget System in dealing with appropriations.

Last summer every one in the Department was aware of the fact that Mr. Carr was devoting many earnest moments to the compilation of the budget for the Department of State and the Foreign Service but it was not until the hearings were called on this bill that the success of his labors was fully appreciated.

The hearings were a record breaker in that Mr. Carr was required to go to the Capitol for only a few hours on two consecutive days instead of for two continuous weeks as had frequently happened in the past.

The bill was reported to the House on December 7, 1922, and passed the House on December 12. On December 14 it passed the Senate and on January 3 the bill was signed by the President.

Other appropriation bills appear to be in course of passage with the same record-breaking speed, and the chances are that by the time the BULLETIN appears all these bills will have passed the House.

The estimates of appropriations as presented to the Bureau of the Budget and as submitted by the President to Congress were as follows, as compared with the appropriations for the fiscal year 1923 and the House Committee Report:

| Object | Appropriations 1923 | Estimate 1924 | House Committee Report |
|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| Diplomatic service... | \$2,994,597.50 | \$2,853,775.00 | \$2,821,275.00 |
| Consular service..... | 5,531,400.00 | 5,327,824.00 | 5,189,324.00 |
| Foreign intercourse.. | 1,278,170.16 | 5,742,698.79 | 5,686,056.50 |
| Total foreign service | 9,804,167.66 | 13,924,297.79 | 13,696,655.50 |
| Department of State* | 1,041,033.00 | 1,027,940.00 | 1,124,940.00 |
| Grand total..... | 10,845,200.66 | 14,952,237.79 | 14,821,595.50 |

*Note: Apparent increase for Department 1924 is shifting of printing and bind fund to Department for all services.

The estimates for 1924 again include the item "Payment to the Government of Colombia" on account of the Panama Canal of \$5,000,000. Deducting this amount, the total will show a modest decrease in conformity with the economy program of the administration.

The total of the bill as it was signed by the President is \$14,829,365.50, a net decrease of \$122,872.29 below the amount of our estimate.

The reductions in Congress were as follows:

| | |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Consular contingent..... | \$35,000.00 |
| 2. Relief of seamen..... | 20,000.00 |
| 3. Post allowances..... | 50,000.00 |
| 4. Bureau of Weights and Measures | 1,500.00 |
| 5. Bureau for Publication of Customs Tariffs..... | 1,093.00 |
| 6. Bureau for Repression of Slave Traffic..... | 125.00 |
| 7. Railway Congress..... | 400.00 |
| 8. International Sanitary Bureau. | 154.29 |
| 9. Inter-American High Commission | 7,500.00 |
| 10. Trade-Mark Registration Bureau Building—Plans..... | 5,000.00 |
| 11. Latitude Observatory at Ukiah | 2,000.00 |
| 12. French memorial at Panama City, Panama..... | 500.00 |
| 13. Bust of Geo. Washington for Pan-American Building..... | 1,000.00 |
| 14. Mexican Boundary Commission | 4,800.00 |
| | \$129,072.29 |

Additions in Congress:

| | |
|--|----------|
| 15. Payment to Louise Carroll Masterson, widow of former Consul at Plymouth..... | 4,500.00 |
| 16. International Bureau for Protection of Industrial Property | 1,700.00 |
| | 6,200.00 |

Net reduction..... \$122,872.29

In the foregoing tables it may be observed that the consular contingent expenses for the fiscal year 1922 fell considerably below the appropriation for that year, thus justifying the reduction that was made in this item.

One of the most important small items is that which appropriates a year's salary to Louise Carroll Masterson, widow of the former consul at Plymouth. This practice on the part of Congress has been continuous for several years, thus developing into a substantial precedent which is much prized by the Service as a whole.

Another interesting item is that contained in a proviso relating to transportation and which reads as follows:

"Provided, That no part of said sum shall be paid for transportation on foreign vessels without a certificate from the Secretary of State that there are no American vessels on which such officers and clerks may be transported."

The Service will be gratified to read the following taken from a letter recently received:

"The writer wishes to express his appreciation of the assistance rendered to American business interests abroad by the various consulates at which he has called. In the course of his duties the writer is compelled to call at the consulates of many foreign countries and he also wishes to draw comparison extremely favorable to the United States Consular Service.



AMBASSADOR RESIGNS

Charles Beecher Warren has tendered his resignation as Ambassador to Japan, where he has represented the United States with dignity and distinction since his appointment in 1921. Colonel Warren has had a long record of distinguished public service. Graduating from the University of Michigan in 1891, he pursued the study of law at the Detroit College of Law, and has been a prominent figure in legal circles since his admission to the bar in Detroit in 1893.

In 1896 he represented the United States as counsel before the Joint High Commission to determine the Behring Sea claims, and in 1910 he was likewise counsel for the United States in the North Atlantic Coast Fisheries Arbitration with Great Britain at The Hague. In the late war Colonel Warren rendered conspicuous service on the staff of the Judge Advocate General, where he was instrumental in drawing up the Selective Service Regulations. At the close of the war he was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal. He has been prominently identified with the Republican party organization as a member of the national and executive committees.

Colonel Warren is a member of the Detroit Chamber of Commerce, of which institution he was president during the years 1914-1916, as well as of many other social and civic organizations in Detroit. In returning to private life he leaves an enviable record of public service.

THE BRIBE

The munificence of nature's gifts to the beauty spots on earth is not necessarily a characteristic of the mortals who dwell amidst the splendors of her endowments. Though the lavished wonders of the skies of Sicily, the grandeur of Aetna, and the sapphire blue of the Mediterranean formed the background to the mundane activities of—shall we call him—Piccolo Regalo, there was no reflection of all of this in the expression of his life. Skies and Aetna meant nothing to him; the sapphire sea but a place that brought forth fish. Fish that Piccolo Regalo packed in barrels, in boxes, in tins; large fish and small fish; fish preserved in salt, in oil; dried fish and smoked fish. Regalo was no unimportant man among the fish packers in Catania. You would know this from the multi-colored weekly list that set forth the wholesale prices of the products of the house of Regalo and bore as an embellishment to the title page a magnificent counterfeit presentment of the likeness of our Regalo.

Regalo's products must have been good, other-

wise the sons of Sicily who toiled in the "land of the free" would not have consumed the very considerable quantities that Regalo on frequent occasions sent to his brother in New York. Such shipments meant consular invoices. The arrangement of so important a matter must be accomplished only by the "padrone"; and so it was that Regalo frequently came to the Consulate. Though I had not seen him until the day of our memorial interview, his oftentimes presence in the outer office had always been vouchsafed to me by the pungent aroma of fish—fish in salt, in oil; dried fish and smoked fish—that always enveloped Regalo in his peregrinations.

Each time that the fishy essence assailed my nostrils, automatically I prepared for service the rubber stamp that bore the lettering, "I am creditably informed that today's price of the merchandise covered by the within invoice is —." For you must know that the prices in Regalo's invoices were always about 35 per cent lower than those set forth in the gorgeous price list previously mentioned and one of which each week he never failed to send to the Consulate. And so one day when the atmosphere again became redolent of fish, De Leo, the faithful, who presided in the outer office, announced that Signor Piccolo Regalo desired to speak with me. And so we met. Seated in the armchair at my left, in good Italian he expounded. "Signor Console, each time I come you stamp a remark on my invoices in consequence of which my poor brother in New York is required by the cruel customs officer to pay a larger duty. Oh why, Signor Console, work such a hardship on a poor man? And, Signor Console, Signor De Leo, whose duty it is to prepare the invoices, thus has extra work imposed on him. Why not omit this unnecessary worry for all concerned?" His right hand clasped my left arm, he leaned forward, smiled benevolently, and in a confiding tone spoke on: "Any time you want a box of sardines—send for it." Though this is a tale *about fish*, it is not a *fishy story*.

A. G.

FORMS

While I contemplate,
Meditate,
Cogitate,
The forms
Accumulate,
Duplicate,
Triplicate, quadruplicate.
How they multiply
And ramify.
Any forms,
Many forms,
With places
For the date
And spaces

For the name,
 Never just the same.
 Forms, forms, forms,
 See them come in swarms,
 Never just a few ones,
 Eddying in storms,
 Always some more new ones,
 Forms,
 Stretching on for miles,
 Lying 'round in piles,
 Bursting out the files,
 We resent them,
 Such a throng,
 We repent them,
 If written wrong.
 All these forms,
 Who invents them,
 All day long?
 Who inspects them,
 Who corrects them,
 Who rejects them
 With a song?
 Forms, forms, forms and forms,
 Number here,
 Fill in there,
 Writing clear,
 Read with care,
 If facts agree,
 Sign a pair,
 Make him stand,
 Raise his hand,
 Let swear,
 There, you see,
 Seal deliver,
 Take the fee,
 How can it be,
 I can not see
 Why the Dep't
 Isn't swept
 Down the river,
 Down the bay,
 Far away,
 By the reams
 And the streams
 Of the forms,
 Keeping up, sweeping up,
 Every day—
 Forms, forms, forms,
 That consuls send,
 Without end,
 By the basket,
 By the casket.
 See them pour
 Through the door,
 Always more.
 Though they grouch,
 No consuls slouch
 At sending forms.
 They never fail,
 Some by mail,
 Some by pouch.
 Daily millions,
 Weekly billions,
 Nearly
 Fifty trillion yearly.
 FORMS! FORMS, Forms, forms....
 Forms, forms....
 Forms....

 forms....
orms....rms....ms....ms....ms.

F. C.

INTERESTING COMPTROL- LER'S DECISIONS

In the latter part of 1920 the steamship Zaca was damaged by fire in Port of Spain, Trinidad, but according to the report of the Consul there it was not lost to the owner nor abandoned by the officers and crew. Only a small percentage of its cargo was destroyed or damaged and the vessel did not abandon its voyage but proceeded under

tow and delivered its cargo, thereby earning freight. The living quarters and messing facilities for the crew were at all times available on the vessel.

The Comptroller was asked for a decision as to whether or not the vessel could be considered a wreck, and in reply the Acting Comptroller held as follows: "Generally speaking, a vessel is not to be regarded as a wreck unless she is at least constructively a total loss to the owner, that is to say, is rendered by reason of an injury absolutely unnavigable or unable to pursue her voyage without repairs exceeding the half of her value. While the term 'wreck' as used in the provision now under consideration (R. S. 4526, amended) may sometimes be given a broader meaning than as defined herein, I am of opinion that the facts presented in the case of the Zaca are not sufficient to establish a loss or wreck within the meaning of said law, and that in no case can a vessel be considered a loss or wreck in so far as the rights of seamen are concerned when the injury occasions only a temporary delay in the voyage and renders only a portion of the crew supernumerary." (January 17, 1921.)

The members of the crew of the Shipping Board steamship Owasco were under articles providing that they might be transferred to any other vessel belonging to the same line or owner at the same rate of wages and under the same conditions, and that if the vessel was lost the crew were to remain on pay until arrival back in the United States. The vessel was torpedoed and sunk, and the Consul relieved the members of the crew at the expense of the United States Shipping Board, and when the Shipping Board claimed reimbursement from the Department for the amount expended the question was referred to the Comptroller for decision. The Comptroller held that section 4526, Revised Statutes, as amended, which provides that "in cases where the service of any seaman terminates before the period contemplated in the agreement, by reason of the loss or wreck of the vessel, such seaman shall be entitled to wages for the time of service prior to such termination" and shall be considered as a destitute seaman, was rendered inoperative by the special agreement regarding wages and that the seamen were not entitled to relief unless they had become destitute in fact, in which case they would have been entitled to relief under the provisions of section 4577 of the Revised Statutes. (December 24, 1921.)



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The purposes of the Bulletin are (1) to serve as an exchange among American consular officers for personal news and for information and opinions respecting the proper discharge of their functions, and to keep them in touch with business and administrative developments which are of moment to them; and (2) to disseminate information respecting the work of the Consular Service among interested persons in the United States, including business men and others having interests abroad, and young men who may be considering the Consular Service as a career.

Propaganda and articles of a tendential nature, especially such as might be aimed to influence legislature, executive or administrative action with respect to the Consular Service, or the Department of State, are rigidly excluded from its columns.

Contributions should be addressed to the American Consular Bulletin, c/o Consular Bureau, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

PROGRESS ON THE ROGERS BILL

On December 11 the Secretary of State appeared before the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House and opened the hearings on H. R. 12543, known as the Rogers Bill.

Following the Secretary Consul General Skinner took the stand for a short statement.

On succeeding days the bill was taken up section by section and thoroughly explained to the Committee by Mr. Carr. At the end of Mr. Carr's statement John W. Davis, formerly Ambassador to Great Britain, and Frank L. Polk, formerly Undersecretary of State, appeared in support of the bill. This testimony concluded the hearings except for the continuation of the statement of Consul General Skinner on December 19. It is understood that the Department has arranged to supply a printed copy of the hearings to all officers in the Diplomatic and Consular Service.

The Chamber of Commerce of the United States, in a letter to Representative John Jacob Rogers, which is printed in the hearings, strongly advocated the enactment of the bill.

As the BULLETIN goes to press it is understood that the Committee has been for several days considering the bill in executive session and may shortly be expected to take final action with reference to recommending its passage to the House.

The present session of Congress will terminate on March 4, leaving very few legislative days ahead. However, the Rogers Bill has created much interest and there appears to be no well defined opposition to the measure. In view of the fact that it has the strong endorsement of the President and the Secretary of State, it may in that sense be considered as having a preferred status sufficient to admit of its being called up and considered under a special rule.

The March issue of the BULLETIN will doubtless tell the story of the Rogers Bill, for by that time it will be known whether the Service is on the first of July, 1923, to take new form and new life under a general scheme of reorganization.

BIENNIAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS

On August 31, 1922, the Executive Committee of the Consular Association mailed to all members a ballot containing the names of the consular officers nominated for the office of president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer for the calendar years 1923-24, as provided for in the Articles of the Association. The officers nominated were:

For president:

- Horace Lee Washington, Consul at Liverpool, England.
- Carlton Bailey Hurst, Consul General at Havana, Cuba.
- Stuart J. Fuller, Consul General at Tientsin, China.

For vice president:

- Homer M. Byington, Consul at Naples, Italy.
- Clarence Carrigan, Consul at Milan, Italy.
- Tracy Lay, Consul detailed at the Department.

For secretary-treasurer:

- Donald D. Shepard, Consul detailed at the Department.
- Hamilton C. Claiborne, Consul detailed at the Department.
- Mahlon Fay Perkins, Consul detailed at the Department.

A formal count of the ballots received was made at a special meeting of the Executive Committee on January 4, 1923, and the following officers were declared elected:

- President, Consul Horace Lee Washington.
- Vice president, Consul Tracy Lay.
- Secretary-treasurer, Consul Donald D. Shepard.

By a resolution adopted by a unanimous vote of the Executive Committee the chairman was designated to notify Consul Washington of his election. The cablegram sent is quoted here:

"On behalf of the American Consular Association the Executive Committee extends its congratulations on your election as president.

"STEWART, Chairman."



During the period from December 16, 1922, to January 10, 1923, the following consular officers registered at the Department:

Maxwell Blake, Consul General; A. K. Sloan, Consul at La Ceiba; Walter A. Foote, Consul at Prague; J. B. Milner, Consul at Niagara Falls; Damon C. Woods, Consul at Cape Haitien; V. Winthrop O'Hara, Consul at Barcelona; Donald R. Heath, Vice Consul at Warsaw; Howard K. Travers, Vice Consul at Naples; Sydney B. Redecker, Vice Consul at Rotterdam; Hiram A. Boucher, Vice Consul at Barcelona; Francis Wells, Vice Consul at Manchester; L. A. Clausel, Vice Consul at Buenos Aires; Manson Gilbert, Vice Consul at Patras; George J. Frasher, Vice Consul at Bagdad; Lucius H. Johnson, Vice Consul at Dublin; James M. O'Brien, Vice Consul at Genoa; L. Pittman Springs, Vice Consul at Cherbourg; Garcia D. Ingells, Vice Consul at Quebec; W. J. Linthicum, Vice Consul at Palermo.

A daughter, Aino Tangier, was born October 28, 1922, to Consul and Mrs. Leslie A. Davis, at Helsingfors, Finland.

A son, Robert Herndon Hoadley, was born November 20, 1922, to Vice Consul and Mrs. Herndon Goforth, at Santos, Brazil.

A son, Donald Bernard, was born November 26, 1922, to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Morris Travers, at Madrid, Spain, where Mr. Travers is a clerk in the American Embassy.

A son, James Richard, was born November 21, 1922, to Vice Consul and Mrs. James Wilkinson, at Zurich, Switzerland.

A daughter, Gladys, was born September 20, 1922, to Consul and Mrs. Robert W. Heingartner, at Vienna, Austria.

The following transfers, appointments, and resignations have occurred in the Service during the period December 11, 1922, and January 10, 1923:

George P. Shaw, now assigned Tampico, assigned Vice Consul Puerto Cortes, relieving Knox

Alexander, who goes to Quebec, and Hugh S. Miller goes from Quebec to Singapore; Leslie E. Woods, newly appointed Vice Consul of Career, Class 3, assigned Vice Consul Strasbourg, relieving James L. Murphy, assigned to Paris; Raymond H. Geist, now assigned Vice Consul Buenos Aires, assigned Montevideo; Donald R. Heath, now assigned Bucharest, assigned Warsaw; John E. Holler, now assigned Bilbao assigned Gibraltar; Charles B. Hosmer, now assigned Habana, assigned Vice Consul Santo Domingo; Robert F. Kelly, newly appointed Vice Consul of Career, Class 3, assigned Calcutta; John C. Moomaw, now assigned Montreal, assigned St. Stephen (tempo.); Robert L. Smyth, now student interpreter at Peking, appointed Chungking.

Consuls Samuel Honaker, unassigned; Joseph E. Jacobs, detailed Shanghai; and John Randolph, detailed Constantinople, have been detailed to the Department.

Consuls George E. J. Crosby, Class 7, and Milton B. Kirk, Class 6, have resigned from the Service.

The following clerks have been appointed Vice Consuls at their present posts: Walter H. Keese, of Texas, at Malta, and Herbert F. Pearson, of Georgia, at Naples.

The following Vice Consuls and clerks have been transferred in the same capacities: Sylvio C. Leoni from Messina to Milan, Verne G. Staten from Swatow (tempo.) to Amoy, and John S. Williams from Bucharest to Manchester.

During the period December 1 to 31, 1922, inclusive, 1,446 miscellaneous and general letters were received in the Department from consulates for transmission to the addressees in the United States. Riga led with 270, followed by Constantinople (99), Prague (96), and London (95).

Montifiore Judelson, formerly interpreter and Vice Consul in Turkey, visited Washington during Christmas week and took occasion to call at the Department to extend the season's greetings. While renewing old acquaintances and swapping

experiences he expressed the hope that his Service friends will not fail to look him up while they are in New York, where he now fills the chair of Professor of Modern Languages in the College of the City of New York.

Miss Kathryn Benedicta Gerrity and Mr. Monroe H. Kline were united in marriage on October 30, 1922, in Warsaw, Poland. Mr. Kline is Vice Consul at Warsaw.

Miss Katherine Gillespie, of New Rochelle, N. Y., director of the Near Eastern Relief Orphanage, and Robert Imbrie, of Baltimore, State Department observer at Angora, were married in the Benedictine Chapel at Constantinople on December 29. They began their honeymoon at Angora, where they first met during the height of the Turco-Greek campaign.

Mr. Jeremiah Philpot, Consular Agent at Port Hawkesbury, Nova Scotia, died of the infirmities of age at his post on December 26, 1922.

Mr. Philpot was born in Port Hawkesbury on February 8, 1854. During twenty-eight years of his life he followed the sea, retiring in 1912 as shipmaster. On November 2, 1916, he was appointed Consular Agent.

Mr. William Robertson, a clerk in the Consulate at Danzig, died at that place on December 20, 1922, by a pistol bullet wound inflicted during the night of the 19th. His body, which was found in the street, was returned to the United States aboard the S. S. Latvia for interment at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Major William H. Shutan, Infantry, has arrived at Havana, Cuba, relieving Major Albert K. B. Lyman, Corps of Engineers, as Military Attaché and Assistant to Major General Enoch H. Crowder.

Major Allen Kimberly, Coast Artillery Corps, has gone to Berlin to assume his duties as Assistant Military Attaché, vice Major Albert L. Loustalot, now Military Attaché to Finland and the Baltic Provinces.

Major T. Worthington Hollyday, Field Artillery, will shortly arrive in Washington, having been relieved as Military Attaché in Finland and the Baltic Provinces.

Lieutenant Colonel Harry N. Cootes, Cavalry, is now on temporary duty in the Military Intelligence Division, preparatory to relieving Lieutenant Colonel Allan L. Briggs, Infantry, as Military Attaché to Austria and Czechoslovakia in February.

Samuel Sokobin, American Consul at Kalgan, China, narrowly escaped death on December 11 when his automobile was fired upon by Chinese soldiers, and his companion, Charles L. Coltman, was fatally wounded.

At the request of Mr. Coltman and of Mr. Stuart L. Wooden, American citizens, the Consul had set out to accompany their party of four automobiles through the military guard stationed on the main route leading from the city of Kalgan across Mongolia to Urga. A Chinese military officer at the second guard station insisted upon making a search of the cars in view of an administrative order that had been issued that morning but not communicated to the American Consul. Mr. Sokobin refused his consent to such a search on behalf of the Americans in the party, as the legal right of an American citizen to transport his personal property within the territory of China without hindrance from the Chinese authorities is particularly specified by treaty. The Consul then made known his official status to the officer, stating that he intended again to interview the higher Chinese authorities and demanding at the same time that the cars be allowed to go forward. The Consul then returned to the automobile and took a seat just behind Mr. Coltman. The officer had left, but a guard of soldiers, who were fully aware of the identity of Mr. Sokobin, remained. Mr. Coltman and Mr. Wooden then determined to go ahead. As soon as the cars started, the soldiers opened fire without calling upon them to halt or making any attempt at forcible restraint. The car driven by Mr. Wooden was untouched and proceeded. Mr. Coltman, however, stopped his car upon hearing the shots, and directly thereafter was hit by a bullet. He was taken from Kalgan to Peking in a special train and died there later.

During the month of December, 1922, there were 3,091 Trade Letters transmitted to the Department, as against 3,268 in November.

The Consulate General at La Paz, Bolivia, took first place in the number of Trade Letters submitted, having 128, followed by Habana (70), Rio de Janeiro (67), Mexico City (61), and Valparaiso (55).

Of the total of 3,091 Trade Letters transmitted, the Department rated 17 as excellent.

Peter Augustus Jay, American Minister to Rumania, is now in the United States on leave of absence.

Gordon Paddock, Secretary of Class 2, who has been assigned to Belgrade, will shortly leave the Department for his post.



Cornelius Van H. Engert, Secretary of Class 2, was married December 16 at San Francisco to Miss Sara M. Cunningham. He is now assigned to the Division of Near Eastern Affairs in the Department. Mr. and Mrs. Engert will be at home after February 1 at 1727 S street, northwest.

The Conference on Central American Affairs, which was opened at the Pan-American Union on December 4, is still in session as the BULLETIN goes to press.

The American delegates to the Conference are Secretary Hughes and Sumner Welles. Mr. Welles, having just returned from Santo Domingo, where he had been American Commissioner, was summoned to Washington to act in this capacity. Edwin C. Wilson, second secretary at Tegucigalpa until last February, and subsequently assigned to duty at the Department in the Division of Latin-American Affairs, is secretary to the American Delegation, and one of the recently-appointed third secretaries, Edward S. Crocker, 2d, is assistant secretary.

A Secretariat-General of the Conference is headed by Jordan H. Stabler, at one time chief of the Latin-American Division at the Department, and Cord Meyer as secretary. The latter was called to Washington for this duty while on leave in this country, after having spent the last two years at Havana as third secretary.

Montgomery Schuyler, the Minister to Salvador, on leave from that country, is at the Department in connection with the Conference. His intimate personal acquaintance with most of the Central American delegates has brought him into close, though informal, contact with the affairs of the Conference.

The headquarters of the American delegation are in the Pan-American Union, as also are the offices of the Secretary-General, while the foreign delegations each have offices in the Memorial Continental Hall, which were provided through the courtesy of the D. A. R.

James Hugh Keeley, Jr., of Washington, D. C., American Vice Consul, was married December 2 to Miss Mathilde Julia Vossler, of Wellsville, N. Y., and Richmond, Va., at Constantinople.

Nearly every member of the American colony in Constantinople was present, including Vice Admiral Long, commander of the American naval forces. Consul General Gabriel Bie Ravndal gave the bride away and after the ceremony held a reception at the Consulate General.

The marriage was the culmination of a ro-



THE "SPEEJACKS"

mance which began while the bride was engaged in relief work in Constantinople.

Franklin C. Gowen, Vice Consul at Leghorn, Italy, while en route to the United States on leave of absence boarded the Yacht "Speejacks" at Messina and crossed to Marseille with his cousin, Mr. A. Y. Gowen, of Chicago, the owner of the famous and courageous 98-foot craft which since has completed an extended cruise of all parts of the world. The "Speejacks" has a gasoline-driven engine and is possibly the first of its type to make a voyage around the world. Although much tossed by wind and wave and reported lost on several occasions, the little vessel arrived at Miami according to the schedule made almost two years before in time to permit the owners to have their Thanksgiving dinner at the appointed hour.

Consul Edward I. Nathan in a personal letter written from Palermo to a colleague in the Department includes the following statement which is quoted as it refers to an incident (reported in the December BULLETIN) in which the members of the Association will have a very close and sympathetic interest:

"I must mention before closing that our colleague in Catania, Mr. Carl Loop, was near death's door, due to an infection that resulted from inhaling the polluted waters while sea bathing. This was, however, more particularly due to his heroic action in saving the lives of two persons who were in danger of drowning."



By the death in Leghorn, Italy, on December 8, 1922, of Antonio Mainardi, clerk in the American Consulate there, the Service lost one of its most faithful and efficient allies. There are few, if any, employees of foreign nationality in the Service who can equal the record of Mr. Mainardi. In length of service, fidelity, ability, and devotion to the interests of his post he certainly ranked with the few. Forty-two years of his life were spent in the employ of the United States Government and all of it was in the Consulate at Leghorn, where he had an enviable record as a trustworthy and sympathetic member of the office force. He was 73 years of age at the time of his death and is survived by his widow, a son, and three daughters.

Mr. Mainardi was well known and highly respected by the Italian officials, the foreign Consular corps, by business men of all nationalities at Leghorn. He was a life-long friend of Mascagni, the famous composer, who is a native of Leghorn. With his many close friends in Italy, there are at least a score of Consular officers in the Service with whom he served at various times who will hear with great sorrow of his death.

A total of 2,306 reports were received during the month of December, 1922, as compared with 2,300 during the month of November, 1922. Of this total the Department was able to grade 16 as excellent, 272 very good, 1,984 average, and 34 fair.

The excellent reports emanated from the following stations:

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Alexandria | 1 |
| Marseille | 1 |
| Mazatlan | 1 |
| Vienna | 1 |
| Zurich | 1 |
| Pernambuco | 1 |
| Rio de Janeiro | 1 |
| Teneriffe | 1 |
| Berlin | 1 |
| Hamburg | 1 |
| Adelaide | 1 |
| Halifax | 1 |
| London, England | 1 |
| Rome | 1 |
| Mexico City | 1 |
| Goteborg | 1 |

That Secretary Hughes plans to attend the opening of the Fifth Pan-American Conference at Santiago, Chile, in March, was announced at the State Department on January 13. On account of the length of the journey from Washington to Santiago and return, the Secretary will be unable to remain in Chile throughout the conference. The list of the American delegates has not yet been announced.

From Bulletin of the American Chamber of Commerce for Italy, October, 1922:

"A WORD OF THANKS"

"We are instructed by our Board of Directors publicly to express our thanks to Mr. Edward I. Nathan, American Consul in Palermo, for the zealous interest he is taking in the upbuilding of this Chamber of Commerce. Within the past three months no less than eight applications for membership have been received through his efforts.

"Mr. Nathan informs us in a letter that he shall be glad to continue his efforts on our behalf, as he believes that this is for the best interests of our country and its trade development.

"We are honored by his good opinion, and hope we shall long have the benefit of his collaboration."

The following is from "A Manual for United States Consuls," by J. Sidney Henshaw, published at New York in 1849. Do you recognize yourself?

"Commercial Consuls are now considered more generally useful to both states and merchants than almost any other class of foreign agents—ensuring greater facilities and security to merchants and mariners than could otherwise be, and, as sentinels and advocates in all parts of the world, standing foremost in the maintenance of their rights, honors, and privileges. They are, as a body, perpetually exploring and gleaning for the public; constantly advancing the interests and resources of trade; diffusing and exchanging the intelligence, arts, and sciences of their respective countries; presenting everywhere valuable services and protection to their compatriots, and usually by their cheering associations or generous hospitalities proffering a partial home in every clime to the weary voyagers who venture afar from their native lands, either for thrift, improvement, or Christian love."

The Lee House, Washington, D. C., has been added to the list of hotels in the United States which give to consular and diplomatic officers and their families a discount of 25 per cent from the regular rates. A list of other hotels which extend this courtesy to foreign service officers was published on page 338, November, 1922, issue of the BULLETIN.



A MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

The following cablegram from the newly elected president of the American Consular Association was received by the chairman of the Executive Committee on January 6, 1923:

"Please be so good as to convey to the Executive Committee my real and sincere appreciation of their kind message. Success to the American Consular Association. It stands for the Service we love, the finest and most unselfish Service on earth.

"WASHINGTON."

A NOTE ON CONSULAR PRACTICE

CHANGE OF NAME OF VESSEL IN CONSULAR INVOICES

Uncertainty has at times arisen on the part of officers with but limited experience in invoice work as to whether they should require a new set of invoices for certification when shipment is changed from a vessel mentioned in an invoice already certified and the triplicate copy thereof mailed to the Collector of Customs. A case of this kind was recently brought before Consul George Wadsworth at Cairo, Egypt, who made the following notation in the column headed "Consular Corrections or Remarks" on the original (file copy) and the duplicate copy, the latter being presented by the shipper for correction:

American Consulate,
Cairo, Egypt,
October 19, 1922.

At the request of the agent for the owner of the merchandise covered by this invoice, the name of the carrying vessel mentioned herein is changed to read S. S. Hog Island.

The Acting Collector of Customs at New York, H. C. Stuart, replied to Mr. Wadsworth on November 17, 1922, that his office concurred in the action taken with reference to correcting the invoice.

COOPERATORS

There follows a list, with an indication of the number of new subscriptions obtained by each, of those members of the Association who are successfully cooperating in the campaign for an increased BULLETIN subscription list:

- Vice Consul H. W. Goforth, Santos..... 4
Consul O. Gaylord Marsh, Progreso..... 2
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ROGERS BILL TESTIMONY

(Continued from page 38)

the amount would gradually increase until it would reach its peak about 1858. The adjustments to which I have referred would cause an increase in appropriations of approximately, as figured, \$578,500, divided as follows: About \$267,000 is in the Diplomatic Service, and about \$261,500 is in the Consular Service and retirement system, initial cost of \$50,000, against which there would be a saving in the post allowances, leaving the estimate at \$378,500.

"With regard to allowances, there is a provision in the law that where there are particular conditions in places, differences in exchange, a difference in economic conditions, which make the grade salary not adequate, the President can allow sums, of course, to be appropriated by Congress for that purpose.

"I thank you for your attention. I have discussed the bill in a broad way and I submit it for your consideration."

The Chairman: "I am in entire accord with everything you have said. In fact, I am delighted to know that the Department has taken this position. Can you give us an approximate estimate of the amount this bill would increase the expenditures?"

Secretary Hughes: "Just what I have said."

The Chairman: "Only \$378,000?"

Secretary Hughes: "Yes."

Mr. Moore of Virginia: "I suppose the Department of Commerce would very cordially approve this effort to strengthen our Consular Service."

Secretary Hughes: "Yes, I think so. Let me speak a word about that: There is no difficulty between the Department of State and the Department of Commerce. We are cooperating together. We appreciate each other's aid. In what I am about to say I know there would be no objection, and there could not be upon the merits. When you come to deal with government you must have a unified service; this is absolutely necessary. You have got to approach governments through a regular agency, and the only question is whether you will have two bridges or one. It will be fatal to divide that responsibility. Getting information, helping trade, dealing with all the activities essential to the extension of commerce, are of the utmost importance and I should be the last to minimize their importance. But when you come to dealing with governments, there must be a single, undivided control."

Mr. Rogers: "You alluded toward the end of your remarks to the matter of representation allowances. I suppose that is the new name for



what we have known for some years as post allowances."

Secretary Hughes: "I suppose that we have had under two names expenses of certain sorts, such as post allowances made in various appropriations. But, to answer your question, representation allowances would meet the need now covered by post allowances, as I understand it, and is a substitute."

Mr. Rogers: "The post allowance practice has been always looked at askance by the Members of the House, not so much by this committee as by the larger body, which perhaps has not looked so carefully into the matter. It occurs to me that you might advantageously indicate for their benefit a little more fully why you think it desirable that there should be the principle of representation allowances in legislative form. It might help the committee and the House."

Secretary Hughes: "I shall be very glad to do that. It is impossible in any fixed schedule of salaries to reflect the economic condition of the posts. You have differences in exchange, differences in the cost of living; you have a variety of differences in representation which have got to be met, or you do not carry out the promise of your own bill; and there must be some way of equalizing these differences. It can only be done by appropriation. Congress has always controlled the amount that shall be allowed. But the legislative basis should not be so expressed as to preclude the making of the appropriate allowances which will enable the mission to serve."

Responding to a question regarding the ownership of embassy and legation buildings abroad, Secretary Hughes said:

"It is a sad thing that there are few men who are available for the higher posts, and that they can not make good unless they have incomes far in excess of any salaries which the law would afford. You can help out by at least giving our representative a home; giving him a place to live, putting him in the same position as others. Why should the American Government, standing out supreme before the world because of its resources, why must it go about its business in foreign capitals in a shame-faced and humiliating fashion, because of inferior equipment? Protect the Government from wasteful outlays. I am for that strongly, but do not hurt your Government by foolish economies."

Former Ambassador Davis' statement on December 19 follows:

"I have some embarrassment in appearing in the attitude of an expert witness here to instruct this committee, which knows a great deal more

about the subject than I can pretend to. but with the background of some personal experience I do have a very deep and lively interest in this bill. That is my reason for appearing today. I really do not think that, so far as I know the Government service, there is any one place in it that needs this sort of reform so badly as the Diplomatic and Consular Service, the foreign service, speaking as a whole. Speaking generally, of course, the diplomatic branch of that service is the first line in the country's defense, and the Consular Service is the spearhead of the country's trade.

"I am quite aware of the fact, and I assume we are all aware, that the man on the street really does not appreciate the importance of either of these services. Speaking from my experience in Congress and subsequent service in the executive department and in the Diplomatic Corps itself, you constantly run into the most astonishing ignorance of what the Service is, its importance, or what it really means. There is a prevailing impression, I know, that the diplomat's chief duty is to attend pink teas and escort dowager duchesses around at ceremonial occasions. Most people think that the Consul does not come into action until somebody gets arrested in the port in which he happens to be residing. I am sure that is a quite prevalent point of view.

"I have read this bill, and it seems to me it presents four features which, if I may use the phrase, are cardinal points of reform in this question. Manifestly, if we are to get good men in the Service and hold them, after they get there, we must set them to work under conditions which are agreeable, that will stimulate their personal ambition, and that will induce them to remain in the Service after they have had the experience which makes them valuable. Over and over again, while I was in London, young men and good men in the Diplomatic Service would come to me in great personal concern and ask me frankly whether I thought they ought to stay in the Service. I always asked them what their financial condition was.

"If I found that they had no, or, at best, meager, resources beyond their official salary, I told them with great regret that I thought they were doing an injustice to themselves, and that at the earliest opportunity they ought to leave the Service and get into something that was not a blind alley. I did that because I felt sure that the time would come when they would want to marry, in the normal course of affairs, and would have children to take care of, and I knew they could not hope to raise a family on the salary they were receiving, and that the time would come, as it comes to



all men who stay too long on salaries, when they would find it difficult to get away and would drag out the rest of their lives in discomfort to themselves and discomfort to their families.

"It seemed to me then and it seems to me now that if we are to avoid the tremendous 'labor turnover' there is in the Diplomatic Service, we must do three things, first, give them an adequate living salary, a salary which will keep them in respectable comfort as long as they are in the Service; second, give them a fair chance of promotion. Every man in the Service ought to be like Napoleon's foot soldiers, marching with a marshal's baton in his knapsack. They can not all become heads of missions. A great many of them will not become qualified to become heads of missions. That is always true in the nature of things, and I personally believe it would be a great misfortune to the Service if the heads of missions should all be taken from the so-called diplomats of career. I think it would be quite contrary to the genius of our institutions and would deprive the President of a field of selection he ought to have, that he should be unable to reach out into the general body of the citizens to make a man ambassador or minister. But there ought to be the incentive, the possibility that an ambassadorship or ministerial position is open to every man who enters the Diplomatic career, if he has the necessary qualities.

"There ought also to be a fair chance of promotion in the lower grades, and there ought to be a sufficient number of the lower grades to give him from time to time the stimulus of an advance from one grade to another, whenever he has done some creditable piece of work or has shown a fair amount of faculty. We must do something if men are to be kept working, to stimulate their ambition. In the third place, it is not possible, it seems to me, that the Government will ever be able to pay a salary on which a man can hope to accumulate any reserve fortune. So far as I know, there is no post in the whole Government that gives a man much chance to save, and probably never will be. The Government will never be able to compete with private enterprise in that respect, and, that being true, if the Government expects a man to give his life to the service, to take up a presumably fixed career, you must take away from him the fear of a dependent and penniless old age. You must give to these men the same prospect of retirement that you give to the Army and Navy and to the permanent civil service of the executive departments.

"Granted adequate pay or reasonable pay, granted a reasonable chance for promotion, as a

recognition of merit, and then granted a retirement allowance which will enable a man when he is no longer useful to be assured against want, you will not only get good men but you will be able to retain them because the Foreign Service does offer, of course, a great many things that are attractive. It is highly intellectual labor. A man who really enjoys intellectual labor can find in the Diplomatic and Consular Service all the field that he needs. It is interesting because it is constantly taking him into new phases of work and there is a certain element of pride about it because it is a dignified position to stand among foreigners as representing a dignified and powerful nation. This consideration will draw men to the Service and will hold them there if they are given a fair chance to live the sort of life that they should live and at the same time make a provision for their old age. I read all these three things in this bill and read them with great satisfaction.

"There is one other thing in the bill on which I have a pretty deep personal feeling, and that is the provision for representation allowances to the diplomatic officers of the Government. Of course, that is an old subject. To those who have had any experience with it, it is rather a sore subject. It is notorious that we never have paid to our ministers, and especially to our ambassadors in the larger capitals, a salary on which it was possible for them to live, let alone to carry on the ceremonial activities that are indispensable in those positions. Those ceremonial activities, if we choose to call them that, are not mere matters of display or pride or ostentation. A certain amount of that sort of thing, as all of us here as reasonable men know, is indispensable in an exalted position of that sort. To a certain extent, the country itself is judged by the style in which its representatives live abroad. Human nature being what it is, men, people, officers, and nations are judged to a large extent by appearances. It may be sometimes a false standard, yet none the less it is a standard which men employ, and the country itself must inevitably be judged to a certain extent by the appearance that its representatives present.

"There is another side of it that is not so often realized by the man in the street which is even more important than that. My belief is that what the diplomatic officer under present-day conditions furnishes to his Government, the most valuable thing he furnishes, is a personal knowledge of the men who are controlling the activities of the nations with which his Government deals.

"I heard Lord Bryce say in an address delivered at Williams College, when he was over



here a year ago, that since the coming in of the telegraph the functions of the ambassador and minister have become less important than in the old days when he sailed away for a six-weeks' voyage and was out of contact with his Government months at a time, and, therefore, was left solely on his own initiative and compelled to act without instructions. Now, when the telegraph wire is working every day and he gets instructions constantly from the other end of the line, his service has become, if not less burdensome, rather less indispensable. I did rather a rash thing, for a man who challenges Lord Bryce on any proposition more or less takes his life in his hands. I think he had the most encyclopædic mind I ever met, and when it is a question of knowledge, and not of opinion, I can hardly imagine anybody challenging him on anything. But I ventured to discuss that with him and told him I thought perhaps he was mistaken about it, and that instead of a diplomatic officer having become less important and less necessary by reason of the telegraph, he had become more so, because unquestionably the existence of this rapid communication has greatly multiplied the communications between Governments, and the drawing

together of the world by rapid transportation has greatly increased the number of questions which bring Governments into collision. It has made it possible, of course, for one foreign office to correspond directly with other foreign offices by telegram or by mail without the intervention of the personal equation at all.

"But if it must do so without having a man on the ground at the other end who can say, What sort of individual is this who is being addressed, what are his personal limitations, what are his prejudices, his views, how far can he be expected to go along this line or on that, the foreign secretary is like a man with a blindfold over his eyes, simply talking into the air.

"The function of the diplomatic officer nowadays is to let his Government know who the man is at the other end of the wire and what sort of influences are working on him that will make him amenable to this suggestion or make him disposed to refuse that. A diplomatic officer of today who is receiving by wire correspondence for transmittal to the Government to which he is accredited, even where it comes as it frequently does in the shape of a formal note, prepared in the State Department, must feel it his duty to examine that



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note in the light of his acquaintanceship with the men on the ground. If he finds anything in it which his knowledge convinces him is inexpedient, it is his duty to advise his Government that in that respect the note ought to be corrected to meet the particular situation. We can no more get along without that sort of personal contact than a business man can sell his goods by mail without drummers, who know his individual customers, their tastes, and how far they can be accommodated.

"The bearing of that on this question of expense is that you can not get an acquaintance with human beings unless you associate with them. You have got to get acquainted in that particular circle. You have got to get upon terms of social intimacy, as far as opportunity permits, with men who are responsible for the governmental policy, and that, of course, necessarily involves the interchange of those courtesies that go to make up human intercourse. That means expense. It is the same sort of expense account that the manufacturer has for his salesmen when he sends them out and gives them a salary, plus expense account, to be spent in cultivating the good will of their customers.

"If I had my way about it, a perfectly free hand, I say to you frankly I would not raise the salary of an ambassador, possibly not of a minister, in the Government service; not because I do not think they earn their salaries. A man in any of these positions who is of any account at all earns his salary many times over in his service to the Government. They are not sinecures; they are really very hard-working posts. But you can not raise those salaries, as it seems to me, without getting them out of disproportion to the other salaries that are paid in the governmental establishment. While you pay your Chief Justice \$16,500 and Cabinet Officers \$12,000, and so on down the line. I do not think that in due proportion you can raise the salaries of your ambassadors and ministers, but you can do what every other Government does, and give them what the French call *fraîs de représentation*, expense of representation, which will cover these necessary expenses, which they must undertake, which they must assume, if they are to become really useful to the Government in their positions. I think there ought to be—and I am glad this bill takes it up in that form—that there ought to be a lump appropriation given to the Secretary of State to be disposed of by him in his discretion, and, of course, with accountability to Congress and to the Treasury, in allotting to the different diplomatic posts such expenses of representation as would fairly enable them to meet these indispensable expenditures, which are



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not in their nature private, but which are really incurred for the benefit primarily of the Government they represent. I do not know whether the committee would be interested and whether it would help them for me to go into my personal experience on that subject.

"No man likes to talk about his private or personal affairs, but you will forgive my doing that, because of the facts I have to offer about the conditions. I went to London at a salary of \$17,500. The State Department had been given the right during the war to make an allowance of \$5,000 a year for the purpose of entertaining American officers who were abroad, recognizing that two or three million Americans were coming over there, all of whom had the idea that the ambassador's house was theirs, and that he certainly would have some additional expense, so it allowed \$5,000 for that purpose. At the end of my first year that allowance was revoked, and after some more or less earnest protest on my part, I think they made it \$3,000 the second year. That was all. I am quite sure that my establishment in London was more modest than that of any other ambassador there. My house was not large; my whole establishment was the most modest. I did not do a great deal of entertaining. I only did the enter-

taining which was indispensable to return the courtesies which I officially received. Of course, you can not always take and never give. You must entertain the officials of the Government who entertain you to be recognized as on a friendly footing with them.

"I paid as rent for my own house \$8,000 in round figures—that is, paid 1,500 pounds sterling, plus rates and taxes, which are the real estate rents on it; which it cost me every year I was there, roughly. There was also a very low rate of exchange which I had in my favor the whole time, the low rate of exchange on the pound sterling, which went once as low as \$3.30 and ran from that to \$4.10, and up and down. Living as I was, without any ostentation—it was not a time for ostentation, and had I been a multimillionaire I would not at that particular time, under the circumstances, have indulged in the slightest ostentation whatever; the British people were just coming out of the war, were all distressed, still had the wounds on their persons and were bowed down with financial difficulty, and any man who would have made a display at that time would have made himself unpopular; it was eminently a time for conservatism and quietude—but with all that, living as I was, counting the expenses of myself and

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family, which is small, it cost me, roughly, three times my salary every year I was there, between fifty thousand and sixty thousand dollars. I do not believe that anybody could possibly have done it, done it decently, with any less expenditure than that. Now, of course, that is not fair.

"There is another thing which I think the public rarely realizes, not only do they send a man abroad under circumstances that compel him to make those expenditures as to which he has no choice and as to which it is not a question of saying, "I will or will not"; it is a question of "must." They forget also that they send him abroad under circumstances which forbid him to economize even in the expenditures which he makes. I do not know how it is now in Washington, but I know how it was when I was in Congress 10 years ago. There was a definite scale of charges in Washington for Congressmen and there was another scale for residents, and you might complain against it as much as you choose, but when it come to rent you paid the congressional rate. When a man goes abroad as a representative of the United States, which the people on the other side of the water believe to be an El Dorado, I can assure you he pays the highest market rate, and perhaps a little more for everything he gets, and he can not, of



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course, as a representative of a dignified and great country, get down to haggling with his butcher or grocer about his bills. He is simply compelled to pay what he is charged, and he is charged on the theory that he represents the richest country on earth. You can not get away from that situation. There it is, and nothing that can be done on this side of the water can change it.

"That is the situation and unless we are to confine our diplomatic representatives to two classes of people, those with private fortunes, and, without using invidious words, to spendthrifts, we have got to do something to remedy it. I think the proper course is the course suggested by this bill, to set up a representation fund out of which the Secretary of State can measurably and without extravagance or ostentation enable these officers to live as they are compelled to by the commission that they are given."

GEORGE H. SCIDMORE

(Continued from page 35)

published in book form under the title of "Consular Jurisdiction in Japan." This volume became a manual for practicing attorneys in the Consular Courts. During this period Mr. Scidmore was allowed to engage in the private practice of law at Yokohama, and was recognized as one of the leading lawyers of the Far East, practicing before the British as well as before our own Consular Courts. He used to relate an amusing incident in his career as a practicing lawyer which, he claimed, showed the danger of writing a book. He was pleading in a civil suit before the British Consular Court when his opponent asked the judge if the "learned counsel" on the other side was not a recognized authority in matters of law. The judge replied in the affirmative, whereupon the opposing attorney quoted "Consular Jurisdiction" to the detriment of Scidmore's client. "After that," Mr. Scidmore used to say, "I earned more fees by keeping my legal knowledge out of print and my clients out of court." In addition to his other activities, Mr. Scidmore lectured at this period to the English Law College at Tokyo.

In September, 1884, Mr. Scidmore was appointed Vice Consul at Hiogo and Osaka, the office now known as Kobe, where he remained in charge until June, 1885, when he was appointed Vice Consul General at Shanghai, China, taking charge of the office until his return to Yokohama in December of the same year.

In 1891 Mr. Scidmore was instructed to proceed to the Fiji Islands and investigate the claims of American citizens to lands in that archipelago

which had been disallowed in part or *in toto* by the British Government. In 1874 the British Government assumed control of the government of these islands and set up a land commission to settle the metes and bounds of privately owned land and to grant title. The task was a complicated one. The lands in the possession of Europeans and Americans had been acquired by possession, by gift, or by purchase from native chiefs. None of the Fijians could read, and very few of the settlers had any very clear idea of what a deed was; besides, none of the land had been surveyed, and the boundaries in each case were usually purely traditional. The results of the Crown investigation and the number of claims it disallowed caused a great deal of adverse comment from the local white residents. The German and American residents appealed to their home Governments against what they considered confiscations, while the Privy Council in London was deluged with petitions from British subjects in the Fiji Islands appealing against the decisions rendered. Mr. Scidmore spent over a year in the islands, from December, 1893, until January, 1894, investigating claims. During this period he visited practically every island of importance and made a very valuable collection of articles illustrating the manners and customs of the people. This collection he afterwards presented to the Star of the Sea School in Nagasaki. His report on the status of the land titles was published in Foreign Relations for 1895.


Upon his return to Yokohama he served in the Consulate General until the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war, when he was detailed to the Legation at Tokyo as legal adviser. Our great trade with the Far East, together with the fact that the war was the first one fought under modern conditions between fairly equal parties, raised many unique questions of international law. It was always a source of pride to Mr. Scidmore, and it should be intensely gratifying to the Service, to remember that even with the limited number of career men then in its ranks the Service was capable of meeting a new situation; that the Department could call upon one of its staff in a distant country for special duty with the knowledge that he was equal to the task.

During Mr. Scidmore's detail to the Embassy (to which the Legation was raised) the Service was reorganized (1906), and he was appointed Consul at Nagasaki, "as a matter of routine official procedure," as he used to phrase it, on March 30, 1907. Nagasaki from a scenic standpoint is the finest port in Japan and one of the most beautiful in the world. Our Consulate there was es-

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established in 1859, and is thus our oldest Consulate in the Japanese Empire. From a commercial standpoint the port is important only as a shipping point or coaling and provision and repair station. But it has a wealth of historical association as the only port in Japan that has been continually in touch with the western world since the Europeans first went to the Far East in the sixteenth century. For over three hundred years the Dutch maintained a "factory" or commercial depot at Nagasaki and were allowed to send one or at times two ships a year for purposes of trade—the only contact permitted with Europe. To this day "Hollander" or "Oranda" is the word used by the peasants of the vicinity to designate an Occidental.

After two years at Nagasaki, Mr. Scidmore was appointed Consul at Kobe in June, 1909, taking charge as Consul of the office where he had been Vice Consul in charge twenty-five years before. Kobe is the seaport for central Japan, and has grown up since the country was opened to foreign trade. Mr. Scidmore remained there only a few months, being appointed Consul General at Seoul on August 27, 1909, where he remained

four years until his appointment as Consul General at Yokohama in November, 1913.

In August, 1910, Korea was formally annexed to the Japanese Empire. Until this time extraterritorial jurisdiction had been exercised by Consular establishments in the country, and at certain open ports, notably Chemulpo, there was a certain area in which the subjects or citizens of treaty powers carried on a municipal government. These matters had been the subject of treaty arrangement with Korea. The extension of Japanese laws to the country required many adjustments of a legal nature, which were drawn up in the form of a protocol. In this work Mr. Scidmore's intimate knowledge of extraterritorial procedure and his familiarity with Japanese laws and administration were invaluable. It is a tribute to his foresight that none of the arrangements he made for the adjustment of American rights have since been found unworkable or the source of friction.

Mr. Scidmore arrived in Yokohama in the winter of 1913 and remained until his death, on November 27, 1922—his last tour of duty—as Consul General. This office has always been our



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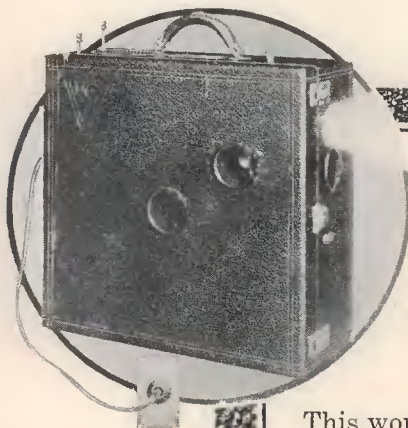


principal Consular establishment in Japan. Yokohama is the seaport for Tokyo and eastern Japan and the chief port from which Japanese produce is shipped to the United States. It is as well the first port of the Far East to be reached by vessels from the west coast of America. The importance of the port and office was recognized very early in our relations with Japan, and Consul General Van Buren accordingly obtained a perpetual lease from the Japanese Government of the land upon which the Consulate General is now located. The annual rental is \$87.35. At the time the lease was made, however, it was found impossible to obtain an appropriation to compensate the owner of some buildings which were upon the plot, so the Consul General purchased the buildings himself. The buildings subsequently were purchased in part by succeeding Consuls General or descended to their heirs, who leased them to the Government. The buildings had to be leased to the Government, for the grant of the ground lease expressly reserved the land for the use of the United States for a Consulate. Upon Mr. Scidmore's arrival he found that the buildings were owned in part by his predecessor, Consul General Sammons, who had been transferred to Shanghai, and in part by

the heirs and assigns of a previous incumbent. In 1915 Mr. Sammons, who had owned one office building for a number of years, presented his title to the United States, stating that he had received his initial investment in rents. Mr. Scidmore obtained title to the other buildings for the Government, and the property now stands in the name of the United States. The buildings are the same structures which were there when Consul General Van Buren obtained them in the 70's, and they were not new then.

A sketch of Mr. Scidmore's life would be incomplete without a reference to his mother, with whom he made his home until her death in 1916. Those who were privileged to know her did not wonder at her son's devotion to duty. Their house was a little piece of America set down in the Far East, and to them and their kindly hospitality and friendly counsel many a young American owes a debt of gratitude that cannot be forgotten.

Early in the summer of 1922 Mr. Scidmore suffered a slight stroke while attending a public function. He seemed to recover, however, and no anxiety was felt until the autumn, when a visit to the dentist disclosed an abscess in his jaw. At-



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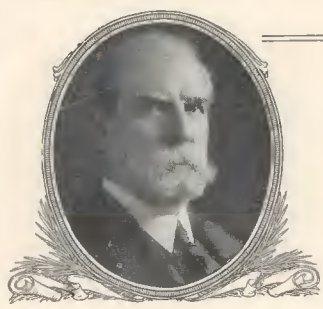
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tempts to remove it showed that the infection was deep seated. He appeared to rally after the operation, but his heart was not equal to the strain and he passed away peacefully while asleep on the morning of November 27, 1922. In accordance with the provisions of his will, his remains were cremated and buried with his mother in the Foreign Cemetery at Yokohama.

Mr. Scidmore was a man of varied interests. He was an ardent yachtsman and for years was active in the Yokohama Yacht Club, where he was a leading figure. He was a member of the Asiatic Society of Japan, a thirty-second degree Mason, and a member of many social clubs and organizations in the Far East.

It would be difficult to overestimate the respect and confidence which Mr. Scidmore commanded in the Service, particularly among the men in Japan. His wide knowledge, his unflinching courtesy and helpfulness, and his single-minded devotion to duty were an inspiration to those who came in contact with him. There seemed to be nothing in the wide range of Consular work upon which his judgment and advice were not eagerly sought and freely given. Even when he could not be consulted, many a Consular officer began the consideration of a difficult situation by asking



1905 =

= 1923

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himself, "What would Scidmore do in this instance?" Technical proficiency and success in his career are the things which immediately suggest themselves in considering his long career; and they are, of course, a requisite and in his case a badge of confidence and esteem. But those who knew and loved him best like to think of him as an American gentleman—a worthy representative of the land he loved and to whose service he gave his all.

TO GEORGE H. SCIDMORE

In Memoriam

By Lillian Miller

Is this all we have left to us of you,
 A little pinch of ashes, puff of dust,
 Covered with fragrant petals white and red?
 Can it be this little casket hides that head
 With the silver of its hair, the deep-set blue,
 Keen, sensitive, of those most kindly eyes?
 Can it be this soft, damp earth as red as rust
 Will come between us and that genial smile?
 Or that the man we knew, so gentle, wise,
 Warm-hearted, steady, true, has finished now
 Of his life's journey this, the last long mile?

One day we saw you full of hearty zest;
 The next found us so truly unaware
 Of your quick going that we thought it jest
 When told that death had stopped to kiss your brow,

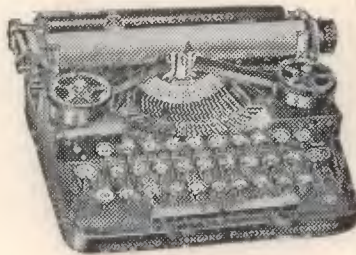
When told that death had stroked your silver hair,
 Now though we cannot help but sorely weep,
 Yet we rejoice you trod no tortured path
 But sank serene into the arms of sleep,
 And so into the ebon arms of death,
 And so rose to the radiant arms of peace.

Here where the pleasant vines will gently creep,
 And roses will give out their warm sweet breath
 And year by year guard you with soft increase,
 We lay your ashes facing to the west,
 High on a hill, in their last sheltered rest
 Beside her whom you ever loved the best,
 One with her before birth, now one in death.
 Below, the sea dreams rainbow dreams for you,
 The distant hills will watch, one peerless crest,
 Snow-gleaming, or a soft grey summer shadow,
 Rising from russet wastes or emerald meadow,
 Will guard you all the endless seasons through.
 And we, your friends, will scatter past blue seas,
 Leave this a foreign, though a friendly, land,
 Our voices fall on many a far, strange breeze
 But always, somehow, you will be there too,
 A silver thread run through our memories.

Here where chrysanthemum petals softly lie,
 Crushed by our sorrowful feet upon the stones,
 We stand around your flower-hidden bier
 And with moist eyes, in hushed and reverent tones
 Pledge you our hearts beneath the coral sky,
 Pledge us to guard your name and hold it dear.
 And these few humble, laboring words of praise,
 Of tender praise, are but as lowly leaves
 Picked from the laurel of your honored days
 Won by long service to an end immortal;
 And though infinity divides, and my heart grieves,
 I would be glad if some day you should gaze
 On this my song as on the least white petal
 Dropped from these flowers that stand in crystal sheaves.

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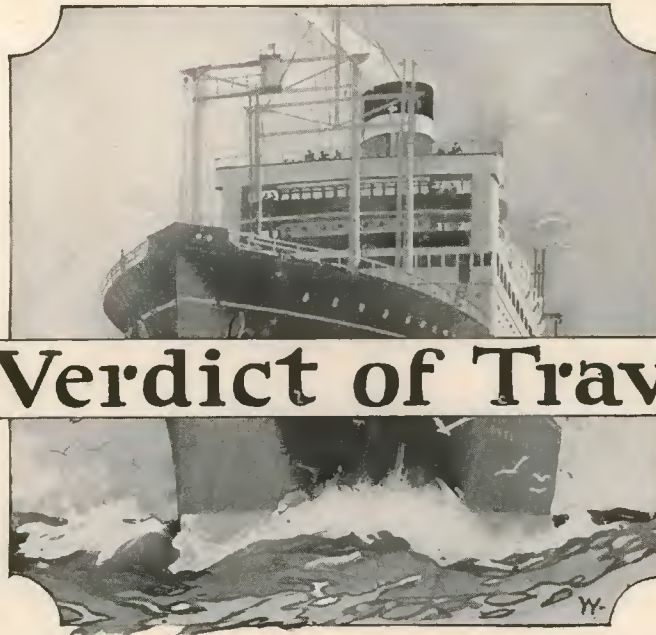
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