3

copy
[from diary]

[1-6-06] pg

Dear Mr. Straight

I am having a few friends this evening, and, though I have not the pleasure of your acquaintance - as Mrs Wilson's friend - will you be so kind as to come in and bring your guitar this evening

Yours truly

Shimadgu

W Straight Esquire

[1906] pg

Sir Claude & Lady Mac Donald

request the pleasure of

W. Straight

Company on Tuesd 9th Jany 7.30.

Supper.

British Legation. *R.S.V.P.*

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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For I feel sure the Comm. L. Figure will be an interesting addition to the book, all I can say to you that if in the future I can be of any service to you - You have but to mention it. Meanwhile will you please accept this Japanese Edition of my book as a forerunner of the London one I hope to send you later. My address in

Jan.y 10.th 1906
Tokyo.

LÉGATION DE BELGIQUE.

S. W.t Straight

I have been thinking the matter over, & I am sure it will be safer for you to forward the finished Sketches straight to my Agent in London whose address is

The Authors Syndicate
5 & 7 Southampton Street
Strand W.C

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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I shall have seen the first Sketch Sir. You are kindly sending me from Honolulu which will be ample, & if I hear tidings my return will not be later than the middle of April.
I am afraid it will be too late as it is more than probable the book may be brought out that month.
I will write to the Authors Syndicate who are arranging matters between Brown Langham & Co & myself & explain about the drawings. I think you will agree with me that this is the best plan and it will be just as well for them to have the Sketch by March if convenient to you.
I am afraid I cannot half express to you my gratitude

[illegible] for your kindness in giving me such a splendid opportunity

[1-10-06]

LÉGATION DE BELGIQUE.

Italy
Via Emilia
Rome

Now goodbye with many thanks & good wishes
Take care of Yourself & of yourself in Cuba
& give the same message to Mrs Morgan from me. Hoping we may meet soon
Yours very sincerely & gratefully
H Clary d'Anethan

If I can do any thing for you in London about placing your Sketches or anything of that kind I shall be very pleased & will be very much delighted & shall be

Légation de Belgique.
Italy
Via Emilia
Rome

Baron Albert d'Anethan
c/o Marquis Cavalletti
Via Emilia - Rome.
I hope to arrive there about the 10th or 12th inst shall be staying with my brother-in-law but a short time, and my Club address in London

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Will always find me
& letters always forwarded.
that is —

Grosvenor Crescent Club
Hyde Park Corner
London S.W.

I am afraid all
these addresses are
rather confusing.
All being well
I leave here by
"Princess Alice" on the
3rd March. I send
you Mrs. Reid's por-
trait: do what you
like about it. It is
a sweet face, but
doubtless your
pencil can alter
original may be
more charming still
Remember Pearl has
grey eyes, a pad
face - & quantities
of auburn hair.

[1906]

Le Ministre du Japon et Mme Uchida
prient Monsieur Straight

de leur faire l'honneur de venir dîner
chez eux le 1 *Février, lundi*
à 8 *heures.*

R.S.V.P.

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"Hotel Telégrafo"

PASEO DE MARTI 112, 114 Y 116

(ANTES PRADO)

Guillermo del Toro

PROPIETARIO

TELÉFONO NÚM. 230

Habana 2 de February de 1906

F. a. & J. H. Causey.

New Ithaca Hotel.

Ithaca.

N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

I am still waiting for the tapestry before settling your account. Express charges to Havana should be deducted from the amount of the bill.

Yours truly.

W. D. Straight

% american Legation

Sep 4 I shall be in Ithaca probably in the Spring or summer and if you prefer to do the matter at that time we can settle then, otherwise as I have said, I am indebted to you on delivery of the tapestry.

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt
request the pleasure of the company of
Mr. Straight
at dinner on Monday evening
February 12th at 8 o'clock.
1906.

[1906]

Mrs. Roosevelt
requests the pleasure of the company of
Mr. Straight
on Monday evening
February the twelfth
at ten o'clock.

Music.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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請求書

Dr. to THE IMPERIAL HOTELS LTD., TOKYO.

W. Straight Esq

Tokyo, 26/1 1906.

		Yen.	Sen.
Jan 16th 05	Two Tiffins	3	00
	Two Pabst Beers		80
Dec 28th "	One drink, Sandwich & Bath		80
" "	Paid out for Rikisha		45
Jan 2nd 06	Two Tiffins	3	00
" "	One pt Chateau Lanose	1	80
		¥ 9	85

THE IMPERIAL HOTELS, LTD. RECEIVED 3 SEN

Yamada

1260

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt
request the pleasure of your company
at the marriage of their daughter
Alice Lee
to
Mr. Nicholas Longworth
on Saturday, February the seventeenth
nineteen hundred and six
at twelve o'clock

An answer is requested

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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March. 3d 1906.

Dear Henry, [Schoellkopf - K.T.]

It was a great disappointment to me not to have seen you here passing through Chicago - or the New York for your smiling face was one of the landmarks I'd been looking forward to. A very brief stay it was. Landed in San Francisco on the 26th January and left New York on the 14th ult. Had only nine hours in Oswego - for my chief wanted me in Washington and in Boston where we went to see the Dixey's. I stopped with them for a night and it was my sad and my trying.

The Davis' had about given you up. and resented your having not

Sort of a butterfly life. Unless things get quiet o sheafe and I leave some real soon I quit and back to the East. Seats' the place Henry. The days at home command me quite. Nice not for New York at all. Nor for this I bet much though it promises to be very interesting when the mud is settled and something worth while begins. Of course it will I know - just here is at present. Mr. Morgan has been the very bottom - and I've learned a lot. State Private Secy - No official position in sight though I don't know what may happen inside of the next two months. However I don't see more than a year of Havana anyway - for Cuba the East simply drags down I hate to think of missionaries being little with me way at this end.

The way to make it see not Henry is for you to come here and see a new country. It's my attraction for them as like it and

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and possible return with no word to them. I judge from
your letter that you do not see them at all. Better come down
here next week and we'll have a reunion and much else
harmony. They will stop with H.S. I imagine as he has
already invited them to do so. It was certainly good to have a
long talk again and decide the fate of worlds and philosophies
and all that. Bobbie Dunn was probably in Newport.
He started out therefore the day I left New York. Simply
way of Britain! He'll probably get there next summer for
Peter Brooditch I know was laying for him. Saw Pete
and B Wendell, both the same. I went to the
Corner Club about three times - once at 4 P.M.
no me there - again at 6 P.M. on Saturday, again
with "Elf" Moore and Charley Taussig. My next
appearance was at 7 A.M. the day I left. That was the
star performance. Dinner and bridge with the Davies-
a collision at the St. Regis - tatb with Mrs. D. until
3:30. Trip up 5th avenue in an ice wagon - and
"Pat" Brice until 6:30. Then woke up Jakey Fraser
and took Bobbie Dunn from a drunken sleep to
breakfast. Off for Cuba at 12 M.

You certainly do seem to be tearing things up
with your trips abroad. Smith said that you were
the leading lawyer in Milwaukee. That's the way.
Your modest admission that taking up a bit of the
burden sounds my head - and I know it is. I am
at present wondering whether I haven't fallen into a

March 3, 1906 - K.J. [2]

most do. Regular Spain I should
imagine but only three days
away. Then are you my
good trains from Chicago I
understand. Otherwise I shd
have when I'll see you. Then
Summer maybe - but I
doubt it. I must confess that I
feel that life is so very busy here
that I should be ashamed to
take leave unless I were ill.

Please thank your mother
for many smiles and smiles
for coming to meet me. I send
a letter to him when I get
your address - You will say

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March 5th. 1906 .

Dear Henry ;-

Enclosed I am sending you a cheque for $ 200.00 in part payment of my account with you .

The following statement I beleive is correct .

Balance due October 1905	$ 499.54
Interest at 4% 6 months	19.38
Total	$518.92
Less enclosure	200.00
Balance due	$318.92 .

The accompanying letter in my own orthography will tell you of men and things .

Yours sincerely ,

Embarking. With much regret which is shared a thousand fold — by the way why don't you get a few here a second story? You should share. - and hoping for the reunion

Willard Straight

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[3-31-06]

March 31st . 1906 .

Dear Paddock ;-

Its been a very long time since I received your much appreciated letter containing the note to Mrs. Alexander , and while my intentions have been of the best , the time or the machine or something has always been , or rather to be grammatical , have always been lacking .

The letter I could not present in person as it arrived after New York and all its varied pleasures were miles and miles away . As you have doubtless heard ere this Mr. and Mrs Longworth came to Havana for their honey moon . Rather suitable , emminently so , I should say after the Seoul events of last autumn . My stay in the United States was therefore brief and planetic . Arr ived in Sa Francisco on the twenty sixty of January and started for Havana on the 14th of February . In the meantime had been wildly doing thou sands of things . Dined with the Harrimans several times , a t the White House on the Princesses birthday , went to Boston and stopped for a day with the Dixey's and saw a good deal of B. Wendell and Peter Bowditch in a very short space of time . Then made Wahington again and had a few hours in Oswego N.Y. Indidentally I stopped with the Davis's at Mount Kisco which did nt help much as far as time saving w went . Hus led off here to prepare the House for the Royal Bridq Party I was certainly up against it . There was no one 99in the Legation who took the slightest interest in the matter except one fellow who was half dead with catarrh of the stomach or something . I couldnt speak the language and stood by and watched the ropes twist , like mad things , knowing none of them .

There were no , or rather was no house in the first pl place . These people here had'nt rented one . That was my first joy . I thought on arrival . AH HA here are people with leather shoes and trouse rs . Executive ability and money are sufficient for alldaily evils . Order and it will be done and things like that . Had they worn pig tails , or yokatas, or bamboo hat s , one would have expected nothing . But no , surely we were out of the trail odf the Ba ndar leg and back with the Whites . Not so . I began to appreciate the meaning of that awful word tomorrow . " Manana" was all I could get . I telephoned the House Agent that I wanted to see him particular ly quick on particularly important business . At fiv said he . At five came a message not until Monday ? This being Satur day afternoon and the Gusts arriving on Thursday morning . At once I insisted . All right he replied . Ten minutes later . Tuesd he pleaded . A picnic for Sunday and a great deal of left over business on Monday . Really quite impossible to t alk it over wit so many things on his mind . Then I became wroth and told him t go to the Devil with his house iif he wanted to rent it to talk if not to shut up now and forever . He was grieved at my harsh to nes . But came and we had a cocktail and felt better . Then there were not only bath tubs and chandeliers to be put in but kitchen ranges , not to mention furniture . Linen , silver , glass all had to be bought : There are so many things that you are brought up to believe grow in every well regulated household that it is a sad blow and the shattering of many youthful id als to find that bum wad and slop jars have to be provided . They did and I used to wake up at night and hurriedly write salt cellars or something like that on the edge of my nighty . It was ver hard .

Then the Princess came and there were balls and many grand parties . H. E. turned up with them , they had travelled only a very small part of the way alone , it seemed to bore 'em

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to be by themselevs for any length of time . They stopped at Marianao , eight miles out of town where H. E. Has taken uop his abode and we played tennis and had close harmony in the intervals between Gala Performances at the opera and Presidentia ial Balls . They killed off two on their fir st night her e. One at the American Club and one at the Palace . The latter was quite q wonderful affair and alloed one to see all the dusky belles at once . One great thing about this palce is that they have no colour line . Every body evid ntly has a whisk of the tar brush , in their makeup , and the y think nothing of it . Lucky thing is it not ?

Then H.E. and I accompanied them on their journey to Santiago . Special train furnished by the Governmnt which I see by the Treasury statement cost $ 1,734.50 . We did it in three days exactly . Had an engine a baggage car , a chair car and a sleeper . Sa most of the day with our fett in the windows , Lon Longworth and myself experimenting and attempting to see who could make the largest numbers of combinations with whiskey, gin vermouth and limes and sugar . It was a successful party . NBeing the goat it was my province to stand off ancient Cuban Generals who came in with bouquets to tell the Lady that they had fought with her father . No great distinctio these days in view of the present attitude of the Senate . There we re gr eat numbe s of them and they were all generals and alf had bands , and were accompanied by special photographers , to perpetuate them as seen with Mrs . Longworth ? Generally they werent at all for it was either early in the morning , before she arose , orat noon wnhen she was eating , or a little later when theseiesta season was on . It was a sleepy trip . Sometimes theycame in the kiddle of the night and thatwas the worst of all . Then the porter came t o wake me , if the band had not already done so and I had to hold off doodering old reprobates with soft words , for the sake of the Minister and th

President of Our great Republic who is CUBA'S FRIEND .

Sunday and continued . Mrs . Roosevelt the mothe of all future Presientds arrived this afternoon per Mayflower and at p resent lies out in the Bay . We are due on board in the korning officially , though I have already been there and see n the Lady of the White House . D She is quite pleasant and will be here two days . Great things for the aspiring young Consul .

There are no more news . Personally and in my present state of mind I much prefer the East to this end of the world . I will feel different ly about it tomorrow .

I enclose the Vault key . I thought that it looked s rtrangely familiar and yet fitted nothing that I had in my possessiod . Many thanks for your kind words if they were such a as I hope to the Secstate . With warmest affection always ,

Yours ,

The William Small Papers

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American Legation ,

Havana , Cuba ,

April , 7 , 1906 .

Dear Hienie ,

Meant to answer your letter some time ago , but there hve been so many people here that I had to play with and so few mo ments when I could see the pavises , who have been here no for more than a forthight , that all save work and that particular play have gone by the board .

I certainly do wish that we might get together very shortly and if it be possible which I am sure it wont I shall go to Ithaca for my Class reunion in June . Thatb seems a long way offf however and lots of things might happen eer that . I have no thought s of value to impart , no views on the situation at present , no revolutions , no Presidents , am weary , but still innthe ring ? Had a letter from the old I.C the other day , told me that I could rejoin the Customs at the same plawe I left off . Not so likely at that that China sees me encore .

Enclosed I am sending draft for $ 100.00 leaving balance due $ 218.92 . Am I right ?

With best wishes and assu rrances of my distinguished consideration,

Yours ever ,

Apr. 10. 1906

My dear Bac [T. B. Little K. J.]

Jours letter came today and finds me in a mucke nasc Dactable wood. Ive decided to pull out of this place my shortly and while my twice is still Mrs. Morgans and not mine to desPair of I am living in hope that I may get drink with you and talk with you and float you off on the schooner your launching shortly. How Bascom I remember Miss Cobb - and you cant tell me that during all these years you have been hoeing at matrim ny in an orderly

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whole hearted way. Tis the scoffer who is oft times the most ~~~ susceptible - qui s'excuse s'accuse as the Frenchman said. Your plans sound good to me and sailing Cleveland 1 may ~~~ aboard somewhere in Europe and will take it over real beer and under castellated battlements - that is if guild guarantees that your conversation at that time will be measurably sane - and that you will be visible at all as a gay dog with a touch of the old thirst.

I shall wait your address and we may negotiate further later.

Strangely enough I am looking around and have been very seriously considering the advisability of buying at the gates of Standard Oil. The Eastern Manager is a friend of mine and I had been on the point of writing to him my own preference known. is for a consulate in China and it is on the chance that I may secure one and be starting Eastward via Russia that I trifle with myself so far as to think that we may meet in Europe. Tragle I remember my will and I shall certainly go to see him and have a talk at least - with I trust results satisfactory to him and lucrative to myself; I have now reached a point where it would seem advisable to try and seek adventure and excitement

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under more remunerative auspices than the U.S. Govt.

My new regret will be when you visit this place it will probably no longer suit alike my body my spirit it has been outgrabbed.

Thanks you for your letter - for your kindness in speaking to Taft which really seems unnecessary - is that the word? and may the world smile on you and love you as it should - all to it you know.

Yours

William Straight

Henry Schoellkopf - N.Y.
[1906, April P8]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dear Hélène.

Am coming up Friday for a sh and am going to Washington. Can you get a theme rito h.y. for a night sometime? Ill write you date. If you write me c/o State Dept. to be held until called for."

Yours

L Straight

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April 23, 1906.

HENRY SCHOELLKOPF.
MILWAUKEE.

Dear Billy:—

Your last letter, which I have temporarily misplaced, reaches me some time ago and with it came the cheque for $100,00 for which please accept my thanks.— According to my way of figuring your note owes me $28.92, but I don't remember what you stated the amount to be in your last letter. So this statement of mine is subject to correction, if I seem to have taken advantage of you.—

The San Francisco scandal is uppermost in everybody's mind in this country and the public have to estimate the extent of the loss.— The first man I thought of was Tom Lipton and I cannot help but feel that he has been terribly hard hit.— He has grown so to be so fond of the people and country out there that it has really become part of them and it—

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must have broke his heart to see it all go in a twinkling. The people all over the Country are doing a great deal in the way of sending money and supplies and that is the one encouraging feature of the misfortune. — But you probably know quite as much about this as I do and any comment will bore you! I believe that Alec has intended going to California, but he will probably have altered his plans. —

I have accepted a new permanent job in the office in which I have been working and it looks as if I would stick to the law. No munificent salaries, but expenses to burn! I'm not over-worked myself and will have to get down to work again before I'll take much satisfaction out of the life. —

Babel writes me once in a great while and lets me know that she still lets her mind be prey to her friends. — Let me hear from you Ezzy. — It is always good for me.

Your friend, Henry Scharmann

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COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE,
WASHINGTON.

May 12, 1906.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

By direction of the President I send you the enclosed letter from Mr. Richard Harding Davis. It is another testimonial as to Straight's fitness for China. The President earnestly hopes he can be given a consulate there.

Very truly yours,
(sgd) Wm. Loeb, Jr.
Secretary to the President.

Hon. Elihu Root,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.

[copy]
[endosed May 12]

Station Mount Kisco.

Crossroads Farm.
North Castle,
New York.

May 10, 1906.

My dear Colonel:

I think I am writing in a good cause, but, I will try to be as brief as possible.

Willard Straight, our vice-consul general to Corea is seeking a consular appointment in China. In the last ~~two~~ two years, in China, in my own house here, and lately in our legation in Cuba I have learned to know Straight well, and I consider no one better fitted for the posts he seeks and I know no one who would give you, and the country greater satisfaction.

When Straight graduated from Cornell he went to China as private secretary to Sir Robert Hart, than whom, as you know, Sir, there is in China no one better able to give a young man an excellent training. While with him, in the Customs service, Straight learned to write and speak Chinese and French, and became acquainted with the characteristics and habits of thought of the Chinese people. The war tempted him away from the Customs, but, only the other day I saw a letter from Sir Robert in which he said Straight could return to it, but, only in the place he held when he left it. Meanwhile, Straight, as war correspondent for the Associated Press in Manchuria, and as Secretary to Mr. Morgan and vice-consul general in Corea, had gained experience which he hoped with his training in China might fit him for a consular position in that country. Personally he is one of the cleanest minded, most upright and intelligent young men I know. Only the other day Mr. Morgan said to me, that there were few men of Straight's years who could have as creditably resisted the many temptations of the Far East, as Straight has done.

In my admiration for him I may seem extravagant, but, I know him well, and I believe and mean every word I have written and if you find that everyone

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[5-10-06]

else who knows him does not speak of him as highly and does not think, for such a post as he seeks, he is most admirably adapted, I will never again bother you with a letter. With this one allow me to extend to yourself my heartiest good wishes.

I am faithfully yours,

Richard Harding Davis.

Hon. Theodore Roosevelt.

THE WHITE HOUSE,
WASHINGTON.

May 12, 1906.

My dear Davis:

Curiously enough I had written Root the day before yesterday to try to put Straight in China. I have now sent him your letter. I think it can be arranged.

With warm regards,

Sincerely yours,

Theodore Roosevelt

Mr. Richard Harding Davis,
Crossroads Farm,
North Castle, N. Y.

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[c. May 15, 1906]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON.

Dear Hemie

No I don't blame you for waiting and wondering even if you not from Missouri. I am anxious to hear Cuba and the Private Secretaryship for Cuba and a new Consulate for this season the time to get in on the ground floor under the new bill. I am here waiting to see Mr. Bacon now - and like to send something other. What do we for Xmas.

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Unless the present plans are changed and I am able to stay up here until a week from Thursday rather than a week from today it would probably be better to arrange something together for the summer when I expect to take a little leave. In case I do stay up town or right next in Ithaca a week from today and then I'd go up to Ithaca Sunday night. Will that or Saturday night together anyway. I will write later.

Yours

W Straight

COPY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Washington

May 22nd, 1906.

Hon. Elihu Root,

Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Root:-

This note will be presented to you by Mr. Willard D. Straight, Vice-Consul at Seoul, who seeks promotion in the consular service. He is a young man in whom I am very much interested, is from Oswego, in my district, and I believe that his record on file in the Department would show what he can do and what he is. By birth, education and attainments he is a gentleman and by experience in the service, with his knowledge of Chinese and French, it seems to me that any post which could be offered him, especially in the Orient, would be most capably filled. May I bespeak for him your attention and your interest in his behalf? Were it not for the fact that I have just undergone a severe attack of typhoid fever and that my convalescent state has not permitted me to venture out, I would deem it a pleasure to make a personal appeal to you. With thanks for your attention and with personal regard, I am,

Sincerely yours,

(sgd) Chas. L. Knapp

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May 23. 1906.

Henry Schoellkopf - K.S.

Dear Henrie -

Still waiting here. But hoping to be finished today. and have something. The Secretary of State I must catch this morning and the President I see at about noon I think.

It's a rotten job this waiting me - and I like knowing what it will turn out to be in about ten days. But will be a long and well spent life. Now I am sailing for Tsingtau - and will let you know of success ful. Sail in Cuba on Saturday and shall be there probably until mid summer. There I want to see you and go Mo Smoothing and sweat and bathe and be healthy and damnably sane - for the last year has indeed been a my share and unreal at - and it's worse now.

Sorry that you couldn't come out to Oswego for Sunday I was there for a minute and was disgusted - hunting for all my time at home instead of going to Ithaca as I wanted to do.

A bientôt, Henry.

June 18th , 1906 .

My dear Henry ;-

I've been wired congratulations as Consul General at Moukden , though whether its true or not I don!t yet know . Carr , Chief of the Consular Bureau, wrote me a few days ago that I should be , probably , sent to Tsingtau , which as you know is the german port in the East . I fancy the Manchurian job , for many reasons , however , as first and foremost it's a Consulate General and primarily also it's at Moukden that the biggest game in the East save Peking itself , is being played and the Lord knows that Tokyo is a summer's day compared to the incipient cyclone that is hovering over north China . I am rather startled as you may well imagine , and the knees of me wobble somewhat , for its a responsibility which I dread although it's a chance I've longed for . In any case the road runs pretty straight and there are no more side paths for Willie . There's a chance for the making and as always one for the breaking , but as you said when you wanted to see the War ,"you'd like to find out" . Everybody likes to find out , Most people are lucky if they do it themselves and are not found .

So that's the state of the game . Now for the summer . I leave here on the 7th of July , all being well . There will be five days taken up in trip and quarantine . That makes the twelfth . Then I must be in Washington for a week probably , at home for a week , and that leaves me two weeks fairly free , though I have a hankering to be near New York I think part of that time , and shall probably go to see Aoki at the summer Embassy , and also want to see the Davises at Marion for a minute . Thats all . Ithaca I want to look at

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Henry Schellkopf, 6-18-06 -KJ

for a minute too . Now what have you to suggest . As I wrote you Ive a good many things to say to you and I want to get together for a while somewhere , why not Itahaca . We might also arrange with Alec to go to Erie which I th ink would be a great stunt . We'd have a time I suppose , but still there wont be many chances and some day I suppose we'll be too old and serious . At the present moment I feel the need of excitement for I've just finished a nineteen page report on British interests in Cuba on which I ve been toiling for six weeks and more and I want to holler . Think all these things over and dont fail to make definite and unbreakable pland to get together . This is one thing that must be .

Your probably in Ithaca at present writing . I wish that I might have been . Now it will have to be my Decennial I suppose . I'd rather figured on this year too . But if I had waited I should probably have been still looking for a job , and never landed anything like this .

With best wishes always I ,

Yours ,

W. Thaycher.

COPY

AMERICAN LEGATION

HAVANA

Personal July 2nd, 1906.

Dear Mr. Bacon

As it is not improbable that you have been the recipient of a great number of applications and queries from men anxious to enter either the Diplomatic or Consular Service I take the liberty of writing you in regard to a Vice Consul General for Mukden for I presume that it will be possible to arrange with the Department for the appointment of a desirable man.

I have already asked Professor Archibald Coolidge of Harvard whether he had any suitable person in mind and he has suggested, and writes me that he has spoken to, young "Bob" Grant who graduated from Harvard this year. I am anxious to find a man of Grant's education and character - who besides being an able and efficient assistant would be a pleasant companion - for Mukden is a lonely place and it would probably be more cheerful for us both if the vice-consul were to mess with me.

I should be extremely grateful for any suggestion from you regarding a likely candidate and should communicate with him at once in the hope that were we able to make some arrangement mutually satisfactory the Department might be pleased to designate him for the post.

I am extremely pleased to have received the Mukden appointment for of all places in Manchuria it seems the most interesting and the

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[7-2-06]

-2-

most suitable from which to watch post-bellum ~~the~~ developments, and wish to thank you for your kindness to me as an office seeker - kindness which I assure you was very much appreciated.

Yours very sincerely -

(sgd) Willard Straight

Note:
Mr. Straight was in Havana as private secretary to Mr. Morgan, U. S. Minister
E.H.P.

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

July. 8. 1906.

Dear Henry
Your letter from New York just received. I think you right about Erie. My time will be very limited as I must get off very shortly and will have a number of things to do before I go. If you can arrange it I think the most satisfactory scheme would be for you to come to Oswego and we could then go together to Ithaca for a day or two. This I want to do before starting out again - and we'll have plenty of chance to talk - even as in the days of five years ago.
I will telegraph you on arrival what the scheme is. I must go to Washington and to Boston & have a number of things to attend to in New York. Then Oswego & Ithaca. E. W. Huffcutt writes that

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AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Sat. Aug. 11th [1906]

Dear Harcus [Henry Schoellkopf - K.T.]

Yours at hand. Sorry to hear missed you. Carefully marked go Oyster Bay tonight. Will surely stop Erie. Glad you succeeded persuaded you to. Shall write Richie tomorrow. Hope to see you shortly 27th inst. or before. Time fleet and am tired as h—

Yours

Willard

He will be there until mid-August and I am rather anxious to see him - and whereon else may I be there for summer school.

A letter addressed c/o State Department. Will till called for - or Ward Line Steamer "Morro Castle" due here July 17th will reach me if you hear any other suggestions.

That we must get together is essential. and important.

Yours

WDStraight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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COPY

Oyster Bay,
Long Island, N. Y.

Sagamore Hill
Aug. 13th, 1906.

Dear Mr. Secretary -

In discussing with the President my trip to the East, he seemed to think it desirable - if compatible with the best interests of the service - that I go via Siberia As recent news from Russia seems to indicate that the Government is once more in control, possibly you would consider that a journey over that route might enable me to furnish the Department with information of value.

Mr. Meyer early in July stated that passenger traffic was uninterrupted and if he still thought it possible to make a trip through that territory I should be only too glad to avail myself of the chance to go that way.

If you deem such a venture advisable could you kindly inform me of your wishes in the matter.

Yours very sincerely

(sgd) Willard Straight

158 W. 2nd St.
Oswego,
N. Y.

Copy of memo attached to letter to Mr. Bacon from Sagamore Hill, Aug. 13, 1906.

The Assistant Secretary

August 15, 1906.

Mr. Carr:-

Straight has evidently been talking with the President, who wishes him to be sent by way of Siberia if we see no objection. Let me know what you think about it.

R. B.

The Department acknowledged the above referred to letter saying that it was desirable that WS should reach Mukden as early as possible and that if the route via Siberia is as short in point of time as that via the Pacific, the Dept would have no objection if he should go via Siberia.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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[1906]

NEW YORK

New York New Haven and Hartford RAIL ROAD

BOSTON

EN ROUTE

Aug. 17th 1900

Dear Henry —

again in the train. For the last few days I haven't known where the devil I'm been at for the President told me to do Siberia and I've been waiting to hear from Bacon. I learned today that Siberia was a go and am now Sailing from Nyk. on the 28th 11 days hence.

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I am afraid that this will knock out the Milwaukee game entirely. and I am more than sorry - for after your kind visit to Oswego I had hoped to see a lot of you in a day or so of comparative quiet. Can you come up again to the East - hear you any business in New York for the 27th or are having a sneak blow out in that region and I wish you could come.

Nelson Fairchild is going with me - and all has been fixed satisfactorily. He seems a very nice fellow and we are now going together to see Archie Eskridge shut up this pm. Tomorrow I go to the Dairy for Sunday and then time until Sunday night the 26th

Let me know to Oswego what you will be able to do - come up & you can.

Yours

W. H. Taft

DAMPFER „BREMEN"

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD
BREMEN.

Henry Schoellkopf, Aug. 28, 1906 - K. J.

Sorry Hinie [illegible]
Bless you & and
Dear Boys

Yr
Edward Taft

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Introspection may be foolish but it has the virtue of being amusing. You have become a habit that causes you much annoyance - and you hear that well. I think that I am acquiring the attitude & frame of mind which you cast off. If you can cast off a frame & die. But it will not be for long. Due largely at present to too much beer on the anniversary of Sedan - last night and much sea-motion today.

From Russia I shall write and revert to the old Diary duplication method & you will get more interest - if you care for that - than from a list of quasi-philosophic drool that may be induced by a truly libe and the niche of affection which you hold in the heart of —

Yours Ever

Willard Straight.

Next but is a rather good line isn't it? In Hearn's Sale write WWS and then - and come out to Mukden will entertain what I lost by not going to Willamina. Has a lot to say.

NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD
BREMEN.

DAMPFER „BREMEN"

Sept. 3? 1906

My dear Henry - [Schoellkopf - K. J.]

Thank Heaven the little flag is almost across now and it will not be many hours before we are in England and nothing to do and time in the extreme. Then a day or so of rest and on to Moscow. We shall not be any streets with the Kremlin but left to escape rest and bombs if possible.

Fairchild is turning out all right and I think that the Emperor visit should be a pleasant one thinking the unity of Manchuria and the satisfactory sight of one another. varied by the strange faces but not worn on unobjectionable nerves.

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The trouble is that when such disagreements do arise each thinks it is the other and neither is broad minded enough to admit that it is both. Hence there should be enough work to keep us going pretty well, and that is always an excellent thing - taken in conjunction with a certain amount of exercise mental and physical and a modicum of rum.

The United States in retrospect is a funny place. Within three weeks I was almost back together that I can see but the Golden East and will be back in the old rut without a whimper. One witness it stands clear among a great many confused things in general. and that is that it is an exceedingly difficult thing to keep a steady course when the needle is deflected at almost every turn by all manner of magnets - to come out satisfactorily where the aim is a jumping to jump relation with people of all sorts and kinds - that is with any feeling save one of confusion and uncertainty - and a desire to go and hide somewhere where it is quiet and cool. This may merely be the initial stages of re-acclimatization after a long absence - a period wherein the mental adjustment had been altered more than I realized. If so it seems a shame rather that the transformation should have been interfered with in its early youth - for the result may be neither fish nor flesh nor good red herring.

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Schools. Does not like to
the title of Professor to be
given this latest literary
effusion. He assured me
that his collection of "Success
Diseases" would be an epoch
making book. If people were
competent to speak the deep
& inspiring truths that lay
therein. He continued to
say that he had tossed &
sank intellectual naughts
that he felt sure that few
people would be able to
follow him. But all this
is an excellent man &
great man in many ways.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

Petropolis
September 4th 1906

Dear Mr Straight.

Your letter containing the
welcome news of your ap-
pointment as Consul General
at Mukden arrived some
time ago. Lloyd & I both re-
joiced in your splendid luck,
& would gladly have
taken your hand & con-
gratulated you personally. But we
have wandered so terribly
far apart, that we are reduced

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a slow & premature method.
You will understand this as
your lot has fallen in a
portion of the globe still more
secluded than that in which
we find ourselves. Now, we
are two days farther from
Japan than Yokohama from
San Francisco when there are
no Americans on board. We
are only 12 days from
Yokohama, but that is merely
a jumping off place and
for my part I take from any place
my wonted, warm welcome.
We are hopelessly far from
the Orient. Do let me have
your long, true, humble and
dirty yarn for the Coast. It Comes
one will compute to them
how many people would have
to handle it to their extent this
worthless little Steamer.
That is true, but sounds most
abhorrently Japanese. Then,
I should say, that the prevail-
ing trait of character here
is the exact opposite to that of
our late Companions
Comrades. Here, there is
rather a spirit of trustful-
ness & lack of suspicion.
At least one found it-

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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the energetic force of a great man, inspired confidence in friend & foe alike. His speeches showed him to be a master of tact learning & persuasibility, not to mention his delightful wit. He always had a pleasant way of drawing Europeans & Americans, Northerners & Southerners half way, without overreaching or going a step too far. He adhered steadily to the truth but spoke the truth gracefully. South America has much of her future train-

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

He is a true & loyal friend to our Country. Writing upon this left me inclined to reminisce. A year ago we were enjoying the last days of delightful Rio. Remember well. What fun it all was. Then came the visits to them the visit-return trip of our fascinating friends & of Alice & Nick. At this time you had it all in store for you

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Now. Curiously enough the Yates have made us Easterners our own "lean years" I hope that they will not number seven. At any rate, I see no prospect for more attractive Victors. I had pinned my hope on the Stevensons but they seem detained by the Exhibits of San Francisco. Mr. Speyer promised to come but has been kept to Germany & is now working in the Republicans' favor. They don't need Democratic Editor of our Republican Row but of learning in Younger States. Republicans where help & education are far more needed than in the older sections of Europe.

Mr. Root in his expedition showed great discretion & tact. His visit was a great success - it served & cement the friendship that had sprung up towards our Country as a result of the Pan-American movement. His personality won over more friends for our Country & his tremendous intellect

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3. 9-4-06 RS

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

to as she able to show the situation by the time of Mr Roots arrival. He were working against time & worked hard indeed. I never enjoyed anything as much in my life. I was, for once, able to help a little, as many of the Society people have prejudices against our people & think we are rude & uneducated & unpolished. Entertaining goes a great way here & women are regarded with as much respect as they are envied in the East. From that I see what a woman can do in Diplomacy

She is very nice, a staunch friend & an adorable woman. But she lacks the fascination of Princess Alice or the charm of my dear Mary Harriman. Mrs Root was ill when she arrived. She was dejected during her whole stay on a haunting sea-sickness. She is the dearest of women, but physically unable to undergo the trials & vicissitudes

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of this very fatiguing & difficult pilgrimage to Peking.

The Congress has closed. Its purpose is served. It has failed to eclipse the Boxer uprising. A strong personality appeals more to the world than any representative organization. Fortunately for humanity, Parties & Diplomacy will always preserve the individuality of the individual & afford a check on the balance of the Dragon.

Lloyd & I had a Boxer meeting two months on our Legend. We were fearfully handicapped in our work by having our residence in this hilly mountain capital. We tried to hire a house in Pao-ti as well but found not one available. To me Campedouse in an hotel about as primitive as that in Peking. We got to know all the important people

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at home forget me. I believe that the secret of it is they don't know where Brazil is & hence believe it to be beyond the reach of mails.

With all good wishes
Very sincerely yrs
Eli Thurston

Please send me postage stamps from your Countries when paper packet.

9-4-06 KJ
4.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

Here again back to go to the Cable.

Now that it is all over, we have come home & each after the severe strain. We have ceased to read & study & are enjoying this immensely. Lloyd seems to have a faculty of creating work as keeps us busy. He

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is always giving out so much for the force in putting new energy into old Creations. I should think he would find it very trying. But he denies it. I find the tropical climate very debilitating & it makes great inroads on my Nervous System. Best I can found to stay it over as long as I can, without

Permanent Injury to Myself.

The only amusement here is tennis & it takes all one's energy to drag oneself to play.

I am glad you have a cold & bracing climate but I suppose you have to undergo the Compensating heat in Summer. Do write & tell us more & tell us all about your new life. I will do likewise — in both our cases letters are acceptable. I find my friends

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[copy]

GRAND HOTEL D'EUROPE.

St. Petersburg, Rue Michel.

Sept. 12th, 1906.

Dear Excellency:

It was very kind of you to drop a line from Queenstown - a line which caught me in Petersburg - and I was glad to hear that you had at ~~least~~ least one or two human beings on board to break the Te Deum of what otherwise - as I know from recent experience - is a dull week.

We have been having a wonderful time here and were lucky all the way through even though I did nearly lose my camera and Fairchild dropped his in front of a Berlin trolley car - but eventually rescued it. A French speaking Russian piloted us across the frontier where we had no trouble and the next day we fell into the hands of Von Essen who commanded the "Sevastopol" in Port Arthur, and he talked all day about communes and land questions and legends.

Here we found Bliss who much regretted not seeing you in London - Eddy and Gibson - the Military attache, Brice and McCutcheon turned up the second morning and we almost persuaded the former to go to Mukden with us, but he finally left on the Nord Express for Paris. Bliss and Eddy both had nice things to say about your man Wilson and seemed to think that he would be all right.

Last night we saw the opening night of "Life for the Czar" with a splendid ballet and most marvellous costumes and afterwards supped at the "Medved" with an American named Crane (Charles R.) who seems to be the Collbran and Bostwick and many other things in Russian circles. You doubtless know him. Today we lunched with Claude Russell and dined with Crane and a very handsome Russian girl and a Cornell man and his wife found on the premises, afterwards seeing a little Russian opera and some splendid dancing ending up at the Narodny Doma with one of Pushkin - Tschaicofsky - or however you spell ~~him~~ him's pieces.

[9-13-06]

Tomorrow we light out for Moscow with a Train de Luxe to Harbin and passes both Japanese and Russian to see us through the lines and over the military roads. So we have clear sailing ahead.

Your revolution seems to be getting on nobly with Palma issuing calls for Congress and Herradura in the rebel's hands. A week ago tonight we dined ~~and~~ and supped with you and tonight we drank your health in Kvas, which has given me ~~the same~~ respect for bread as vodka has for potatoes.

Please write me of Cuba and the House beautiful and of all that has been happening. It was rare luck to have seen you again and I start for the wilds much better content therefore. The list of articles looks very attractive and I shall bless you many times, as always. My regards to Deering and Sleeper and my best wishes always to you, and may a change come soon.

Yours,

WillardStraight.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Edwin Morgan - U.S.

En route Tampico

On board S.S. "CEDRIC."

Sept 17. 1906

Dear Willard

I am writing you on a
north bound train upon
which also are Mr. Taft, Mr
Bacon, Capt. McCoy - who was
formerly with Gen Wood - and
a group of clerks as well as
a representative of the A. P.
(Elliott) and Williams - all
headed for Havana on a
special mission of investi-
gation. The situation there

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has developed quickly. the Palma government camp virtually gone to bits and camp requested intervention though I regret to have missed any things I'll let know the moment my arrival may not be in opportune as after this visit the program will be a fairly clear one. Poor Sleeper has had a bad time. Our friend Stanford has been sending confidential reports from Palma while the

expedition was delayed exactly as much should me in Mallorca to proceed to Barcelona to be on hand take charge of Sleeper when he arrives. Then this mission was starting very slow to join H. the principle step at Marianao. and the Prado the house where our [illegible] is a factor in the selection. the situation is like the one I dread the scale is

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larger and the interests stake much greater. When this letter reaches you - if it ever does - you will have read in Reuters many chapters of which we are yet ignorant. At the present you are somewhere in Siberia and have unlived chapters of interest before you too.

Gerald Morgan and Fortescue were on the pier. The latter wishes

[3-17-06] [2]

a commissioner in the Province of Quebec. The former may join me coming down on this week's boat. I should like to have him.

As I arrived in New York at 9 P.M. and left at 9.0. A.M. I saw no one else.

always

Edwin Morgan

On board S.S. CEDRIC.

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London. Sept. 22/06

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Trans Baikalia -
Somewhere -
Sept. 25. 1906.

Dear Harry - [Eschscholtzkopf - K.J.]

His father had in trapping mountains that night lie on run and crossing rivers that night run in any land to realize that we are really in the heart of Asia - just beyond Baikal. with Irkutsk less than a week N. and the business of life about to commence seriously for the first time since Chita - if that can be very serious. So his life has for has been comfortable enough. Russian Wagon Lits trains to Moscow and we a work to Irkutsk which is the interest Crown as it does not connect with the Vladivostok Express. The regular Government train is not a bad one - though it is dirty and shrouded in many ways. But the food is excellent and if the Car is not full you can always get an extra compartment or two by bribing the conductor.

The conductor always seems often to betray but arrive to fresh air

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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And now the windows were opened and
we all met in the room the faithful
Lithuanian friend who forced into the
compartments and closing everything tight.
It wasn't so bad as far as we were concerned-
but the General - who goes with his
unsavoury suite - to command a brigade
at Khabarovsk - always left a few of his
party in our compartments when he came
in to make a call - and they were
used to fresh air after years of
campaigning in central asia - and
objected to the lack of ventilation.
Why should they have bitten
us so ~~bitterly~~ when they didn't
get what they evidently wanted.
The train load was mixed. Russians
officers and frogging both active and
subsidiary - In fact Fairchild and I laid
a few bets on the probable birth rate on
the train - Jews - one female army
which announced to a Frenchman,
for his benefit me infer - that she
had lived two years in the
United States - in New Britain
Connecticut and in Newark. N.J.

But most lucky of all things - was the presence
on board of a man whom I had often seen
but never known - in Peking. He has been on
Salvation - Suicide, Pilot officer and friend.
with his bi-lingual abilities - always on top
at the crucial moment. Save for a nasty
scrap in Harbin in the Irkutsk station all
has been smooth sailing known - save that we
ended dear fried eggs instead of omelettes -
and beer instead of soup - and that we
have uniformly been stuck - little night and
light. But that is a necessary evil.
Irkutsk was the most picturesque sight
imaginable - flaring, guttering, lights - flies -
food. soldiers. immigrants in all stages
of dress and undress - mothers and suckling
babes. with a smell that rose to high
heaven. Thanks be to that august
locality - I have been blessed with a
sense cold and have thus escaped many
of the little pleasures of a Russian journey.
This Vladivostok express is a wonder. Sleeping
cars clean - with laundered blankets
and clean crews on the seats - and a
dining car that for the Russian article was
that of the best express trains to the west.
When my troubles began I don't know - but
they should be far off. For so far all has
been luxury and the fat of the land

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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How got the law in Milwaukee tests
in that you're doing and also sometime
if its not too much trouble would
you mind giving me the name of some
good work by Hensley which I can
work up a little elementary knowledge
of Court procedure. and the Ble- How
to submit as simple trial of such
circumstances should ever arise.
think I sincerely hope they won't. I
have the U.S. Statutes etc. but would
like how to do it read. any legal
advice would be greatly appreciated.
here I will write from Peking or Tientsin
when there will be more than the
just things of a railway car to tell
Yours &c.
and will - hopefully -
and rather be mooning about as I do
look after it seems a little six
weeks in America - little San Fran
no n two things which after all
are the main ones.

Yours

Willard Straight.

COPY

Mukden
Oct. 3, 1906.

Secretary of State

Washington

Arrived Tuesday.

Straight

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Mukden, October 5th, 1906.

Dear Excellency;

A letter from you written at West Park arrived from Peking yesterday and was my first word from a friend. All along the line we have been trying to glean information regarding the state of affairs in Cuba, and have only gathered vague rumours that your name had been frequently mentioned, that a fleet had gone to Havana, that Secretary Taft had been appointed temporary Governor and so on. Papers we have not seen as yet but have hopes and soon we shall know what has become of the Island - Pearl of the Antilles.

Whatever may be the outcome you have certainly kept up your well deserved reputation as an Empire Buster and I tremble for the xxxxxx Continental Power that will probably be receiving your Ministrations within a short time. The long predicted European conflagration will probably be the result.

I am only sorry that it haw not been my good fortune to be with you during these troublous days - a sorrow entirely selfish of course - for I should have liked the excitement and been very glad of the experience and the lessons to be learned. However, one cannot have one's cake and eat it and matters are probably better thus. At least that is the only way to look at it.

We arrived here on the night of the 2nd after a very uncomfortable trip over the Japanese line - cold and foodless - then it was that I cursed my folly in not buying the Tea Basket. At the Mukden station luckily we found an American whom I had known before and who with a cart had come to see a friend off so we tumbled our things in and walked four miles to a Japanese hotel, or brothel as it turned out, We left the next day and are now in a respectable

and not uncomfortable Chinese Inn.

The city is full of interest as ever and the sentiment of all resident foreigners quite the same as that of our missionary friends in Korea, with the one difference that they recite many incidents wherein the marauders have been brought to time. In fact the whole impression one gains is that they are gradually and effectively losing face. The Northern Bear may have been driven off for a time but that he will come back I have not the slightest doubt as soon as the time is ripe. That Railroad journey impressed me with the tremendous resources and wonderful future of the Russian Empire. xxxxx More I will write you later. This must now to the Mail which leaves shortly.

Hagiwara I have not seen but I have called informally on the Viceroy, who is a nice old person and very pleasant. We are having a great deal of difficulty in finding a place to live, but hope eventually to locate in a respectable and therefore probably very expensive place. But that cannot be helped. The prospects of solvency are not bright.

With best wishes always, and trusting that soon I shall have the inner story of things in Cuba, with regards to Gerald and Deering, and hoping that you are not worked and worried to death, I am

Ever yours,

Willard Straight.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Edwin Morgan, K.T.

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Sept. 6. 1906.

Dear Willard

Our war has ended and a provisional government established of which Judge Taft is head. He is to be succeeded by Judge Magoon of Panama who arrives next week. The independence of Cuba is maintained and her government is temporarily administered by the U.S. an army of

Davis (D.K.) Bristol - referring the "Van Dyck" to Egan's magazine - Thompson - who was with the A.P. - Elliot from Washington who represents the A.P. a man from the "Outlook", "Evening Post" and others. I am having them en mass to dine next week and Davis of course later. He came last Monday and returns next Thursday - Mrs Davis not being with him.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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6000 men will be stationed in the island with head quarters at Santa Clara. The first detachments are due today. A dozen war ships are in the harbor and others are posted at other ports. The foreign relations of the Republic remain as they were and the Cuban Diplomatic is not altered. Such at least is the desire of Washington; it remains to be seen how foreign governments will view the

point. Signed myself, conducting business with an Executive which is headed by a member of the American government who has a rank below that of the Secretary of State under whom I am. Need I add that precedents are being created.

The war correspondent is here. But he generally arrived after hostilities had started - Davis (R. H.)

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Edwin Morgan 10-6-06 K.J.

AMERICAN LEGATION

tries and when being convinced that the elections last year had been grandulently conducted did not keep them in them. He desired that Palma would retain office but accept a coalition cabinet in which Liberals should be included. Rather than do this Palma insisted on resigning the Liberals also wished intervention rather than a cabinet half moderate, many outside are preferred American rule.

Since I arrived on the 19th with Mr. Taft and Bacon, we Rep-aid-and Judge Schurmich's legal adviser have been with us at Manzanas. When Pres. Palma left the Palace early this week they moved their office there from the Legation having previously moved it from Manzanas where they established it until the rebel leaders had been seen.

We had a picturesque grow

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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I then one evening - first from the truth - when they met the five political prisoners who were arrested when trouble began. Next week Mrs Taft and Mrs Bacon come - with Maynard and the secretaries will take up their living quarters at the Palace for the next week. I must have some sort of a public reception for them. and Habana Elegante.

matters on the whole have been well handled - largely due to Steinhart, who has been conciliatory in spirit, and both adroit and intelligent. He has held Mr Taft in his hand. Bacon has been throughout inconspicuous. Steinhart has been faithful to Palma and would have liked more recognition for the existing government. Mr Taft. both however the lawyer's

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[illegible]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

army in the late revolution which ended in the Spanish American war, was taken by the Spaniards and is thought by some Cubans to have surrendered to Spain when permission to leave the insurgent force was denied him. When the board disqualification was so severely criticised it is as well to have the commanding officers of today above reproach.

Sheafer leaves today and Wilson-who reached Sea Girt this week-will arrive shortly.

With thanks for your letter from Petersburg and regards to Fairchild, always.

Affectionately,

Louis Hagerman

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[Copy]

American Consulate General,

Mukden, (via Niuchwang),

October 15, 1906.

Dear Mr. President:-

Leaving Moscow on the night of September 16th, Mr. Fairchild and myself arrived here late on the 2nd of October having waited in Harbin for a day before proceeding south. The trip thru Russia itself and the stops in St. Petersburg and Moscow were calculated to give one an impression of quiet and general peace and good will rather than the idea that red anarchy was about to break loose and that murderers and revolutionists were lurking everywhere. We were told that the uprisings among the peasantry had frequently been only half hearted and instances were cited where tenants had come to the capital to implore their landlord not to ventura from the city as they were about to burn his country seat. No reasons were given save that they thought it a thing that had to be done. Other cases were mentioned where excited by liquor provided by revolutionary agitators the had destroyed the nobles' estates and gone the next day in tears to beg forgiveness and even the most advanced and philanthropic proprietors seem to have suffered with

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the rest.

Although there were of disorder in the rural districts there was no evidence of any trouble whatsoever along the railway line. Up to the time we reached abdullino, the last station but one before the line crosses into Asia, we had seen no troops at the stations. At this point, however, and at Zlatsoust the boundary town we noticed guards and hangers-on from what seemed to be the regular reserve cadres of the 54th Division, as well as men from the 53rd Dragoons, while at Zlataoust and Petropavolsk portions of the 3rd Division were stationed. Our only means of recognizing the various arms of the service and identifying the units with their respective organization was reference to a small book of insignia and uniforms which was procured from Major Gibson the Military Attaché in St. Petersburg, and the perusal of a work on the Russian Army which I found in that city. Both of these pamphlets I forward trusting you may find them of interest.

According to Capt. Mahon both the 54th and 3rd Divisions were mobilized and at the front during the war, forming respectively portions of the 5th Siberian and 17th Corps d'Armee.

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Rather than relinguishing her grip on the East, Russia seems to be tightening her hold on Mongolia and preparing steadily for a surer if slower advance into the territories which she has temporarily, at least, lost. The vastness of her Empire, in itself impressive, and the sturdy and dogged, if cheerless character of her people who each year go thousands of miles out into the steppes to build their churches and logcabins and hew a living from the wilderness, combined with the ambitious designs of the men who still direct her policy in the Orient cannot but make one feel that once embarked upon such a project, the object in v ew is not likely to be lightly abandoned. Many of the men who before the war figured as intelligence officers and political agents are now in Manchuria and North China. And the general impression derived from our conversations with a number of Russians, civilians as well as naval and military men, was that sooner or later Russia would be again contend with Japan for supremacy in the East. The late war was described as unpopular because of the belief that it was being waged in the interests of a clique rather than of the nation, but the defeat which the country has suffered is keenly felt and it is the hope of many that the disgrace

may be wiped out. The present internal trouble, all seemed to consider serious but altho' they said that the revolutionarists hope to gain their ends by securing control of the army after three years, when its present personnel will be greatly altered by the substitution of recruits for veterans, our informants believed that a satisfactory solution of the problem would be reached by possible modifications in the existing administrative system and without any radical change in the Imperial policy.

A General going to take command of his brigade at Harbin, a man who had served with Skobeleff and who had been in the Caucasus and Kashgaria for the past eighteen years probably voiced the feeling of the military party when he explained that Russia had entrusted the army with her defence that the army had failed and that its only chance for justification would be to fight again. He believed that not only the officers but the men were anxious for another war for, he said, Linevitch had had a splendid force of 800,000 men at the close of hostilities and all felt certain that had there been another battle the result might have been different. He as well as others considered the Anglo-Japanese Alliance a likely check on any immediate action but thought that the English

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would not long be blind to the "perfidy" of their allies and that Japan would in the end violate her engagements giving Russia an opportunity to regain her lost prestige.

In Harbin, Changehun and in southern Manchuria the attitude of the Russians seems to be the same. The affect, at least to despise the Japanese as much as before and are not unwilling to show their feelings and in everyday intercourse to ignore their late enemies for whom indifference is perhaps the hardest thing to bear. At Changchun the Russian officers had characterized the negotiations that would be necessary to effect a juncture between the lines operated by the two powers as "interesting" in a manner that augured ill for the re-opening of direct communication and altho we had been informed at both Harbin and Changchun that Japanese would be permitted to enter the Russian lines after the 28th of September the Japanese Consul General here informed me on the 9th instant that Japanese officers had on the 6th been turned back from Changchun civilians alone being permitted to enter the city and that only after a vigorous protest by their Commercial Agent at Vladivostock had a party of Japanese desirous of travelling over the railway been allowed to pass the Manchurian boundary.

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From Cheliabinsk the single line of railway begins. From this point to Harbin the sidings are about five versts apart, with from three to five at the less important and from eight to a dozen at the larger stations. Many of them are at present in disuse but all could be easily put into commission should occasion require. Cheliabinsk is at present connected with the main railway arteries of Russia by way of Samara only, but a new road will shortly be completed from St. Petersburg via Vologda and Perm, joining the Skaterinaburg-Cheliabinsk line at the former point and shortening the journey from the capital to Vladivostock by a day. We heard also that the construction of a new road running south of the present Trans-Siberian has been commenced simultaneously at Cheliabinsk and Irkutsk and will be completed by the end of next year. It is proposed also, I believe, to open a route between Stretensk and Habarovsk running north of the Amur, and another south of the present circum-Baikal. This will leave but a short stretch of single line, if any, from the juncture of the latter road to Karimskaya where the Chinese Eastern leaves the so-called Trans-Baikal railway which continues north to Stretensk.

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The presence of the Russian Minister of Ways and Communications in the Far East at this time and the report which we heard in St. Petersburg that a large detachment of Engineers had been hurriedly sent to the Orient lands color to the stories of railway activity.

Men from various East Siberian regiments as well as Cossacks were posted at the stations throughout Siberia and while we noticed odd men here and there wearing the insignia of European divisions they were almost without exception passengers homeward bound and their presence was indicative of their location at Vladvostock or elsewhere in the extreme east rather than along the railway line for the numbers which they bare were not in evidence at Harbin or the other garrison towns which we passed en route.

Innocentskaya, Irkutsk, Chita, Khailar and Harbin seemed to be the largest military posts on the railroad. In almost every case the towns and cities were some distance from the stations of the same name and altho barrack buildings were occasionally visible it was impossible to ascertain the number of men quartered therein or the organizations to which they belonged. The first mentioned post is nine versts west of Irkutsk,

V

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and is the terminus of the Trans-Siberian railway. Here besides the usual shops and round houses there are barracks sufficient I imagine for the housing of several thousand men. We noted a number of what seemed to be field guns. There was a large accumulation of material along the tracks and a number of store houses and troop and convict cars were crowded on the sidings. At the stations besides artillerymen there were soldiers of three different Turkestan tirailleur regiments as well as many men of the East Siberian forces, but we saw no infantrymen of the regular Russian line.

The Irkutsk station baffles description. A long platform crowded with officers and civilians, soldiers under arms and loafing, immigrants, dusty, dirty and ragged, fronted a building scarred and uncared for, buzzing with flies and swarming with a miscellaneous collection of unkempt humanity. Detachments of troops seemed to be constantly on the move and we saw men from eleven different East Siberian regiments, evidently of the garrison, European troops of the 2nd Division, which Captain Mahon notes was mobilized but not sent to the Orient during the war, and one of the Alexander regiments.

A fellow traveller who had made the journey in

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May said that the "evacuation" was practically finished and we were told that the Government proposed to erect large barracks at Irkutsk, Chita and in the Ussuri and Primorsk districts for that portion of the Manchurian army which was not to be returned to Russia. Major Gibson had informed us that "not many" of the units under Lenevitch had been brought back, an article published in a military journal last spring estimating the number at 400,000. In the course of the journey we saw many individual soldiers and a number of officers west bound, but met only two troop trains. While we may have passed others during the night it does not seem likely that there could have been any general movement at this time. We saw none of the new cars, double-deckers with accommodation for 153 men and four officers although we kept on the lookout for them.

The largest military train consisting of thirty-two box and one third class car we passed on the east coast of Baikal. There were men from four different organizations, the 13th, 23rd, 33rd, 43rd, A. , of which insignia we have as yet been unable to ascertain the meaning. The Russians questioned on any such subject be-

come close mouthed at once but from a remark made by an officer on the train I imagine them to have been troops of the railway arm of the service. About twenty men were alloted to each car, sleeping on two rows of rough planks nailed to the four walls. Under the lower shelf their bags and kits were stored. Their rifles were in racks at the sides and their occoutrements hanging beside their bunks. In the centres of the cars were small iron stoves which furnished warmth and served as kitchen ranges. The floors were littered with fire wood and empty cans and such a thing as an inspection was evidently unknown. In fact throughout the Empire little thought seemed to be given to the men's equipment or appearance and many of the officers would scarcely have passed on a Sunday parade.

From Manchuria Station on the stations were guarded by the regular Frontier or Railway Guards, but we saw occasional East Siberian soldiers and officers of these regiments as well as of artillery and engineers particularly at Khailar where the arrival of the express was a social event, and where we noticed Lieutenant Colonels of East Siberian, Artillery and engineers.

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It was from this point that the Russians were three years ago reported to have commenced a line south but we could see no signs of such constructionsfrom the main line.

At Harbin we remained two days. Expecting to find the American Consul already there we had wired ahead but on arrival learned that he "had not been permitted to open his office." Further inquiries were answered only by counter questions. The city is still under martial law with the General commanding the Manchurian forces in direct control. There was a Chinese official there at the time of our visit who was variously described as a consul or a magistrate. We were also informed that there was a resident Russian consul, whose presence in the light of the military rule seemed something of a paradox.

We were taken in charge by Baron von Hoven, the Chief of the Intelligence Office. I had met him in Hsinmintun on the day the Japanese occupied the place and using as an excuse his alleged gratitude to me for not having informed the enemy of his presence within their lines he fastened himself upon us. Not only did he drop in at odd moments to see what we were doing but, probably thanks

to his kindly interest we were watched when away from the hotel and I feel certain also that an attempt was made to search our luggage. Under his guidance we made a number of calls but altho our hosts could frequently talk English von Hoven insisted upon being the clearing house for any information our inquiries might have elicited and acted as interpreter on every occasion.

If the East and West meet in Moscow they are jumbled in Harbin. It is a rambling aimless city with an estimated population of one hundred thousand. There is a "New" town along the river and a "River" town farther down stream, a "Chinese", a "Manufacturing", and "Old", a "Military", a "Hospital", an "Administration", and a "Railway" town. All are some distance apart and to traverse the intervening space one is driven in a crazy vehicle drawn by a pair of Siberian horses. The city is full of low resorts and gambling dens, the streets lined with liquor and delicatessen shops. There are a few stores where European finery is sold at exorbitant prices and a large number wherein Chinese merchants display a garish collection of Japanese potteries and obscene postal cards. The streets are in a wretched state and the inhabitants most them of the worst type of

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"camp follower", Greeks, Georgians, Jews, poles with a plentiful mixture of folk from the convict colonies of Saghalien. Most of the merchants have hitherto relied upon the army for their business and are not so prosperous now that the troops have gone and the five theatres, the zoological garden, the circus and the open air resorts are all comparatively deserted. The five flour mills, however, are adding to their plants and will one day seriously compete with the American establishments which have hitherto made large sales in Manchuria and altho the L Art Nouveau structures put up in the days of Harbin's first boom are shedding their cornices and peeling along their fantastic columns there is a considerable amount of general building going on.

We were constantly assured by von Hoven and other officers that the General Staff would shortly be transferred elsewhere. It is still located, however, in the building formerly used as Manchurian General Headquarters and we saw one young engineer at least busily copying Japanese maps. Besides these offices the principle structures in the "Administration" town are the Railway Guards and the Chinese Eastern Railway offices, a commercial college and a primary school. Beyond the

"Administration" town are the officers quarters a group of about a hundred and fifty brick buildings and farther on again is the so-called "Military" town. In the morning Fairchild and myself had given Hoven the slip and driven through the "Hospital" town. Here we found a dozen wooden and brick buildings flying the red cross flag and over twenty others where East Siberian troops were quartered. In the "Old" town nearby we found storehouses and barracks used by the Railway Guards.

We left our chaperons again late that afternoon and investigated the "Military" town. We drove through the center of the encampment and made a rough count of the buildings which would accomodate I imagine about two divisions or a single corps d armee of approximately thirty thousand men. There are eighty eight rows forty four on each side of the main thoroughfare, each row being from two to six buildings deep arranged in this manner:

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The quarters are well built with brick fronts and sodded roofs and calculated to accommodate about two hundred men or one company each. There are ample provisions for stores and stabling and while a number were empty most of the buildings seemed to be occupied. In the center of the camp are three churches and a large water tower. What are evidently the transport stables and commissariat quarters together with a number of disused barracks lie between the main encampment and the network of railway sidings where the store houses are located. Railway communication with both this and the "Hospital" town is well arranged.

Wooden barracks are scattered throughout the city and altho a merchant who has much to do with military supplies estimated the garrison at twenty thousand men, I should judge it to be considerably larger. We saw men with 74 where the division sign is usually worn as well as men of the Alexander III regiment driving transport carts, an indication that their organizations were somewhere in the vicinity, but East Siberian troops are in the majority. There are also European dragoons, field and horse artillery and cossacks in the city .

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In Harbin the easy manner in which the moujik affiliates with the Chinaman is particularly noticeable. I cannot imagine men of any other caucasian race who would be willing as are the Russians to work on a footing of comparative equality with the orientals. Englishmen, Frenchmen and Germans are overseers and not laborers. The Russians earn many times as little as a rouble a day while the Chinese make from fifty to sixty kopeks to a rouble and over. Russians and Chinese compete in the straw market and the drivers of public conveyances are of both nationalities it being no unusual thing for a well dressed Celestial to loll in a carriage driven by a white man, a sight which in Shanghai or Tientsin would be regarded with horror. The poorer class of Russians live no better than their Chinese fellows and are herded with them in the third and fourth class railway cars, and as regards corruption their superiors are able to meet on common ground.

From Harbin south we saw few European troops, noticing only one or two regular line uniforms, a number of Ussuri cossacks and severl men of the 23rd A. besides the Railway Guards. At Changchun a Russian General, brigadier I think, is in command and there is a detachment of the 34th East Siberian, at least a sotnia of

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Ural cossacks as well as a regiment of Railway Guards, this last however furnishing the men for several outposts.

Our trip through the Japanese sphere was the most uncomfortable part of the journey. Though the officers in charge gave us guards from post to post as the country was reported to be overrun by Hunghutzu, numerous minor incidents convinced us that foreign travellers were not regarded as a desirable class.

At Erhshihlipu the first post we found a Captain, half a dozen gendarmes and a few soldiers with a Japanese and Russian telegraph operator. In the thirty miles from this station to Kungchuling the most northern point in railway communication with Mukden at that time we came through, the gauge had been altered for about half the distance. In the last ten days, however, the work has been completed and I am informed that trains are now running to Machiatun a station five miles south of the Russian lines and a point beyond which the Japanese may not advance until further arrangements have been made with the Russian authorities.

Along the line from Erhshihlipu we saw only

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small detachments of Japanese troops all wearing the red and white arm band of railway guards. Not more than fifteen or twenty men were located at the smaller posts with possibly two hundred or more at the larger stations. At Kungchuling there may have been two companies but not more. From this town trains had been running for only five days previous to our arrival. There was but little traffic, the raodbed was poor and the one second class car, the rest being box and third, was dirty and cold.

Between Ssupinkai and Erhtaokou a distance of about twenty four miles, the bridges with but two exceptions were down and the river beds strewn with twisted wreckage the tracks leaving the main embankment and crossing the streams over temporary wooden structures. From Erhtaokou south the road was in a better state all the station buildings, however must undergo extensive repairs before they can be of permanent value. In many places the Japanese have put rough wooden linings inside the battered Russian brick shell. The tracks will have to be widened and the rolling stock increased freights regulated and a better management inaugurated. Delays are long and unnecessary and the treatment of Chinese passengers oftentimes needlessly rought. Foreigners are

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generally of the opinion that no improvement can be expected until more money has been secured from abroad.

The 54th, 55th, and 56th regiments are distributed between Mukden and the north and a French missionary who travelled with us from Tiehling informed us that there were still a number of Japanese soldiers stationed in the villages several miles away from the railroad.

There are from two to three thousand Japanese here most of them engaged in small trade and others in persuits of a more dubious character. In fact the presence of their women throughout Manchuria is a reproach to the Japanese nation. Beyond the fact that the resident foreigners, particularly those in tough with the Chinese have no good to say of the Japanese it is as yet too early for me to comment upon their position in Mukden. Business, however, seems to be in a very unsatisfactory condition. Prices are high and money dear and there is little confidence among the merchants. While the Russians spent their money lavishly and made large purchases from the Chinese the Japanese have relied more particularly on their home supplies and are besides

closer buyers. The prosperity of Manchuria so great during the years of railway construction has given way to general depression altho the crops have been good and the country comparatively quiet.

The streets of Mukden are being mapadamized and the city is well policed and garrisoned by a smart body of foreign drilled troops. There is a disposition on the part of the officials and merchants as well to allow matters to drift along until next April when the evacuation will have been completed and all are anxiously awaiting the developments which should follow the assumption of a more complete control by the native authorities.

Thanking you for the opportunity of making the Siberian trip and trusting that it has not been entirely fruitless and that in the future also it may be my privilege to occasionally furnish some side light on the Manchurian situation.

I have the honor to be,

Mr. President,

Yours respectfully,

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Kobe, 16th October 1906

Willard Straight Esq.
American Consul General,
Moukden.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your favour of 4th inst we herewith beg to inform you that we have forwarded to your address the "Weekly" numbers, beginning with August 1st, as per your instructions.

The paper is still going to Cuba but the subscription has run out since September 8th. Kindly let us know if shall go on sending it.

Enclosed please find bill for 1 year's subscription to the "Weekly" for the American Consulate General Moukden.

Yours faithfully
"Japan Chronicle"
p. Emmers.

[copy]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Mukden, China, (Via Niuchwang).

No. 1.

October 16th, 1906.

Subject: Arrival at Mukden.

The Honorable
Assistant Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm below my telegram of October 3rd, as follows:

Text of telegram sent.

October 3rd, 1906.

Bacon, Secstate, Washington,

Arrived Tuesday,

Straight.

I beg to state that Mr. Nelson Fairchild, Vice and Deputy Consul General and myself reached Mukden on the evening of October 3rd., and have the honor to submit herewith a short report on the journey thru Siberia and northern Manchuria, reserving a more elaborate description of the Railroad as the subject for a subsequent despatch.

Thru a mistake on the part of the local postal authorities my exequatur which I should have received upon arrival, had been sent with other mail to the Consulate General at Newchwang, I informed the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, however, of my presence in the city, and upon the receipt of my credentials on the 8th instant I notified the local authorities, entering upon the discharge of my duties on the ninth of October.

On the second day following my arrival I informally called upon His Excellency Chao Erh Sun the Viceroy and Tartar General, and was most cordially received. At this time and upon subsequent occasions, on the interchange of ceremonial visits and at an official dinner at the Viceregal Yamen, both His

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Excellency and Directors of the Bureau of Foreign Affairs assured me that they, who were charged with the administration of Manchuria, were particularly grateful to the President of the United States for arranging and wisely influencing the negotiations which had resulted in the cessation of hostilities between the two powers who had contended for supremacy within the area for whos welfare they were responsible.

In acknowledging their expressions I replied that not only the President but the American people were interested in the future of Manchuria and regarded with satisfaction every advance made along the path of progress.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Willard D. Straight.

Consul General.

Enclosure:

Report on "Journey thru Siberia and Northern Manchuria."

[copy]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

Mukden, China.

(Via Niuchwang) October 16, 1906

Journey thru Siberia and Northern Manchuria.

Although large sections of the press of the United States have been for months past devoted to stories of a succession of atrocities, riots, strikes and executions in Russia, the impression gained by the traveller from Petersburg to Moscow and Moscow over the Trans-Siberian line, is that the country is quiet and that the people are orderly and under control.

Mr. Nelson Fairchild and Vice and Deputy Consul General at Mukden and myself left Moscow on the night of September 16th, and during the thirteen days journey to Harbin were, in the light of what we had been led to expect, astonished by the fact that seemingly normal rather than unusual conditions, prevailed.

On the journey through Siberia as well as through Russia proper, although there were rumours of disturbances in the rural districts, we saw no evidence of disorder. The trains were comfortable, the service excellent, prices low and numbers of travellers are journeying from the Continent to Peking and Shanghai via Vladivostock.

Military Conditions.

We passed but two military trains en route and there seemed to be no general movement of troops to the west. Altho there are occasional soldiers of the regular line travelling by and stationed along the railroad between Cheliabinsk and Harbin the East Siberian forces are principally in evidence. It is stated that the large portion of the Manchurian army which has not been returned to Russia is to be concentrated in Irkutsk, Chita, Stretensk, Habarovsk, Vladivostock and other points in the Primorsk and Ussuri districts.

At Innocentskaya and Irkutsk we saw soldiers from many different East Siberian Regiments, Turkestan tirailleurs, Cossacks and artillerymen, while at Chita there is a separate station for the military settlement, and extensive

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barracks and store houses already completed and under construction.

The guard posts located every five or six versts between Manchuria Station and Harbin are all defended by trenches and embankments and like the stations, are under the Railway Guard Administration. We saw, however, a number of East Siberian troops and at Khailar Lieutenant Colonels of this arm of the service as well as of artillery and engineers.

Harbin.

With an estimated population of one hundred thousand including Chinese, Harbin is a rambling collection of what are termed respectively the "New", the "Administration", the "Old", the "Railroad", the "Hospital", the "Military", the "Manufacturing", the "Chinese" and the "River" towns.

Although they are willing to work side by side with the Chinese coolies, in many cases earning but little more per day, in the direction of all commercial and industrial enterprises the Russians seem to be conspicuous by their absence, the naturalized Germans and the miscellaneous collection of camp followers making up the greater part of the civilian population. There are a few shops where European finery is sold at exorbitant prices, the majority of the merchants, however, are vendors of liquors and delicatessen, Chinese competing with Greeks, Georgians and Jews, all complaining that their sales have fallen off since the withdrawal of the bulk of the army and that a period of depression has followed the brisk business of a year ago. The five theatres, zoological garden, circus and open air restaurants are likewise suffering from the scarcity of patrons. A number of the older structures are in bad repair but there is still considerable commercial activity and the five flour mills are going a good business and enlarging their plants.

The Commander of the Manchurian forces, General Grodekoff (?) ~~administratexx~~ administers the local government as well, and the city is under martial law. A Chinese weiyuan was in Harbin at the time of our visit and the Russians informed us that they had a Resident Consul, whose presence in the light of the military rule seems something of a paradox.

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At the General Staff, where we called to arrange for our passage south, we were constantly informed that the Headquarters were about to be closed and that everything was in confusion for this reason. We were taken in charge by Baron von Hoven, Chief of the Intelligence Office and with him made several calls. The authorities, however, evidently wished us to learn as little as possible for notwithstanding the fact that our hosts spoke English, Baron von Hoven on each occasion acted as interpreter and censored all information which our enquiries might have elicited. When unaccompanied by our guide we managed to drive to the so-called "Hospital" town where we found twelve brick and wooden buildings flying the red cross flag and about twenty others wherein troops were quartered. Throughout the "Old" town nearby there were storehouses and barracks used by the Railway Guards.

In the afternoon we visited the "Military" town. We drove past the hundred and fifty odd buildings used as officers quarters and down the street of the main encampment which is large enough to accommodate at least thirty thousand men or a single Corps d'Armee. There are forty-four rows of barracks on each side with from three to six buildings in each. While the structures along the thoroughfare are all of wood and presumably used as non-commissioned officers quarters and canteens, the barracks proper are brick faced with room for one company or about two hundred men. Ample provision has been made for stabling and commissariat and large storehouses are not far away, surrounded by a net work of railway sidings.

Other barrack buildings are scattered throughout the city and we saw besides large numbers of East Siberian soldiers, European dragoons and infantrymen horses and field artillery, Ural and Ussuri Cossacks and Railway Guards, and notwithstanding the information vouchsafed by a local merchant that the garrison numbered only 20,000 I should imagine it to be considerably larger.

At the stations between Harbin and Changchun we saw besides the Railway Guards and occasional East Siberian soldiers, Cossacks, and one or two European infantrymen.

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Russian Railway Activity.

Our conversations with fellow travelers in Siberia and northern Manchuria were not calculated to convey the impression that the Russians have given up their designs in the Orient. We were informed that the construction of the new line between Irkutsk and Cheliabinsk had been commenced simultaneously at both ends, that a road is to be built to the south of the present circum-Baikal route, and another from Stretensk to Khabarovsk. There will be, therefore, only a short stretch of single track between the juncture of the proposed road around the lake and Karimskaya, the point where the Chinese Eastern leaves the Trans-Baikal Railway. The fact that the Russian Minister of Ways and Communications is in the Far East at this time lends color to such reports.

Northern Manchuria.

From Changchun the last Russian station, we were given a mounted guard to the Japanese lines at Ershihlipu, eight miles to the south. Here we found a Japanese captain and half a dozen soldiers, a few gendarmes, and a Russian and Japanese telegraph operator. We passed the night at this point and proceeded south the next day by Chinese cart, the officers at every etape assuring us that no hand cars could be found along the line. We noticed at least a dozen during the day, however, and this together with one or two minor incidents convinced us that foreign travelers were not welcome. At the time we passed south the gauge had been altered from five feet to three feet six inches for fifteen of the thirty miles to Kunchuling, the point at which we were able to entrain for Mukden. A Japanese hotel had already been opened here and a small settlement was clustered about the station, the traders having advanced with the railroad, their business being confined, however, chiefly to dealings with their own nationals.

The roadbed and bridges between Ershihlipu and Ssupingkai were in good condition but south of the latter station the original Russian Bridges, with but two exceptions wer down and the river beds strewn with twisted wreckage, the track leaving the main embankments and crossing the streams over temporary structures. From Erhtaokou to Mukden the work of reconstruction has been nearly completed but

the station buildings are still in need of extensive repairs.

I am now informed that the work of changing the gauge has been carried as far as Machiatun the most northern Japanese post being located at this point, five miles south of the Changchun station. From remarks made by the Russian officers at Changchun I should not imagine that they would in any way facilitate the opening of through communication between the two lines. As the Russians are evidently attempting to "boom" Vladivostock their rates south from Harbin are reported to be reasonable enough, but the freight charges on north bound goods are prohibitive. The Japanese line does considerable business south of Erhtaokou both in the carriage of passengers and local produce but the accommodation afforded is not good. The gauge must be widened, the rolling stock increased, rates regulated and a better management inaugurated before the line can be considered to be on a permanent basis.

The Japanese have been very anxious to secure all possible information concerning Northern Manchuria and have questioned me regarding Russian activity in that region. Their Consul General informed me that although Japanese merchants have been permitted to enter Kuangchengtzu in accordance with Ssupingkai agreement of November last, military officers desirous of visiting the city were turned back on the 6th instant and that a party of Japanese starting from Vladivostock were not allowed to pass the Manchurian frontier before a vigorous protest had been made by the Japanese Commercial Agent in Vladivostock. Under instructions from his Government to investigate these matters he intended to go north on the 12th inst. to visit both Kuangchengtzu and Harbin.

The foregoing incidents but confirm the impression gained both in St. Petersburg and Moscow, on the train and in Harbin and Kuangchengtzu, that the Russians still affect to despise their late enemies and are ready to annoy and embarrass them and in petty ways display the bitterness which has been the heritage of the late war.

Willard D. Straight.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Memo

The obtaining of proper quarters for the Consulate at Mukden was the result of a great deal of correspondence between Consul General Straight and the Department, in which WS insisted on suitable and dignified quarters.

In a despatch to Minister Rockhill at Peking, dated Oct. 17, 1906, Consul General Straight mentions inflated rents and mentions quarters occupied by Japanese and German consuls and asks a special allowance in view of the fact that his post "is at present of political rather than commercial importance, involving the policy of the "Open Door," and the questions connected therewith, I hope that it may be possible to maintain an establishment equal at least to those provided for their representatives by the other Powers."

American Consulate General,

Mukden, China.

(Via Niuchwang)October 18,1906.

Dear Mr. Morgan;-

Enclosed I am sending you a draft for $. the equivalent of £61. S.16. D.4. the amount which you kindly expended for me in purchasing the linen and other things for Mukden.

With many thanks, beleive me,

Yours sincerely,

His Excellency

Edwin Morgan,

c/o Thomas Hunt,

Aborn, N. Y.

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CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Mukden , Manchuria .

October 18th. , 1906 .

One year after date I promise to pay to the order of Luther Wright Mott Esquire of the First National Bank of Oswego , New York , one thousand dollars United Sates currency ($ 1000.00) for value received .

American Consulate General,

Mukden, China.

(Via Niuchwang) October 18, 1906.

Dear Henry;-

Enclosed I am sending you a draft for $200.00 which should if I remember correctly, almost if not quite close our account. I have not the papers with me but will look the matter up as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Henry Schoellkopf, Esq.,

1700 Second Avenue,

Milwaukee, Wisc.

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American Consulate General ,
Mukden , China .
October 19th. , 1906 .

Dear Luther ;-

On my leaving home you were kind enough to offer , should occasion arise , to make certain financial arrangements , which at that time however were not necessary. At present I find myself in an rather uncomfortable position and should like if possible to take advantage of your former proposal .

I am sending you herewith my note for $ 1,000.00 dated one year hence . I can offer you no security save my word , and in case of my death a first claim on my effects . If you care to advance me the money making the usual discount I should be greatly obliged .

I ask you to do this as I have one or two outstanding matters which I should like to clear up and place my indebtedness in"one basket". In case you are willing to make the loan I should like you to send the following drafts ;

Edwin Morgan ,
c/o Thomas Hunt ,
Auburn , N. Y.

£ 61 S. 16 d. 4 .

Henry Schoellkopf ,
1700 Grand Avenue , Milwaukee , Wisc.
$ 200.00

I should like $ 300.00 sent to me here and the balance placed to my credit with you .

There are so many expenses connected with starting a new place and the arrangements for drawing on the Government are so tied up with red tape that it seems to me

[10-19-06]

to be quite necessary to have a small balance at any rate to draw upon , and unfortunately my accumulations have not been large during the past five years .

Fairchild and I are having a hard time in finding a house , rents are frightful ly high and everything else still on a war scale so that the prospects for that pleasant thing money saving are not of the most rosy description . In sending you the note dated one year hence , I hope to be able to meet the obligation within thatb time but in case I am not I trust that you will permit me to pay as much as possible and secure an extension on the balance . When once established I hope to be able to do some writing which should net something now and then . I shall direct any cheques that may be forthcoming to you and trust that you will put them to my credit in the account which I hope to open with you and upon which I shall probably draw from time to time .

With best wishes to you all , a personal letter , will follow as soon as possible , I am ,

Yours sincerely ,

I have already written for the iris and hope to hear within a day or two .

Oct. 21 [1906]
Pd

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

Dear Straight

I have been writing to you official and semi official letters and shall continue to do so for a very few weeks more until the arrival of Mr. Thomas Ewing Moore and my final exit from the scene, but those are Dead Sea fruit. On the other hand I have received from time to time excellent letters from you which have remained unanswered for which

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I have no excuse to offer because there is none. There is some fault in my personal equation about letter writing and as a result I have lost many friends which serves me right but with you I hope that it is not too late to mend. I was away when you arrived, in fact I had strong hopes of seeing you in Shanghai because I had formed the idea that you had been told not to come via Siberia. If I had been in Peking I should have tried to influence Mr. Rockhill to have you come here.

I am sending you a letter on the subject of Consular premises the moral of which is simply "go slow". Get an official pied à terre inside of the city and for the rest ~~dont~~ make the most comfortable arrangements that you can. You know what our Consular establishments in the far East are like, they are not at all first class but there is a possibility that Congress in its slow lumbering way may at the next session make this appropriation for buying land and building or altering structures

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so that we may in future have fairly decent premises. In your report, if you see any possibility of acquiring a good site I should advise you to make an effort to secure a really first class establishment for I am perfectly satisfied that in the long run this policy is the best. I have hopes that a larger number of Japanese who lived on the army will gradually withdraw from Manchuria and that land values will return to more normal conditions.

In your correspondence with the Legation do not

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

be too voluminous and I think I may say the same thing with regard to the Department. Do not give the impression that you are looking around for something to write about all the time, it is simply wasting your powder, save it up for the big game. Remember that an ounce of facts is worth a bushell of crude impressions. Do all that you can yourself and only refer to higher authorities ~~when in serious doubt~~ about material questions.

Do not splutter to the

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newspaper men. I have already had a complaint from an American representing a really important interest because it was reported in the China Review that ~~to the~~ you had said in an interview that we were mainly interested in piece goods, flour & oil and that most other branches of trade would fall to the Japanese. His concern importo nately falls under the head of other branches of trade.

It is quite likely that you have been entirely misrepresented but it is quite as likely that whenever you indulge in any oracle work for the press you will again be misrepresented so it is better to leave it alone. Here endeth this long dull lesson.

I was much pleased with Fairchild and I am glad you have got him. As for Arnell what I wrote about him was wholly impersonal, but I think that it was sound.

We have not been informed of his appointment as a Chinese student interpreter and I think that he must be a Japanese

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one and that to send him to Mukden was ill judged.

I am a little overwhelmed at the thought of breaking up the house beautiful and of selling my sticks and packing up for home but I have been here long enough, perhaps too long. Mr. Rockhill asked the Department that I be allowed to remain in charge until his return but it appears that this is contrary to section 17± of the regulations so whenever Moore appears I will have to turn over to him and I shall then be down and out. It

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

is my own doing and I have no regrets but I wish that the good man would give some indication of when he may be expected. All I know is that he wrote to Mr. R. that he would be here not later than the middle of November.

Bower has left and I shall miss him. The military men are all off at the manoeuvres with sundry correspondents and I think that their report will represent a reaction from the gush of last year. Collins left us a

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few days ago and you have undoubtedly seen him ere this.

His relations with the Legation in the last few months have been rather peculiar. He is a queer chap and after knowing him for four years I have not been able to decide whether he liked or disliked me and strangely enough whether I liked or disliked him. Putnam Weale Simpson is in town in search of plausible misinformation. It is not true that he is the guest of the Italian officers mess. I saw Rospigliosi the other night at Kinkiang on my way up the river with the Phillips family. He is unchanged. Sir Robert looks as well as I have ever seen him and the invaluable Childs is back in the out door folds from South Africa. Brudon is hotwiring to all the powers that be or may be. The Chinese Government with its new prophet Yang Shao Yi is simply impossible.

Yours sincerely

J. G. Coolidge

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Edwin Morgan - K. J.

QUINTA HIDALGO,
MARIANAO.

Dec 21.
1906.

Dear Willard

You must almost have wondered a dozen times why I have not written you. I have become infrequent. I know it. The reason is that there is so much - as well as so little - to say.

Mr Taft and his party - after 3 weeks here - left a week ago Saturday. Whether they took con-

Tacte

Jiciendo to restore public order. Thereupon Gen Ross issued a circular to the general electors stating that about June the 15th under our auspices will be held. The Administration desires to give the Cubans another chance - as it seems to me - in order to prove rather that they cannot than that they can form an effective government

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living in the Palace with Gen Pershing, the head of the General Staff who is here temporarily as Commanding General. He will be succeeded in a month or so by Pershing (Hunter Liggett) who is a friend of Mason's for Gen Duval. Camp Humbert is full of soldiers and the large house near Steinhardt's, at which we lodged, is used as army headquarters. Garrisons have been placed throughout the island some 5,500 regulars and 2,500 marines forming the army of occupation. The civil government, as done is to place army officers (most of them from the General Staff) in all the executive departments as "advisers" and not to have a Cabinet. The under secretaries and minor officials remain.

The whole have disbanded and have been partially disarmed and the presence of our people has been ac-

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QUINTA HIDALGO.

James Gut really has no jurisdiction or authority and would pass a different act & a man would be in an impossible position. I fancy the Cuban provisional government will be placed under the State Department - in which case the Legation can have no function at all. You may see me in Manchuria as soon as I see you I should be there

The general talk is & when we come down again and many both american and foreign interests annexation is warmly supported. The american papers generally seem to consider that it must come; newspapers like the Boston Transcript even speaking of it as the necessary solution. All the newspaper men are here

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take that time. Some go there
agree that for political reasons
- it may be best to withhold
and encourage another trial
but that the good- or evil-day
is nearly but postponed.

The position of the foreign
legations is undetermined
and with a provisional power
under and referring to a depart-
ment of the U.S. gov. it is not
to be expected that foreign
ministers-representatives of
least of that grade - will come
time to be accredited here.
The Spanish and Belgian are
the only ones on the spot. Be-
gium is in bad luck and
afterwards is returning empty
ship. There is no news of a
Grand Duke. The American
Legation goes through entirely

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suffered and we worked until late to shut the windows in the upper rooms which continuously blew open. The blow was the worst Havana has experienced in many years but Cienfuegos was in Pinar del Rio was not affected by so in the cane fields at the western end of the island.

Nothing from you since Peters left. always affectionately

E. M.

next autumn - let us see. Or I am established here and do not wish to move in any case I shall probably stay in Manzanillo for the winter, in a private capacity & my official one disappears.

I have learned nothing of the details of our commercial friends. However I did see that Mr. Humphreys and

Stanley Washburn are engaged. She was Peale-married to Richardson - did her duty and bore a son - so her Dizzy's mind must be at rest. A fund to purchase French books for the Harvard library in memory of Arthur is being raised by some of his friends. Wilson and Dering are staying with us and I

officers not infrequently to dine, Capt. Nazro - whom you know - is in command of the Brooklyn - which is flagship. There are several naval vessels in the harbor but word is team will go south soon.

We had a veritable cyclone one night this week which did much damage to trees all those in the Prado were blown over. Over trees also

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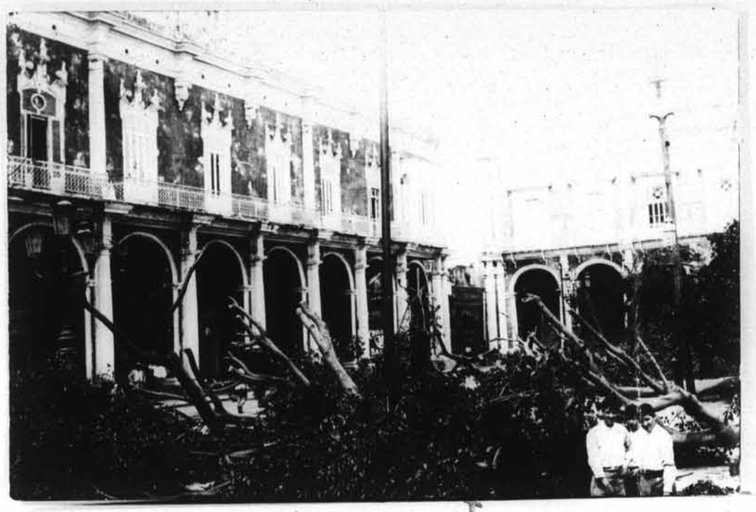

000501

[Oct. 21, 1906] PG

Carte postale. **Postkarte.** Cartolina postale.
Dopisnice. Correspondenzkarte. Levelező-Lap.
Post card. Weltpostverein. Briefkaart.
Union postale universelle. Unione postale universale.
Всемірный почтовый союз. Россія. Открытое письмо.
Karta korespondencyjna. Korespondenční listek.
Cartão postal. Brefkort. Brevkort. Tarjeta postal.

Mitteilungen:

Adresse:

Cuba- the Post
Where. After the
cyclone of Oct. 17th
Many trees however
have since been
replaced

American Consulate General.
Mukden, China.

CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

C.G. No. 16. October 22, 1906

His Excellency
Chao Erh Sun
Shu shu shu
Viceroy and Tartar General.
Mukden.

Your Excellency:-

I have the honor to acknowledge your note of October 21st 1906 transmitted by the Chiao Ch'ü in which You inform me that the Imperial

In the meantime ~~Consular Body~~ it has been suggested by persons who should, at least, be well informed that H.E. is anxious that ~~this~~ local condition should become generally known and while he cannot ~~under~~ might not be justified to ~~continue~~ further any changes he ~~is not~~ feels that the presence of ~~and that the~~ Consular Body of ~~the~~ nine there as ~~some~~ would by extending the interests ~~of~~ ~~light to~~ ~~interfere~~ their ~~influence~~ render his administration ~~more difficult~~ ~~interference~~ more ~~it~~ seems ~~to~~ be subject to ~~the~~ ~~interference~~ than it is at the time.

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No 37.

Sir -

I have the honor to report that noticing an American flag flying on a ship in the main street in the West Suburb. I upon I directed upon investigation that Chinese clerks to refuse at the Standard Oil Co. were refusing to open their sales rooms. They informed me that they were from Chefoo and handed me a letter signed by the Company's representative at that port as follows:-

Chefoo Aug. 30. 1906.

" This is to notify that we have instructed the bearers to make shipments of our "Meiboo" oil to Newchwang, Mukden and other stations on the Railroad proceeding from Newchwang. Duly.

Since the Chinese officials do not collect duty from Japanese merchants who export oil to Manchuria, we, in accordance with the Treaties are entitled to the same privilege, and will not consent to the payment of duty or likein on shipments of our oil without protest to our authorities.

(Signed) U.S Lyman. "

As I have been informed that this district is ~~subject~~ entitled from the Headquarters Office of the Standard Oil Co. I telegraphed Mr. McCaslin this ~~day~~ at that time informing him of the presence of these men claiming to be in the employ of his Company ~~for having records, do caused the~~ ~~matter of their detention with Mr McCaslin I have~~ ~~known that he has not as yet instructed his Native~~ ~~agents to refuse to submit to the tax order and~~ ~~have received his reply~~ The status in ruling that he has not authorized ~~any native agents~~ the establishment of a Mukden branch. As there are no American firms in connection with this enterprise I have wanted the Chinamen to no longer fly the flag - and have received this having cut to do so.

I have the honor to be, Sir.

Your obt Servt

October 28th, 1906.

Dear Excellency:

Thank you for your note en route to Tampa. Reuter's we have perused constantly and assiduously [redacted]. To see Mr. Bacon and Secretary Taft in the Marble Halls must have been splendid and if you are not transferred to London directly I shall consider that the State Department is unsafe under the former and that the country would be ruined were the latter to occupy the Presidential chair.

[redacted]

Our trip was interesting and well wroth while and save for the Japanese part of the line extremely comfortable. A day in a Chinese cart did not improve our tempers nor did the general attitude of the Wonderbund. Here we have been installed in a Chinese Hotel, built for Japanese guests and until last night have been sleeping on the floor. The other domestic details are too horrid to mention. Now we are looking for the London stores and then we shall really live again.

Under urgent instructions we are trying to get a place in the city, within the wall, but it is almost impossible. Rents are frightfully high, repairs absolutely essential and the allowance wholly inadequate. The Standard Oil may have had its advantages, I am not prepared yet, however, to admit the

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entire justice of your opinion.

The Viceroy is a pleasant bird and we have had several interviews - as the Legation immediately turned over a little mining matter in the Neutral zone - and there has been much correspondence - a good deal of evasion and procrastination and no result as yet. Chao dined here last night with four of his henchmen - Arnell, Fairchild and myself and Alion, a Customs commissioner late of Nanking and here to carry on non-existent negotiation for the boundaries and location of the foreign settlement. Tomorrow I see him again - the Viceroy - and hope to be able to get something definite. It is all bully fun - and I love it dearly.

Fairchild has turned out very well and Arnell is a thorn in the side for our friends. They are frightfully worried about him. We have all Japanese news very fresh and with the Chinese papers, native and foreign are fairly well informed.

Hagawara and his Lady wife are the same. She wished to be remembered to you as did he, and were pleased at your remembering to send them messages. He is very foxy, very friendly and well - the same. We have ~~mx~~ very pleasant talks together ~~*~~ always, and it is most amusing.

Fulford comes up from Newchwang a Vice Consulate, he having supervising

powers for the province. The Germans have a nice man named Meisgar, who has established himself ~~mx~~ in a bully temple and spent a pile of the Kaiser's gold thereon.

Otherwise there are missionaries, very nice ones too. More I will write anon - As to politics, the Chinamen are rabid and are only waiting for April to bring up all manner of questions. They are all glad to see the Consulates a'coming. This last was an afterthought when it should have been a serious dissertation, but the dusk is here also the dinner table and there are cries of hunger from the pit - all our pits.

With best wishes ever, for your smooth road toward all your desires.

Willard Straight.

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[10-31-06]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL .

MUKDEN , CHINA .

October 31 , 1906 .

Dear Mr. Harriman ;-

In connection with the matters to which you refferred last summer and in case Mr, Takahashi should visit New York , the condition of the Manchurian and Siberian Railway lines may be of some interest .

Fairchild and myself made the trip across Siberia and northern Manchuria in twelve days , leaving Moscow on a Sunday at midnight and reaching Harbin on a Friday morning. The road although showing the effects of the heavy traffic during the war seemed in fairly good condition and the accomodation afforded was excellent . Coal , wood and coke were used as fuel , the two former mined and felled respectively not far from the line . Thereb are sideings every five versts but the tracks are light , the ballasting scant and the average running speed does not exceed twenty five miles an hour . We were informed that the Government has already commenced work from both termini on a line between Cheliabinsk , the last city connected with European Russia by more than one road , and Irkutsk . There is considerable disatisfaction with the present circum-Baikal route on account of landslips and it is proposed to construct another road around the lake as well as a new line between Stretensk and Habarovsk thus practically doubling the railway from Europe to Vladivostock .

The 150 odd miles of road between Harbin , which is a flour milling center , and Changchun (Kuangchengtzu) the last point in

E. H. Harriman Esquire ,
Equitable Building , Broadway ,
New York City .

MEMO.

AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG & LIAOYANG

NEWCHWANG, 29.th October 1906.

TO Hon. W. D. Straight,
U. S. Consul,
Mukden

Dear Sir!

I beg to inform you, that I hold 1/2. for W.S. 1 package Household Effects ex S.S. Simla, pr. S.S. Hsuan from Shanghai, which I shall be pleased to hand you against payment of charges, as per instructions received from Messrs. Schiller & Co. Shanghai.

Shanghai charges. Clearing custom & taking delivery from Steamer Hs 1.50
Cartages from wharf & wharf dues " 1.90
Insurance & freight to Newchwang " 2.95
Hs 6.35
Newchwang charges: collecting & comission " 1.~
Hs 7.35.
E. & O. E.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
Aug. Frahm

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[10-31-06]

in the Russian sphere , is in good condition as is the portion from this point , over the Japanese road , south to Ssupingkai, a distance of 70 miles . From this place to Erhtaokou (about 24 miles) the bridges with but two exceptions are down and the tracks leave the main roadbed and cross the streams on temporary wooden structures . Although the line itself is in better condition between Erhtaokou and the south the station buildings have been gutted and wrecked . The Japanese have put up temporary iron roofing and makeshift doors , and have endeavored at the least possible cost to make the stations and railway buildings serviceable for the time being . No permanent repairs have been attempted and a large expenditure will be necessary before the road may really be considered to be in working order.

The amount of rolling stock is very limited and the accomodation is wretched . The trains owing to the scarcity of locomotives are large , totaling from twenty to thirty cars each and are made up of one second class , a number of third class and a quantity of box cars , and as a result the speed averages about fourteen miles an hour . At present there is li little freight , the profits being derived principally from the third and fourth class (box cars) Chinese passengers. The Mukden -Hsinmintun line pays well , while , when the standard has been substituted for the present narrow gauge it is hoped that the Antung -Mukden line , on account of the rich mineral deposits in the region traversed thereby , will be profitable. With the increased freight traffic that is certain to follow the gradual restoration of normal conditions and the develcpemen of the natural resources of the country , both these roads should yield large returns .

It is generally considered that little effort will be made to improve the road or reorganize the administratic until the necessary capital has been secured ;and although the Japanese papers report the loan as oversubscribed the Chinese have taken no interest in the enterprise and it is be leived that sufficient funds for the prosecution of the enterprise will not be

[10-31-06]

be forthcoming unless Mr. Takahashi's mission is successful.

It seems certain that the Russians will do everything in their power to embarrass the Japanese in the operation of the road. They are endeavoring to secure the carriage of exports from Kuangchengtzu, the busiest center in Manchuria, to Vladivostok, a distance of miles, as opposed to the 312 miles to Newchwang and the 446 to Dalny. The Japanese Consul here tells me that the Russian military authorities at Changchun are interfering with the Japanese desiring of crossing between the lines, and from my conversation with these officials, I imagine that the results of the negotiations for connecting the two roads will not be entirely satisfactory to the Japanese.

The Chinese as well as the foreigners generally have little good to say of the Japanese and their conduct here. The former are decidedly hostile, though still afraid to exhibit their real sentiments. Officials and merchants alike, however, are likely to be more open in their opposition when in April the evacuation period finally expires.

Although at present in an unsettled state, the country is gradually recovering from the effects of the war, and there should be a remarkable development within the next few years.

There is a strong feeling among commercial men that a line of steamers direct from the United States to North China, touching at Japan, would be profitable. The Shanghai trans-shipping charges are heavy and the delay invived considerable, and the volume of trade is increasing to such an extent that there is a demand for a better service.

Trusting

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[10-31-06]

Trusting that you have not lost all interest in this part of the world, and that, if at any time I may be able to be of service to you, you will call upon me, I am,

Yours sincerely,

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Memo

In a report, dated Oct. 31, 1906, on "Commercial conditions in Manchuria," Willard Straight urges Americans to enter the field with direct and aggressive plans of campaign, personal representation being all important. He cites the success of the British-American Tobacco Co., which seriously threatened the Japanese Tobacco Monopoly? Says Manchuria is virgin territory for trade as well as for investment.

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[1906 Pd]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Habana, 4 de Enero de 1906.

Señor Secretario de Estado,
Washington, D.C.

Señor:

Tengo el honor de acusar recibo de la nota de ese Departamento de fecha 29 de Diciembre último, en la cual se sirve manifestarme que el Presidente de los Estados Unidos ha designado al Señor Secretario de Guerra, Mr. William H. Taft, para que vaya a esta República en misión especial, con el objeto de ofrecer sus buenos oficios para restablecer la paz entre los partidos políticos que se encuentran en lucha armada, y que el Señor Taft llegará a este puerto el día 6 del corriente a bordo del crucero "Columbia", acompañado de una escolta de honor.

Tengo también el honor de manifestar a Vuestra Excelencia que he comunicado esta noticia a mi Gobierno, el cual no deja de apreciar la deferencia que ha tenido el Presidente de los Estados Unidos al designar a un miembro de su Gabinete para que venga a esta República en misión especial, con el objeto de ofrecer sus buenos oficios para restablecer la paz entre los partidos políticos que se encuentran en lucha armada, y que el Señor Taft llegará a este puerto el día 6 del corriente a bordo del crucero "Columbia", acompañado de una escolta de honor.

the Legation. Gen. is making many adjustments to fit and altogether he is quartered very pleasantly in a manner to which long people after. It seems somewhat unnecessary and it might be better to leave Peking and prepare the country for the resumption of relations rather than attempt to stick to these unsavory habits to that end.

A number of officers are taking leaves of absence & transfer orders have been established with Vancouver Seattle and ships run twice a month between there and Honolulu. Wives are beginning to come. Last evening I was to have been at home but postponed being so on account of the 29th 150th being all Souls Day - which the Cubans generally observe. I showed up Cubans but did not counter-

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reproduce excellently.
There should be a revival of
interest in the Last through
the rise of the Delaware rebel
children incident.

always.

Edwin Morgan

Hon. W. D. Straight
Mukden
Manchuria

[11-4-06]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

I have not heard of our
friends in New York.
The typewriters are still on
the stump and have been
so I believe all the autumn
The Townleys are transferred
(as Minister and Minister)
to the Argentine - he served
in Japan with Griscom at Yokuhama. His
name is Howard and he is
married to an Italian
whose father is an English
Earl.

though an Italian citizen. Squires is named minister to Panama - the wheel here having re-instated him, and in the spring Sussman is to be transferred to Russia, Meyer entering the Cabinet as Postmaster General. The report that Bacon is to go to Paris is not yet confirmed.

I expect my family here next month and shall probably take the bungalo previous to which to house them.

Should this reach you at Xmas it must bring you my best wishes and affectionate regards. I am not sending you the Nov. "Putnam's" as you must already have received a copy. Your article reads very well and both the photos and your sketches

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W. D. Straight Esq.
Mukden.

MEMO.

TO

AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG & LIAOYANG

NEWCHWANG, 6th November 190 6.

Dear Sir!

I beg to inform you that I have to-day received Official Notice, which I shall be pleased to have your opinion upon, charges as M. $0.30, as per instruction from client:

Charges.
Clearing Customs at Shanghai Tls 5.-
Journeys to Steamer 905 " 5.30
Cartage, boat hire + packing " 3.20
Commission, Collecting " 1.-
Total M.$ 14.50
E. & O. E.

John. T. S. College Esq.
&c &c &c
American Chargé d'Affaires.
Peking

Nov. 16, 1906

Sir,-

I have the honor to report that the rumors regarding a change in the System of taxation in Fengtien former now confirmed by conversation by the Director of the Tsai Cheng Chüe in Mukden. I have

I have the honor to report that having been informed by several of the leading Mukden merchants of Mukden that there is to be a change in the system of taxation in Fengtien province. I requested information of these rumors for the I requested last. I made inquiries of the Director of the Tsai Cheng Chü regarding the truth of these rumors and I endeavored to ascertain the nature and extent of the new duties. Although the merchants had informed me that the rate would be ten %. and while I was unable to secure definite information regarding the extent of the new imposts confirmation of this rumors. I was informed by the Director of the Tsai Cheng Chü, which office has such matters that likin and all other forms of taxation are to be abolished and replaced by two new imposts - the a consumption tax - — — — and a foreign import tax. He was unwilling to give me any details regarding the methods of collection - save that the rates to be charged, stating merely that the a certain % would be charged on each days sales. He characterized the measure as a formula one and calculated to please the foreign merchants who had objected to and refused to pay the duties which his office had formerly attempted to levy.

I am informed by the merchants however that the rate will be too high and that the business will be seriously interfered with. although the new tax does not fall directly upon the foreign merchants by increasing the burden borne by his native client who They fear however that the Japanese who are already doing a greater business as the not while they are on account of the unfavorable high duty, & thus returned to pay likin now hopes to compete at a disadvantage with the Japanese retailers on an unequal footing.

they will in the future be placed in a position one more disadvantageous. for this is their quotation that In the attitude of the Japanese with deals in the port and the support which they receive from their consular authorities too will count in the future as they have in the past. ~~and~~ they bring it ~~far~~ from I had to the imposition of any native duty.

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Newchwang, 12th November 1906

M Hon. W. J. Straight, Esq. Moukden.

Dr. to Aug. Frahm, Newchwang and Liaoyang

Statement.

Hon. W. J. Straight.	Tls	14.	50.
" " " "	"	7.	35
" " " "	"	2.	75
" " " "	"	8.	50
Consul Fairchild (64.6.)	"	11.	50
	Tacls	44.	60
at 69. Yoh. Hk. Tls		64.	69

Aug. Frahm

1666
11.50
69
460
414
460

19.
20
21
22

Sales 24 25 Tm
26
27
28
29
30 Sundry
1 Oct
2
3
5
6 Pkg

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From Sarah Martin, 11-13-? [1906]
PS

American Consulate-General
Hankow.

Dear Mr. Straight.

We have heard of your safe arrival in Yunnanfu and I meant to have had a letter awaiting you there but like many other good intentions it never materialized.

I am in Hankow. We are the remained the 26th Dec. Grace is not again and has taken over charge of the house and I am Treasurer. Mr Lemon is only two blocks away. We all see neighbors until Spring as [illegible]

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We were pleased to hear of your appointment and our congratulations though late are sincere. Father thinks you are a splendid man for that post.

We heard that you were in your way out and hoped you would be going north by way of Hankow. Mr. Cheshire however thought it would hardly be likely as the Hankow it would mean for you to go Peking. Mrs. Pickett passed through Chefoo. Mrs. Pickett came in very ill and also this letter was two weeks ago - Will have

Now I am glad to hear of your engagement and am telling Father & Mother. Will congratulate Dr. Pond

his leave will be granted, it really is due next month. We expect to spend six months in Germany and I am studying now, trying to get enough of the language to be able to make myself understood at least. It is uphill work here in Hankow because all the Germans speak

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English fluently.

Martha Levering Sherman was calling and asked after you the other day. We talked over her visit in Nanking. Do you ever hear from the Spinneys? I hope to see them in Europe.

Do write and tell us about Yokkaichi, how you like it etc. Grace says to tell you that she enjoyed seeing you in America very much. Do keep all sorts of kindest regards.

Yours sincerely,
Sarah Allerton

Remember Flint Hall.

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[11-15-06]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

MUKDEN , CHINA .

November 15 , 1906 .

Dear Mr. Harriman ;-

Expressions of discontent with the management of the Japanese Railroad are so general and there seems to be such a widespread feeling that even should matters improve under a new administration the Chinese will patronize the line as a matter of necessity and only because there is no parallel route , that I have during the past feww weeks been making inquiries regarding the possibilities for such a road .

There is a consensus of opinion among commercial men and thos in touch with the Chinese Eastern Railway with whom I have discussed the matter , that a line of this sort would be a success . As you doubtless know the Chinese were hampered in the construction of the line north from Koupantze to Hsinmintun by Russian interference . The Russians feared the competitin of a parallel road but their agreements gave them no right to object to anything the Chinese might have attempted in this connection . The Japanese in taking over the Russian priveleges are subjected to the same limitations but would doubtless bring considerable influence to bear to prevent the construction of any road in South Manchuria independent of their own system .

For this reason the Chinese who , I am informed , are anxious to extend their road from Hsinmintun to Changchun to connect with the proposed Kirin-Changchun line and who fear Japanese opposition to such a project , would probably be more willing to consider a proposition from a foreigner for this road than they would be for similiar work elsewhere in China where the necessity for a buffer is not so imperative .

Surveys have already been made for a branch line from the Hsinmintun road to Hsiku , about sixty miles distant , where there are coal fields with an estimated annual output of 800,000 tons . Reports from the north state that the Chinese who have profited largely during the war are now buying up tracts of land in Mongolia and opening up the country , and I was recently informed by a Mining Inspector from that region that there were large deposits of gold , silver , and lead as well as coal in his district . Timber , he said , was plentiful and the conditions favorable for mining with modern methods .

Although the old trade routes have been interfered with to a certain extent by the railway I learn that the Chinese are not pleased with the change . Fakumen and Tungchiangtzu which have recently suffered would revive with the building of a Hsinmintun -Changchun line with a northern branch to Tsitsihar. It is stated moreover , that owing to the treatment which they receive at the hands of the Japanese , the methods which the latter are using to force cargo to Dalny instead of Newchwang , their failure to respect contracts , preferential rates , and the inadequate transportation facilities , the Chinese are becoming prejudiced to such an extent that the receipts of the railroad are bound to suffer .

An opposition road would tap a rich country with great possibilities for increased production , would enable the Chinese to haul over the usual routes and ship to Newchwang a port with which they have established connections , where with improved bunding it would be possible to run trains to elevators which

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[11-15-06]

should be erected and load in steamers for the southern or Japanese markets .

Manchuria is really a new west , with cheaper labor and a soil almost equally fertile and rich in minerals . The political conditions , moreover , render the Chinese Government more likely to welcome the introduction of foreign capital , which is not the case elsewhere , and Americans should be particularly well received . I base my statement in this regard on assurances which I have received from the Viceroy and which were made with every appearance of sincerity .

Trusting that you may find the situation of interest , I am ,

Yours sincerely ,

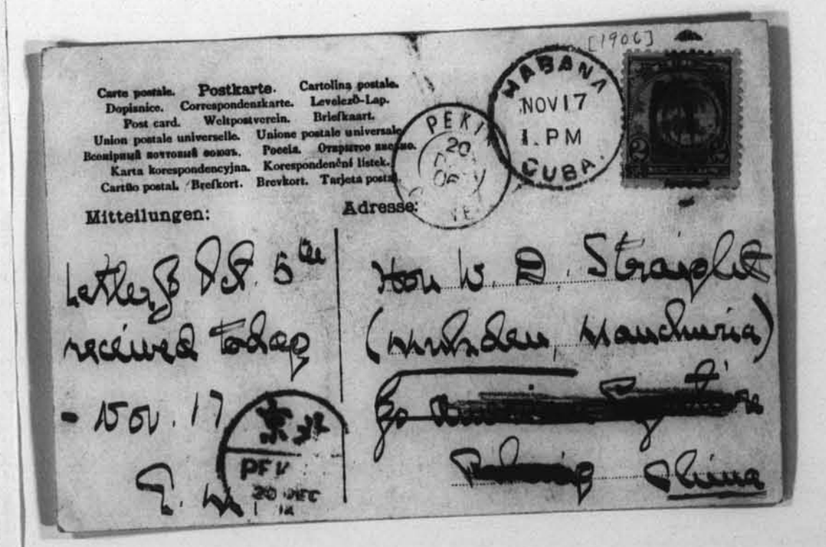
To

E. H. Harriman ,Esquire ,

The Equitable Building ,

Broadway ,

New York City .



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[illegible]

[illegible] Aug. 18

[illegible] [1906-Pa]

Mr. [illegible]

[illegible] Aug. 17, 1906.

D.K. E. [illegible] Straight

[illegible]

[illegible]

You have provocation I of course
- even perhaps cause backed
by specific instances from which
you may quote chapter and
verse. But don't - as an intelli
gent man don't. This short
question may produce a very
serious view and hatred and
all unrighteousness may result.
Your role will be increasingly
difficult. But to be calm. This
seems as though I objected
you to pass days in a passion -
which I course I don't.

The legation goes on much as
when last I wrote you - much
relating to banking etc without
indications from there as to whether
what is reported is the thing want
ed. It probably is not. The gov.
is hemmed by liberal office
seekers a good many of whom
secure jobs and discontent
is common. Prince Pierre who
has been considered as likely
to head a reformed moderate
party was to have presented a
program last night. The
meeting however was called

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[11-18-06]

AMERICAN LEGATION

and only Wilson is staying with me. Last night I had a dull dinner for Rev. and Mrs Bell. She is "sociable" but neither the Rev. or Rev. add to the ease or life of social entertainments. I am going to let one of our officers be married at my house this week. His bride elect coming from Baltimore attended by the wife of a fellow officer but not by Bride or Groom

with affectionate regards.

always E. M.

does not know how to instruct me properly in her religion or her legs so that she may have even the pleasure of being able to stand long enough to attempt walking. There is confidence too that Steinhardt is the real governor, in which there is some truth. His family is carrying him into somewhat deep water and he is so identified with the Prov. Gov. that he cannot escape responsi-

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civility as heretofore he has done. Buchanan, who was at the head of our Pan-American delegation and who is close to Root's South American policy is here to investigate general conditions as well as those of the Banco Nacional, of which he is a director. Conklin is here for the Bank Internationale and Steinhardt heads the Bank. It will be interesting to see what Buchanan reports on his return. Purvis who is hanging to get even with the Pres. would not go, expects Senator Dick shortly in order to go into the Isle of Pines and Nicaragua matters when Congress meets. Cuba still hopes some in for much work since my return I have kept clear as far as possible of our connection with or responsibility for any of the Prov. Gov. and have stuck to the Legation work.

Dearing - who hope down a fortnight ago has gone home, sailing yesterday

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[copy]

-

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

MUKDEN, CHINA.

November 18, 1906.

Subject: Interpreter's salary.

The Honorable

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D.C.

Sir:-

I have the honor to state that before proceeding to this post I was informed by the Department that an allowance of $1000 per annum had been made for an interpreter at Mukden. Although up to the present time I have been unable to secure the services of a person competent to fill the position, I hope to do so in the near future. With my personal knowledge of the Chinese language and the assistance of a native writer I have been able to conduct the necessary business up to the present time; but in case it should be necessary in the performance of my duty to travel through the consular district, as neither Mr. Arnell, Vice Consul General, nor Mr. Fairchild, Vice and Deputy Consul General, are acquainted with the Chinese language, it would be imperative to have an interpreter in the office.

Mr. Arnell, who has been attached to this Consulate General and appointed Student Interpreter, drawing his salary as such under the special Congressional appropriation, has a thorough knowledge of Japsnese, and as it is particularly important at the present time that we should be acquainted with the activities of Japanese merchants and cognizant of the action of the military authorities, he has been devoting a considerable portion of his time to the translation of articles appearing in the daily press and in conducting special investigations.

I beg to suggest, therefore, that I be permitted to reimburse him for this special service with $500 per annum, in addition to his salary as Student

[11-18-06]

Interpreter, and with the balance of the Interpreter's allowance for this office to employ an English-speaking Chinese.

As the cost of living in Mukden is at present excessive and Mr. Arnell finds his present allowance inadequate, I beg to respectfully request, in case the Department approves of the above action, that I be informed thereof by cable.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your obedient servant,

Willard D. Straight.

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AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AFRA," NEWCHWANG.

A.I., A.B.C. IV. Edition and private Codes used.

Newchwang, 20th November 1906

Hon. W. D. Straight, Esq.
Mukden.

Dear Sir!

I beg to have receipt of your favour of November 17th with cheque for $64.64, for which please accept my best thanks.

Enclosed I beg to hand you Original & Duplicate bill for 7 cases Official supplies & 1 typewriter official, as requested.

Your wines have gone forward on Saturday last by train to the Ki Tung Company, Mukden, where you may apply for same, as soon you wish to take delivery of the cases.

Enclosed please find my D/Note for these goods, amount for which $ 123.90 kindly credit me in account.

I may mention, that I have forwarded to the above named Ki Tung Company a variety of stores, Groceries and fancy goods & I trust, when you are in want of some goods, you will favour the Company with your kind orders.

Meantime I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully
Aug. Frahm

Newchwang, 20th November 1906.

M Hon. W. D. Straight, Esq. Mukden.

Dr. to Aug. Frahm, Newchwang and Liaoyang

Novb.	12.	200 Cortador de la Reina à 3.50. 1 pair gloves 8	Mex $	15. ~
		1 box shoepolish 0.60 1 box silverpolish 0.30	"	~ 90
	15.	3 Dozen claret à 6.- 1 Dz. Cuenca 16.- 1 Dz. Rattenheimer 20	"	34. ~
		1 Doz. Moulin à vent 24.-	"	27. ~
			Mex $	123.90
				E. & O. E.

For Mex. Dollars I allow 10% cash discount.
for Yokohama Specie Bank Notes 5% " "

Aug. Frahm

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[1906]?

QUINTA HIDALGO,
MARIANAO.

Nov. 26.

Dear Willard

Thank you for your reassuring cable. The A. P. use of the prefix "un" - awful as it is from the point of grammar - assured me that you had really dictated the reply. Coolidge also telegraphed me you

I knew in the Islands in 1899 and have seen since in Europe. He is returning to his post but Havana can scarcely be considered on the map between Berlin and Asia! Grant-Duff is not to come and Squiers is to go away on a long leave though he has but just returned from his

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were right. The reason for my inquiry was a report from Dick Davis- who had it from the Fairchilds- that you were ill with enteric and had gone to Japan. I believed it because I knew you could do foolish things and that the last part of your journey at least was inefficiently

hard to have resulted in- juriously to your health.

If you are not more careful I shall be obliged to request weekly called health reports.

We pay on. Miss Pepper comes back in two days and tomorrow I expect a visit from Dr. Soff- the German governess of Samuel

from

[11-26-06]

This would not be pleasant.

I enclose a wonderful cutting from "Country Life." The Princess Isabelle is a sister of Lady Egerton, the wife of the British ambassador at Rome, who was then Lady in Waiting to one of the Princesses Grand Duchesses. Can it be true?

always affectionately
E. M.

QUINTA HIDALGO
MARIANAO

statuesque one. Hundreds on the other hand is on his way here. As he hates the place he can not be returning willingly. We are waiting therefore to see with no little interest whether he also will be withdrawn as his British and French colleagues have been. Sofy may

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enlighten us - or he may be sent to study and report on the situation which is complicated enough. A movement is growing for a protectorate and it is the common saying that unless some sort of a permanent control is established another row will occur. If the Liberals win in an election the moderates go out. The President and Root still seem set on forcing Cuba to resume self government and within a few months, Congress however may intervene. Or the two after discussing for three months and raising dust may leave questions unsettled. and every thing as ever.

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American Consulate General.
Mukden.
Dec. 9. 1906

Dear Bac.

Enclosed as a proof of good faith I am sending a letter which should have reached you a good many months ago - at the time when we were supporting the cable system between Paris, France and Andertown.

I am sorry to have missed you. But there seemed to be no help for it. We were uncertain as to train sailings from St. Petersburg and Moscow and worried about possible difficulties which we might have in attempting to go out across Siberia. Like a good many other bridges that loom rather large in the distance they turned to be pretty easy travelling

In the next few months. How it will all end - time alone will tell.

You see Mukden and Antung both in my district are the first cities in China to be opened by an American treaty so that to Dudley. The Japanese are of course giving my string and they make us toes about such antiquated things as places opened by treaty provisions but fight freely in any suit that suits their fancy and feels the irate Chinaman to tell his troubles to the Police man. In this land however, there isn't any. So John is left to smother his resentment in Confucian texts.

To appreciate heaven you must see. Mrs. Little should view the world. I can - & like to can shortly - room. food and a medicine of bitters water. one and share' em -

Yours always
Willard Straight

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when mee arrived at. at the time I left London however I was not at all in talking chances. as I was already late in starting for the new job. and anxious to be able to report to the Department "arrived" with as little delay as possible. the sketch of ho mans hand between the Japanese and Russian lines also promised a few days pleasant going. and so I flicked direct.

Our whole trip ut however was as easy as could be - save for the sketch of thirty miles or load to do in one day jolted and jostled in Chinese carts. the Russian officers at Kwangchengtza - their last post - I might add - had been exceedingly hospitable and you may remember - remember. I say - the morning after of your younger and more Saturday days - you who are now of course a valuable member of society - and you can therefore imagine that a thirty mile trek in a springless hay cart on frost nuts could not be calculated to sooth - or to please -

We turned up here on the 2nd of October and since then have been trying to start things into running order. that is all my work. but U.S. Express his minions frequently to do the impossible and we are now trying to open a city which the Chinese wish to keep shut and on his promise to see on continued rouse of hostile consequence

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[enclosed 12-9-06]

TEL. KENSINGTON 1272.

74, Cheyne Walk,
Chelsea, S. W.

Sept. 8th 1906

Dear Bacs -

Your telegram came to-night as a great disappointment. We had hoped that we might meet. You see I am en route to Yokohama or Seoul - via Petersburg and the trans Siberian. There have been some things to stop[illegible] us here and I was also anxious to see the race - and hoped that you would be on. It was a hoss thing and we only saw the finish which was good enough. I rely

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again in a couple of years. You had better come - you will find the hours goes fine the start.

Just before leaving I sent you a small check aman - Cable but better so than new - My best wishes go with the same - all the good in the world Bascom - To you

Yours

Willard Straight

address me Muldeu - at Petersburg till Friday.

wished that we might have had us let me here and we might have shown them a thing or two.

If I only had a little time I should go to see you. But you see I have been ordered to make trades by the State Department and that can delay me this side of Moscow by the train service to so exceedingly uncertain. The word circle have to be there - rather than here for I might miss a train that would delay me a week.

I am sorry not to have had the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Bascom Little and your friend and Cudley Self - But so it goes - & you must be nice. I am not

--

--

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[1906].

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dec. 2.

Dear Willard.

My last letter will have told you the reason why I called and my satisfaction at learning you were well again. Your illness explains why your letter of Oct. 1 was the only one I have received.

This week has not been without incidents. On Tuesday my old friend Dr. Solf the Governor of German Samoa arrived accompanied

telegram from Washington that the French representative would be given leave of absence. Foreign affairs however to I know nothing of such a plan. There is no diplomatic business which any of the floor clerks can do. We are rather surprised therefore that Hannibach is on his way. For know ing his dislike of the post he might be expected to return only under compulsion.

There is a general feeling that

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by his aid Hearst reached Chihuahua. Their steamer from Frisco to Guaymas was delayed and they turned off their route to see Havana and Mexico City, striking the main line again at El Paso. I knew Hearst as President of the Anti Municipality. From which office he was promoted to that of Governor when Hughes and Sarasti went to Germany on the division. He has little of the officialism of his class and even Germans there call him a good fellow.

His wife received dinner and I had three-one of men to which I asked D'Arnaud, Edwards (editor of "La Discussion" you remember) and Monteros late Cuban minister to Berlin as well as Hymans and Talleyrand-Perigord the German commercial attaché and some of our officers. Thanksgiving night there were only Americans but last night the Latinos came and I dined finally after several attempts. It has been stated in an A. P.

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[12-2-06]

with a sharp attack of asthma
A nurse is in the house and
Laine in attendance. The dis-
ease is most grievous though
as long as the lungs are not
affected not necessarily danger-
ous. I feel more sorry than
I did when a lady is staying
in the house - since two of our
officers are living in the bung-
alow opposite who are married
to pleasant wives.

Did I tell you this Sanghoma
and Stanley Washburn were mar-
ried - and that the other wives

[2]

the U.S. must institute some
form of election but the
President seems bent on hold-
ing fresh elections and with-
drawing the army. Perhaps
he thinks this the only way of
proving definitely whether or
not Cuba can maintain her-
self. Meantime the revolution-
ary party is beginning to break
into groups - though immedi-
ate elections would hold it
somewhat longer together
than if there was not hope of
offices soon to be filled.

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The moderates have not organized at all and the conservatives may not even put up a ticket. A Liberal walk-over would probably result in another outbreak which would compel our people to stop. The conservatives may find they will gain nothing by being defeated but that American supervision is made permanent there will be an opportunity for their intelligence, education and property interests to meet the requisitions which is their due in the conduct of public affairs. March turns on the Island rose colored glasses through which the President is wont to view this Island and whether or not he will darken this view by a close study of facts.

This Board came back on Wednesday but I regret to say has taken cold and at this moment is ill

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[12-2-06]

[3]

Langhorne, who is married to a brother of Preston Merchant is coming here to join her husband who is one of the Governor's aids. I send you a cutting from the Post with an account of the Langhorne-Washburn wedding as among the others you will recognize the groom.

Roland Harriman fell from a horse and broke a collar bone, which was not a very serious injury. I have asked the Hs to visit me. Her H. has grilled more railroads and is not the more loved in consequence.

AMERICAN LEGATION HAVANA

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My brother is installing himself in a house in London but plans to join me here in February when my sister also comes. Mrs Delafield is to remain a fortnight or so. Wilson is still here and proves very acceptable. Dearing does not return for another month. My new Panhard car is on its way from Paris and the driver, who was formerly with my brother, Sir Arthur, is hired. The Maxwell is to be exchanged for another, since our car leads to two as surely as one carriage to another.

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[1906] DG

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dec. 7.

Dear Willard

Yesterday came your letter of Dec. 28 written while you were still nursing an uncomfortable condition, which no longer exists I hope. Even as I write the winter must have set in and by the time this reaches you will be in full force.

To make trouble for the President or several cousins. We are awaiting with much interest the views on the situation here. Note Minister's telegrams and take warning. The more closely you follow instructions and the less diplomatic initiative you display the more you are likely to please your over-lord at Peking. Always affectionately

Thos Morgan

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although you say nothing about your health - I see it's gets back reading the Times through Fairchild's fashion venture - you must have heard when your letter was written. The hardships you endured were probably greater than you confessed.

Miss Bogart is better, Mrs Delafield is due next Thursday. Bertha - my brother's daughter has arrived and the new Packard car - ordered in Paris - comes in two days. My Maxwell is to be exchanged for another, so I shall have two cars at the same time.

I send you clippings regarding the Japanese Idol question which is dangerous ones to deal with our friends on their tenderest point. Congress seems to be in a mood.

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[1906] PG

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dec. 20.

Dear Willard

I do not know how to write in the face of the sad news regarding Fairchild which reached us yesterday through a telegram from Dick Davis. It is very hard that you should have been brought to face such a situation. As per Dick's letter nothing as to the causes and only before that

political situation and little personal resources. I see Fairchild has entered into residence and note that your German colleague is a decent chap.

With very good wish and sympathetic expressions.

always affectionately.

Dear Willard.

E. M.

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Dear Mr. Straight:

I am very much obliged to you for your letter of the 5th inst. and for the information which it contains. I am sorry that you have been troubled with the matter, but I am very glad that you have done so. I shall be glad to see you when you are in New York next week, and will let you know when I am coming.

Yours very truly,

Secretary.

[1906]

Dec. 26. PA

QUINTA HIDALGO,
MARIANAO.

Dear Willard.

I am glad to have your cable yesterday "greetings" and to feel that we were remembering through so far away. I am thinking of you constantly - especially since I heard of Fairchild's death. Fate is hard to make you twice go through such a trial. She few gracious you had all loved Theresa to ask help you I trust as was Brother and other

which I write you comes to-morrow night. There are 4 ships in port and the quarantine number 350 with resident americans and the army and its ladies. There is the 1st Field Guard band in the Plaza and a regimental band on the verandah. Mrs Bates of Washington has come down to "run" the Palace and the Governor but has not yet begun to entertain. She has made the place both somewhat more habitable. Gen.

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Friends did last year.

The Doctor Trowbridge had a fine notice but the News Leader misstated I planned to see Dad nothing to fear. I do not get home for some circumstances. It is sad enough no matter what they say.

I had a Christmas letter from the Davises but have not learned whether they are to make their African journey. Christmas was quiet and we dined our neighbors Mr. and Mrs Wotherspoon, Mr. and Mrs Treat Walker and Mrs Fisher and Capt.

Horton in addition to the Honeyman's and Mrs Brumbaugh as well as Wrights, whose wife is in Switzerland with the children. Mrs Delafield is now with us as well as Miss Pepper and Wilson is staying until he can move into the rooms on the lower floor of the house on the Malecon in which the chancery is now installed This house is round the corner from the Late office. Dearing is still away

The All American Girls J

by. at least you were spared the anxiety of a long illness with its fluctuations of hope and fear. She quite appreciates by want of it in his own hand.

If there is anything I can send you ordered through London or New York let me know.

Always affectionately
E. M.

[2] [12-26-06]
wife and his wife, who are to succeed the QUINTA HIDALGO. MARIANAO. Bells in command of the forces, seem to be pleasant. The officers - especially those of the Staff are a fairly good class some of them being quite civilized. There are about on the same level as the navy men - as a whole.

My mother comes at the beginning of February with my sister. Was sad work and miss Kitchiners & Washington about the

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sometime and the Dixeys after
went Repina. This is as far as I
have gotten. Rosamond Dixey
is going out this season and
Mrs Dixey wrote me lately from
Washington where he and she
were staying with the Durands.
- a very characteristic letter.
Have you seen that Riddle
goes to Petersburg as ambassador and
Thurston to Mexico as 1st
I enclose the Sun of the 20th
with a list of other appointments

The Griscoms should be per-
fectly satisfied with Rome.
Howard has died at Port Byron
and I do not know who suc-
ceeds him at Seoul. I wish it
might be you - though I would
to see you at Peking when
Moore's health gives out as I
am sure it will.

Dec. 28.

The enclosed cutting has
just met my eye. Dreadful
as the event was I hope the
poor boy was killed instant

Dec 26/06

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

My dear Straight:

This is the very first moment I have had to drop you a line since my return, for Christmas was a busy day with us. My thoughts have been almost entirely up in Manchuria with you. I find it difficult and well nigh impossible for the moment, to settle down to routine work and forget the horrible tragedy, yet how much more difficult it is for you than for us! Being an expressionless person they say that all people

In view of this and much to my own disappointment I could only telegraph you this morning as I did. Since you especially asked it, I am always sorry to be frank with you in regard to your work. This then is a case where I think it would be a mistake for you to leave Manchuria. Mr. Rockhill thought it an excellent idea for you to visit Antung and report on what is happening there. He said that if you felt the need of going away for a while, you could not do better than to investigate Antung conditions, which we have heard nothing about for many months.

He was interested when I told

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from Boston are this:- I realize how little I said while with you, which would show my intense sympathy for you in that which you are going through at present.

The shock was terrible and hard enough to bear, but the next month or two, with the recollection still fresh, can only be a tough struggle. You are game for it, my dear fellow, of that I am sure, but I for one appreciate what you have now to contend with.

As I told you, I wanted you tremendously ~~to~~ to come to Peking if only for the briefest of visits, partly for selfish reasons, because I hoped to see you again and to know you better, and because I felt sure it would be a good thing to leave the scene of tragedy behind for a few days.

I have spoken to Mr. Rockhill several times about your coming, about my wanting you to come, and his reply was not sufficient to authorize me to telegraph you his approval. He said that Section 466 Consular Regulations covered the case and you could absent yourself for 10 days if you desired, but his whole attitude was "stay at your post and not come to Peking".

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AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

Sun of you Zeal in gaining information re preferential Railway Rates, and he is holding over a Report that was to be sent in today, hoping that you will be able to send down something further if interested.

In Hsin-min-tun. I was told that the local papers in general held that Fairchild's death was suicide, and it is the same in Peking. I have however expressed my mind freely, except to the Ministers, that the thing was an accident, and if necessary

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We will have a statement to that effect inserted in the Scientific papers.

I have mentioned your proposal to Holmes, but have not yet had time to talk it over fully with him. Which I shall do at the earliest opportunity. He is considering it, I know, and I think, if you have not already done so, it would be well for you to write to him yourself.

I am most anxious to hear about the house. Do write me if it goes through.

I find quantities of work to do at the office, so I must hasten back there, and shut this up.

Always let me know if I can be of any use to you down here, for it will always be a real pleasure to be of any assistance. Love to all.

My kindest remembrances to Ardell,

Yours sincerely,
W. Phillips.

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[12-7-06]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL .

MUKDEN, CHINA.

December 7, 1906.

Dear Mr. Harriman ;-

As the value of the Japanese South Manchurian Railway must depend largely on the connection made thereby with the Russian line running notth from Changchun it may interest you to learn that Mr. Hagiwara , the Japanese Consul General here , who has just returned after a month of negotiation with Prince Khillkoff and the Russian Commssioners associated with him, reports that the attempt made by his Government to secure control of the Chnagchun station was a failure . He tells me that practically nothing was accomplished and that the whole matter has been referred to St. Petersburg where a Commercial Treaty is being negotiated by Russia and Japan .

The Japanese finding their efforts to obtain the station unsuccessful then tried to arrange for its common use , each power to erect its own buildings , Russia to the north and Japane to the south . Here they also failed , the Russians refusing moreover to recognise the Japanese claim to a coal mine now being operated to the south east of the Chinese city .

For the present therefore there will be no through communication . Passengers north or south bound will have to traverse the five mile stretch between Chnagchun and Mengchiatun the most northern Hapanese station as best they may and any transfer of freight will be extremely difficult .

The Japanese railway has been carrying large shipments of beans but the transportation facilities have not ben been adequate for , notwithstanding the demand for cars , a portion of the rolling stock has already been returned to Japan in anticipation of a change of gauge in the Spring. There is

general disaatisfaction with the railway administration which by a manipulation of the rates has been endeavoring to divert all traffic from Newchwang to Dalny and foreigners as well as Chinese complain that they are unable to deal directly with the authorities and are obliged to ship either through Japanese agencies or through Chinese firms associated with such organizati tions .

There is also a good deal of trouble over the title to the Hsinmintun Mukden line . It was provided in the treaty sig signed last winter that Japan should turn the road over to China but the price demanded is so exorbitant that the Chinese tell me that they will build a new route of their own rather than accept the old line on the conditions which the Japanese evidently expect to impose . In discussing the Hsinmintun matter the Viceroy informed me the other day that while he should like to have a road between that point and Chnagchun he feared th that the Japanese would object . He hoped that it would be possible however to run a line through eastern Mongolia , a rich mining country and one that is being rapidly settled by Chinese farmers , to Tsitsihar . The chief difficulty he assured me was lack of funds .

Whether the Chinese will eventually be able to assert their rights in Manchuira or not , I do not know . They will probably make the attempt in the spring and there are already indications that the whole question of foreign rights in the newly opened cities will shortly be the subject of what I fear will be an endless correspondence .

With kindest regards , beleive me ,

Yours sincerely ,

E. H. Harriman ,Esquire ,
Equitable Building ,
New York City .

...bers at Cornell University
000551

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

MUKDEN, CHINA.

December 27th, 1906.

Dear Mr. Harriman ;-

We are at the present time preparing a report on the South Manchuria Railway Comapny , which I shall forward you as soon as we are able to secure certain data from the Headquarters in Dalny .

According to the Japanese Press there were 11,356 applicants for 106,643,016 shares , being 106,544,016 shares in excess of the 99,000 to be allotted .

Rather than expressing satisfaction with the situation as evidenced by the over-subscription , the "CHUGAI SHOGYO" a leading financial journal characterizes the proceedings as farcical . It states that the South Manchurian Railway Co. drew interest on deposits of guarantee money at the rate of 7rin per 100 Yen per day . Banks advanced funds for guarantee money to subscribers at a slightly increased rate and pocketed the difference , thus allowing comparatively poor man to apply for an unlimited number of shares . The journal further asserts that had the remarkable subscription been an indication of abundance of money , confidence in the Comapny's prospects or an increas in national wealth , it would have been a matter of congratulation , but it doubts whether the Banks could have forwarded the "alleged" deposits to the Bank of Japan and has no faith in the ability of the "subscribers" to have responded to a call in case the Company should have taken advantage of the over-subscription to increase its capital.

It is proposed, I am told , to complete the alteration of the guage within three years time. The stretch

select a settlement site before negotiating with the Japanese for their exclusive concession provided for by the Agreement of 1905. The outcome promises to be rather interesting but I cannot help but feel that the San Francisco affair will have an unfortunate effect on our Manchurian policy and cause people at home to ignore the lesser question of the "Open Door" in endeavoring to patch things up with Tokyo. It would be interesting to know whether the "school children" have been brought to the fore at this time in order to draw attention at home , which at one time was almost threatening , from the Japanese programme in Manchuria. It seems not improbable certainly that it might have been played a little stronger than it otherwise would have been.

With kindest regards , believe me,

Yours sincerely ,

E. H. Harriman , Esquire,
The Equitable Building ,
Broadway ,
New York City .

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

000552

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

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It is proposed, I am told , to complete the alteration of the guage within three years time. The stretch

[12-24-06]

from Dalny to Suchiaton , six miles south of Mukden will be double tracked first . On the completion of this section the work will be carried north . It is therefore to operate the narrow guage road side by side with the wider track until the sectional changes are completed.

The rumours regarding preferential rates given to Japanese merchants to the detriment of their foreign competitors seems to have some foundation . We have no tangible evidence as yet as we are unable to secure any statement from the Japanese . It is impossible , however, for Chinese or foreigners to ship over the line unless they are associated with Japanese or make their arrangements thru through a Japanese Forwarding Company . A certain freight tariff is announced and these Forwarding Agencies claim that they derive their profits from "coolie Hire" . This contention is ridiculous on its face and I ~~am convinced~~ believe that all Japanese firms , express companies and ordinary merchants alike are given a certain quotation while foreigners , only permitted to deal through certain channels, are forced to pay the published rates.

We are now in the midst of negotiating Customs Regulations for the trade of the sixteen places that have been and are shortly to be opened to foreign trade and as the Chinese have assumed a rather uncompromising attitude not at all in accordance with our interpreation of the treaties , we are expecting difficulties . I learn that they will attempt to force us to pull their chestnuts out of the fire for them by requesting us to select a settlement at Antung , where the Japanese have occupied the best location , on the plea that our treaty providing for the opening of that port antedates the Chinese-Japanese agreement concluded at the close of the war and that they are therefore bound to fulfill their obligations to us and permit us to

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[12-27-06]

select a settlement site before negotiating with the Japanese for their exclusive concession provided for by the Agreement of 1905. The outcome promises to be rather interesting but I cannot help but feel that the San Francisco affair will have an unfortunate effect on our Manchurian policy and cause people at home to ignore the lesser question of the "Open Door" in endeavoring to patch things up with Tokyo. It would be interesting to know whether the"school children" have been brought to the fore at this time in order to draw attention at home , which at one time was almost threatening , from the Japanese programme in Manchuria. It seems not improbable certainly that it might have been played a little stronger than it otherwise would have been.

With kindest regards , believe me,

Yours sincerely ,

E. H. Harriman ,Esquire,
The Equitable Building ,
Broadway ,
New York City .

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suicide. Afterwards came
upon contradiction with your
assertion that it was an ac-
cident. This pleased the fami-
ly. The boys wrote in each case
Brother a stopping with your
statement. Mr Herbert Blair
Fairchild who was our for-
mer secretary in Berlin
lives in Paris. I have not seen
him since the death, but he
is quite cut up about his
brothers death. How very
very sorry for you as you had
the responsibility of him
& You are only twenty-six!

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

Hotel du Rhin
Place Vendome
Paris
December 28th 1906.
[1906]

Dear Mr Straight

Really you are not much
of a correspondent. You owe
me at least three letters &
I've not had one! But then it al-
ways a chance that one
is on its way from Brazil.

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

as I gave no one much warning of my departure. The reason that prompted me to write now is, that having read your article in Putnam's Monthly, I want to congratulate you. The Straightway Emperor is very interesting. Such characters are as unusual & original & delightful. They don't run in an ordinary mill stream channel.

that cannot be derived from any photograph they bring before the eye the true local color. May I have a photograph of the last staff of the American legation at Seoul?

I want to sympathize with you in the death of your secretary Neale Fair-Child. At first the newspapers said that the cause of the death not being given, they supposed it was a case of

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12-28-06, KS 2.

AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

We are both very happy—
it has always been our
dream d'aller à la poste
& the Peace of Alex Courtenay
And my Great uncle Charles
King was Minister there—
he was Mr. Maddington's
uncle.

My husband arrives
from Brazil about Jan-
uary 20th but we probably
won't go down new port until
March or April. In the mean
time we'll have lots of
good parties in the Coming Year

I am afraid that you
will be very lonely. Who will
you get to go up there with
you now? Least be very
careful & do not overwork
your dreams. What
games have you going to
Sweden. I believe you were
going to revenge yourself
on the Von Hermans—
whoever they will prove
of Manchuria true, to a

Yrs Sincerely E. Lee Thaxton

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
RIO DE JANEIRO

attached you before when you were in search of adventure. Now at last all this talk of a Consulate for China. Will the Dowager Empress ever Consent & bring to longer the daily true ad-vocate of the world.

What is Sir Robert Hart's status or are all foreigners to be excluded.

I am interested in the fate of my Rossneglian Cousin & Mr Gale merritt who was in Shimonoseki. How fortunate it is that you left that precarious Career for the service of your own great & glorious Country.

Have you heard of my husbands appointment as Ambassador to Rome.

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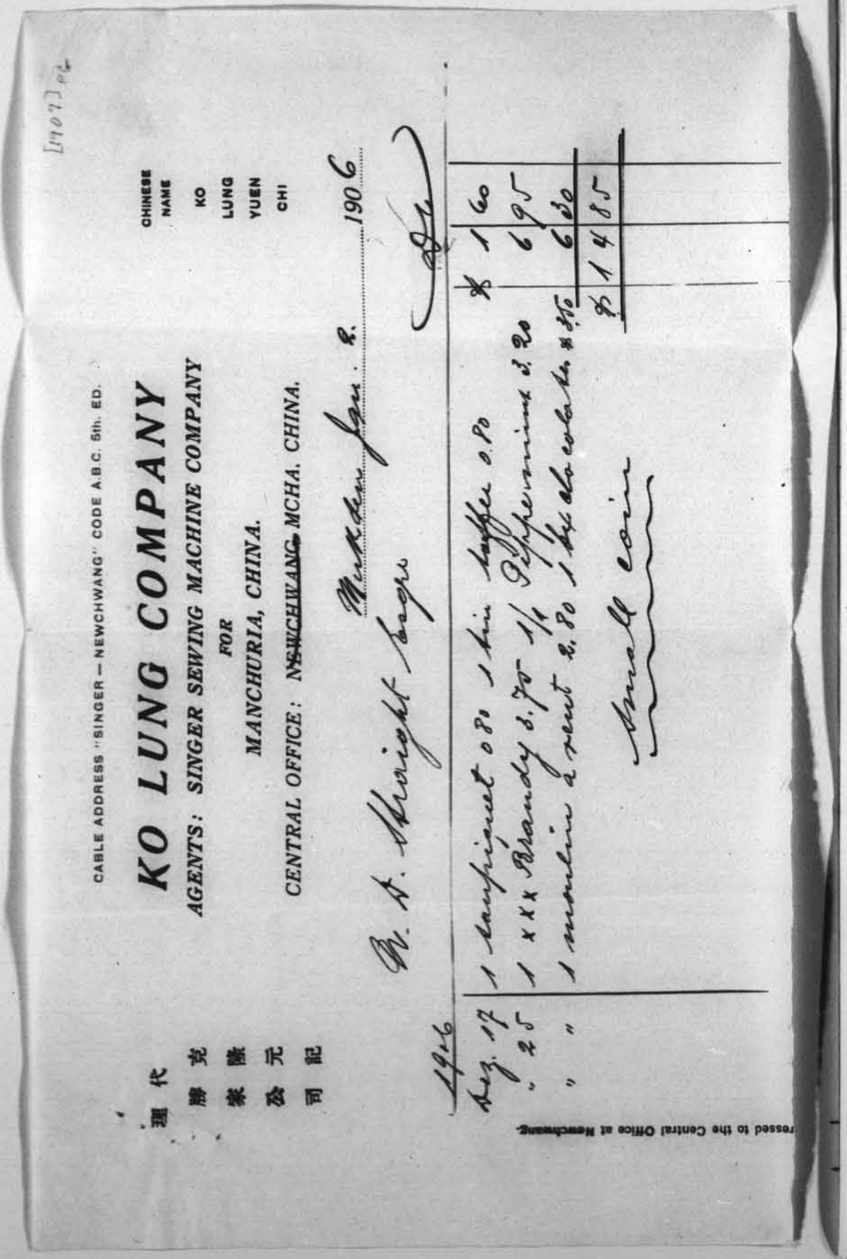
CABLE ADDRESS "SINGER—NEWCHWANG" CODE A.B.C. 5th. ED.

KO LUNG COMPANY

AGENTS: SINGER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY

FOR

MANCHURIA, CHINA.

CENTRAL OFFICE: NEWCHWANG MCHA. CHINA.

CHINESE NAME

KO LUNG YUEN CHI

1907 ?

Newchwang Jan. 8. 1906

R. N. Wright Esqr.

Merkara

1 Lampchimney 0.20	$	1 60
1 x x x Brandy 0.70 1/2 Pint 0.20		6 95
1 machine & part 0.80 1 Do do 0.70		6 50
	$	14 85

Received cash

Dec. 17 1906

" 28 " "

Passed to the Central Office at Newchwang.

AMERICAN LEGATION,
HABANA, CUBA.

January 3, 1907.

My Dear Straight:-

I enclose two letters, both of which will interest you, and send you another word of greeting. You are receiving a great many letter from me, which will arrive, unfortunately, after the first shock of Fairchilds' death has passed. I wish they could have reached you at the moment, but we must pay the cost of distance.

I receive yesterday your letter written late in November and see by the paper that there has been a formal meeting of foreign consuls in Mukden to protest against 'liking ' duties on foreign goods. This was in yesterday's paper.

I am quite prepared that the Chrysanthemums trouble you but still trust that you heed my advice and smile sweetly upon them no matter how strongly you report. I wish the house question were more satisfactory because comfortable and interesting quarters would be a consolation in a cold and lonely land.

I am telling your friends that when Moore's health breaks down, as I am sure it will before long, they must strive to have you appointed his successor. You can look forward to that and other mercies in the midst of present hardships. I tell them also that the situation in Man-

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[1-3-07]

churia is much more imaginatively interesting than it practically is to one on the spot and that sitting in a comfortable room in New York you are really better informed in regard to the total aspect of current events than you are in seeing them at close range. Therefore they must not think of you as always on the tiptoe of excitement but usually killing time while waiting for the few isolated situations.

General Crozier has been here for Christmas and the German professor at Bonn, who is lecturing for the year at Columbia. He represents President Butler as more given to being Senator from New York than interested in the daily affairs of Columbia. Having started the plan for an exchange of professors with Germany he seems to have lost interest in the matter.

Our large all American party last week was very well attended on account of the beautiful weather and generally gave satisfaction. I don't think however, that it will be necessary to repeat it.

Do you see regularly a New York paper; if not I will send you cuttings from time to time.

Tell me also, whether it is safe to direct your mail to Mukden, Manchuria, China, or whether it is best to

[1-3-07]

address it to the Legation at Peking, as I generally do.

What I need (when discreet) your letters to endear?

Always yours - dear Willard.

E. M.

Well - now Major - tells me Evans is giving up Ridgway's and going back to the A. F. He may settle in Asia - as general representative to Europe. Will is stationed in Washington and sees the Evans frequently. I fancy they may come here for a short stay.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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No. 501 Tientsin, 4/1/07 190

CRYSTAL LIMITED

8 Rue du Chemin de Fer

RECEIPT

Received from W. A. Straight Esqr.

the sum of Dollars Seven only

cts

in payment of A/c.

$ 7.00

Crystal Limited,

Secretary.

With Compliments

January 6/07

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

Dear Straight.

Your letter telling of your interview with the Viceroy came yesterday, and gave us much amusement. I read it to Mr. Rockhill & to Williams, & I will see that the enclosure to Mr. Harriman goes by the next pouch. I shall acknowledge the receipt of your despatches to the Department which go through the Pouch unless you especially wish, but you can rest assured that I shall place all of them in the bag. Today

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one arrived, but I have forgotten the date.

I have talked a good deal to Hotwill about Hankden & the Consular Service and I don't think he will accept your offer. I really could not conscientiously advise him to do so, in view of the excellent salary and fine promotion which he is receiving at the hands of Sir Robert. If he was a fellow who cld afford to take the Risk he was the kind who would always fall on his feet, perhaps I would have felt differently. I think he hopes to take the examinations for the Consular Service when he returns to America for his first leave, and that then he will be in a position to remain in the Customs Service until he is offered a good Consular job. All of which seems sensible to me.

I wish however, for your sake that he would go to Hankden, for he is an excellent fellow, and would be a great help to you in your line of work.

As regards the statement of Fairchild's death, I think if I were you I should certainly take whatever evidence you can get hold of, now, before it is too late.

The Department may ask for its data on the family, and it would look better, in my opinion, for

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you to have collected the evidence soon after the death, than at the time when it was called for. I suppose, you will leave to use your discression about submitting the various affidavits to the Department if they prove to clearly suicide, in view of the family's wishes. Answer on second thoughts I believe I would collect all the affidavits possible & send them to the Dept. But this is only suggestion on my part; don't act on it unless you feel the same way.

We have been obliged to delay answering your telegram about the location of the Consulate.

[1-6-07] [2]

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

Because your despatch to which you referred containing the Viceroy's note & your reply, only arrived today.

Mr. Rockhill feels that it is absolutely impossible for us to ask the Department to take any immediate action. They are powerless until the Consular Authorization becomes a fact. By this time they have the Hankow case before them, with the Recommendations of the Legation attached, and we can do nothing

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more until Congress grants the funds. There is no reason in the world why you should not urge upon the Dept. the importance of establishing a Consulate building at once; the more pressure the better.

Adams & Russell have written to us asking whether the Legation could not endorse a 5 year lease which of course is impossible as you know; everything of that sort has to be settled at Washington according to the Regulations.

It is most unfortunate that the purchase price of the desired building has risen to 17500 taels. Why on earth did Adams visit make such a difference in the supposed value of the property?

I dream of the American flag waving over that little walled and sacred city, and only hope that in the end it will prove possible to buy that particular property.

Although it would be intercalating, especially in view of the Viceroy's attitude to hoist the flag within the city the fact that we can't put it there does not alter our interpretation of the treaty.

The Department has so far successfully (I think) refrained from committing itself definitely to any interpretation of

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a city opened by treaty & international
trade and we are going to try
to get a decision from them by telegraph.
We shall then know our
position more clearly.
I wish you would send the
Legation a copy of the memorandum
of your interview with the Viceroy.
It sounds distinctly entertaining.
I mean the one in which he requests
American influence to rid himself
of the Japanese host.
I like that Cornell is keeping
track in discovering facts re
preferential Rate! The Report should
be most interesting.
Hoping that you are keeping up
your good spirits I am
Very Sincerely
W. Rockhill

P. S.

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING. Jan. 7/07

I was wrong in saying that the
Department had not committed
itself to an interpretation of the
words "Treaty Ports". Mr. Rockhill's
#332 of June 26th last, a copy of
which was sent to Mr. Sammons
in our #773 of June 28th was
entirely approved by the Dept. The
despatch contained his note to the
Foreign Office of last April in
which he maintains the principal
of the open city.
Mr. Rockhill asks me to say
that he does not want you to

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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hurry this question, and that he purposely makes where it delayed. He even thinks that perhaps it is just as well that the Consular buildings near the city are difficult to procure, and he now seems to want the two questions (1) Locality of Consulate and (2) Open port entirely separated.

You asked me to let you know the way the mind flows, so that is the latest observations.

He is answering your despatch #69 at his leisure, purposely so that you will go slow, on the point in question. However the purport of the instruction will be to send in your note to the Viceroy.

When you send the legation a copy of an important note such as that contained in your #69 please also send a copy of the Chinese text.

This is in case the note has to be referred to the Foreign Office & it is necessary to have the identical text.

Please excuse this hurried letter.

Yours

W.W.

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pleasant quarters it would be an advantage. The house question I hope is settled itself though as long as you must actually live and sleep within the city there can not be much alleviation to your lot. A newspaper states that Rutherford has established himself just outside the town. Perhaps you can have an official residence within

[1907]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dec 10.

Dear Willard

Last night came your letter of Nov. 25 written after you received my cable inquiring how you were. Later from me there will have explained the reason for my action and the anxiety which was behind it. Though I am sorry to cause you the inconvenience my cable may have caused you with Consul at least had the effective

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ہے۔ اس کے بعد ہم نے ایک اور کام کیا۔ ہم نے
ایک اور کمیٹی بنائی جس کا نام ہے "کمیٹی برائے
تعلیم"۔ اس کمیٹی کا کام یہ ہے کہ وہ ہمارے
بچوں کی تعلیم کا انتظام کرے۔ ہم نے اس کمیٹی
کے ممبر بھی منتخب کر لیے ہیں۔ ان ممبروں کے
نام یہ ہیں۔ [illegible] اور [illegible]
یہ کمیٹی ہر ہفتے ایک بار جمع ہوتی ہے۔ اس
کمیٹی کے ممبروں کے لیے ہم نے ایک کمرہ بھی
مقرر کر دیا ہے۔ اس کمرے میں وہ اپنی میٹنگ
کرتے ہیں۔ اس کمیٹی کے ممبروں کے لیے ہم نے
ایک میز اور کرسیاں بھی خرید لی ہیں۔ اس
کمیٹی کے ممبروں کے لیے ہم نے ایک میز اور
کرسیاں بھی خرید لی ہیں۔ اس کمیٹی کے ممبروں
کے لیے ہم نے ایک میز اور کرسیاں بھی خرید
لی

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

of the Austrian corps at the Spanish Legations after the opening of a so-called "exposition" of French pictures and objets d'art which was attended by your courtesy. The night before there was a dinner at the Palace for the more favourable diplomats which was awfully long as we did not leave the table till 10.45. Mrs Bates

our a grievance. Our interest of our trip be more nothing could endear you to your Paris friends more than the knowledge of your present hardships. They admire and love you the more for them. The idea that keep discouragement is the spirit of the Rapid work "appeals also to their imagination

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It is for me to entertain
you for Guinevere and
for you to stamp your
shoulders (in vain.) Take
with a dirty-nose -
air.

She Davises actually sailed for England last week but I know not their ultimate destination

It is settled that Mrs Cowles and Miss Boardman come to stay at the Palace in Feb'ruary. Mrs Gould Morton and Miss Williams will have come to me and gone however before they come. Invitations are terrific out. Last night Barrientos, a fairly good Spanish singer, now performing

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out is to be "refined" and
washed another. A German
chemist this is causing the
Mexican Diaz are to assist the
middle & west coasts - Sup-
posed (at the request of the U.S)
having managed to get round
the point that the Prov. Gov.
was not sufficiently repre-
sentative to receive recognition
Shop with shop little use for
a time until they are set-
tled. All most all the
Chapter families are now in
Cuba. A brother in D. C. of
the Governor and the Mus-
band & sister is on duty
in the country.

I went down the Rio
the Western R.R. with Sievers
this week and had an inter-
esting excursion & Reception
in his car. The visits towards
Juiz del Rio have more-

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[1-16-07]
AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

fair forms and give the world to the world our varied Cuban landscape. We lunched at Pinar-del-Rio and visited our soldier boys who live in a Spanish barrack.

With affectionate regards always

E. M.

has migrated south and our own servant who speaks English inadequate for the serving of 26 guests. She has however by morning fumigated and tapioned the carpets and arranging plants make the place much more presentable than it ever was before. A French ship is in port

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Sunday Jan. 13

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

Dear Straight. Your letter of the 7th came this morning. I wish I could straighten out for you the legacies attached to Customs service. It is true that Mr. Rockhill in a despatch dated I think December 11th (I am writing this at my own house) expressed an opinion that Custom Houses in the interior were useless, and that Inchow needs no special treatment in this respect. It was

in so doing, but we can only advise but to the contrary. We certainly can not insist that Customs regulations are or are not a violation of any treaty rights, if they are similar to those at Hangchow or other inland marts. Undoubtedly there are large arrangements at present, and the Japanese are there making headway, but with the whole country of Inchow practically the S.M.C which we hope will be the case in April, the Japanese should not have the advantages that they have now.

You suggest that Japan and ourselves as the Opening Powers, should, upon the "Extraordinary Expenses" does not

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obviously misleading for them to refer to Hangchow and Soochow which, as you say, have the T.M.C. this attached. What is this. For the moment the conditions of trade in Southern Manchuria are in a mess because there are no Customs at Dalny, Antung, or on the Russian frontier.

However, as you know these are almost certain to be started in the Spring, unless new obstacles arise, and the Russian Minister has repeatedly expressed his readiness to do his share.

Sir Robert Bredon has also told me privately that he believed the Customs at Antung & Dalny would be arranged early in April.

It is therefore better for us not to act too quickly and when we have in view, at such an early date, a change which will affect all the trade conditions in Manchuria.

When these new Customs established on the frontier and ~~also~~ the Sea-port terms, it would seem unnecessary to have them also at Mukden.

But we have no right to demand anything of China, unless she places new regulations or burdens which would hamper our trade.

If she establishes the same Customs at Mukden as at other trading cities in the interior, we cannot kick. She is foolish

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[1-13-07]

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

at Peking you will find a hearty welcome for you. Certainly you must come before leave which will be some time towards the latter part of March.

Tell Arnell that his report was very well received, and was pronounced most interesting.

Yours ever
W W Rockhill

there and if appear necessary, in terms of our interpretation of the Penning of the citizen to trade and residence. The whole city we maintain, is open, not merely the purposed foreign settlement, which was introduced into the treaty as an addition to Article XII not a limitation upon it. Besides the whole city there is to be a place set apart for foreigners. This is the view taken by our Government, and which has been strongly taken by the

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British Government.

Art. III reads. American citizens may frequent reside & carry on trade & pursue any lawful avocation in all the ports &c &c. and within the suitable localities of these places, which have been or may be set apart for use of foreigners &c &c.

As to the question of settlements, Mr. Rockhill is of the opinion that it is better not to push the Government (Chinese) too fast. They know our attitude and that of the British Government well enough, that the settlement is purely for the convenience of the foreign population and does not bear upon the question of the Open Port. They have never replied to our notes, setting forth the view of our Government on this matter, and as there is no use bothering them just now for an answer. We can easily afford to wait until the matter is brought up by the Foreign Office, and simply go ahead on the supposition that the whole city is open. Certainly we should do this until they deny it. Then Viceroy's denial hardly counts.

I must mind not to put the interest. When we do come

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DAILY CONSULAR AND TRADE REPORTS.

Monday. Jan 21, 1907.

OPENING OF MANCHURIA.

Business activity - Government encourages enterprise.

Consul-General Willard D. Straight, of Mukden, reports that during the period that has elapsed since the conclusion of hostilities southern Manchuria has been adjusting itself to meet the changed conditions.

Years of prosperity during the construction of the railway and the early stages of the war, when the Russian forces relied almost entirely upon the country for their supplies, were succeeded by a period of comperative depression, for Japan made only limited local purchases, preferring to patronize her home markets and the military occupation interfered in many ways with the free movements of goods. Trade has not, up to the present time, recovered its antebellum equilibrium.

The unsettled financial situation, due to the confusion in the circulating medium, composed of Japanese war notes, gold yen, Yokohama Specie Bank silver notes, Shengking notes and different varieties of taels, dollars and small silver, and the reluctance of the banks to make loans have combined to embarrass the public, notwithstanding the splendid harvests of the past two seasons. The stringency of the money market is certain to diminish with the restoration of normal conditions, and under the influence of the present progressive administration there should be a great increase in production and purchasing power.

Japanese activity - commercial exhibitions.

It has been frequently stated that the Manchurian markets would be reserved for special exploitation and would not afford an equal opportunity to all those desirous of sharing in their profitable development. It is not unnatural that ~~xx~~ such should have been the case: that during the military occupation advantages not free to all were enjoyed by the privileged ~~xxx~~ few. It would be a mistake, however, to consider that within such a limited period and during such a

[1-21-07]

troublous time it would have been possible to establish relations sufficiently close to constitute a serious menace to the interests of the general commercial community.

Their priority of residence in Southern Manchuria gives the Japanese a distinct trade advantage. They have not up to the present time, however, succeeded in obtaining a control of the market. Every effort is being made to popularize Japanese goods. By means of commercial and industrial exhibitions at Antung, Tieling and Mukden the Chambers of Commerce of the principal insular cities with the substantial assistance of the Japanese Government, are bringing their wares to the direct attention of the consumer. Advertising agencies will be operated in connection with these enterprises, and the placards of the Government tobacco monopoly posted throughout Manchuria and Korea bear eloquent testimony to their ability in this direction.

Up to the present time the principal business has been done by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and one or two other large firms which handle American piece goods, oil, and flour, as well as purely Japanese articles. The smaller merchant with limited capital are compelled to trade on short credits. There have been many failures and without special transportation privileges they are not in a position to withstand determined competition.

Americans should enter the field.

It is imperative that American merchants and manufacturers who wish to engage in the Manchurian trade should enter the field at once and place their goods on the market before their competitors have become too firmly established. The commercial struggle will be keener than in the other Chinese provinces, where there has never been an active canvass in the ~~interior~~ interior. New methods will be adopted to secure the attention of the possible customer, and those firms will be the most successful which adopt the most direct and most aggressive plan of campaign.

Personal representation is all-important, particularly at the present

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time, not only that goods may be placed on the market under the most favorable circumstances but that by constant gx vigilance valuable interests may be protected. Firms with offices at the points of importation, foreign representatives traveling in the interirs interior, and native agents at Tiehling, Mukden, Liao-yang, Kuangchengtzu and Hsinmintun would be better able to watch the damand and cater thereto than the merchants who are content to make their sales from Shanghai, and remain in comparative ignorance of the local conditions governing the trade they are endeavouring to secure.

The British-American Tobacco Company have branches at all the important points along the railroad, with foreign representatives at Mukden and Tiehling and a manager resident at Newchwang, who is constantly moving from point to point, keeping inclose touch with the consumers. The company's sales have increased steadily, and in many places seriously threaten the profits of the Japanese tobacco monopoly. Arnhold, Karberg & Co., a large German firm which deals extensively in American piece goods, as well as the Singer Sewing MachineCo., have opened offices in Mukden, and the Manchurian Trading Company, with an American agent, is preparing to handle tinned goods, clocks, provisions, wines, and miscellaneous articles, for which there is a growing demand among the Chinese, and other importing houses are sending their representatives to look over the field.

Demand for Agricultural Machinery.

The Board of Agriculture established by the Viceroy has ordered a number of American harvesters, plows, reapers, harrows, hullers, and other farm machinery, to be used at its agricultural experiment station in Mukden. Labor-saving devices would be welcomed in Manchuria as nowhere else in China, for the population is scant as compared with other portions of the Empire. The Liao Valley is one of the richest agricultural areas in the world and the broad plains stretching from Newchwang to the north are capable with improved methods, of greatly increased production. Rye, barley, and sorghum millet yield large annual crops, and it is proposed to introduce alfalfa, sugar beets, cotton and various cereals.

Several of the highest provincial authorities have suggested that it would be mutually beneficial if manufacturers of agricultural machinery should send their representatives with a number of implements to tour the country, demonstrating their use at frequent exhibitions. Such an enterprise would meet with the approval of the Viceroy and could doubtless be undertaken under the auspices of the provincial administration. The Chinese farmer is a ready purchases when once he is convinced of the utility of an article.

A British firm has already sold four large Howard steam plows, shipping them north from Newchwang. Tracts of Government land are now being opened to cultivation. The large grain firms would doubtless be ready to invest in hullers for cereals, and a machine which would remove the beans from the pod would meet an already existing demand. The officials and merchants interested in such projects who have already requested catalogues would be more inclined to buy if they were to be given a practical lesson in the operation of such machinery.

Manchuria is Virgin Territory.

In the other treaty ports of China there are old established firms with regular connections, and at such places it is not always easy for the newcomer to build up a paying business. Manchuria, however, is practically virgin territory. There are opportunities for trade as well as for investment. The Japanese market requires sugar, their breweries require barley, and flour mills should be operated with profit at points along the railroad. American goods have heretofore been sold in Manchuria largely by foreign firms and by native hongs which purchase their stocks in Shanghai. If direct shipments were to be made to Dalny or Newchwang, there would be a saving in time and trans-shipping charges. Agricultural development should be followed by industrial activity, and those merchants who avail themselves of the desire of wealthy Chinese to associate themselves with foreigners and study local conditions should be well rewarded.

Rich Mining Possibilities.

This consulate general has just recently received information apparently trustworthy, that there are large deposits of gold, silver, soda and coal, with a

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[1-21-07]

plentiful supply of timber, in the area between the headwaters of the Liao and the Taluho, a branch of the Amur, about 200 miles from the terminus of the China Eastern Railroad at Hsinmintun.

Japanese and Russian prospectors have visited this region, but have not thus far recorded claims with the officials of the district. Investors who are desirous of looking into this matter more thoroughly might find the opportunity a valuable one, and the undertaking profitable, particularly under the new Chinese mining regulations, which it is hoped will offer more liberal terms to foreigners than do those which are now in force.

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[1-23-07]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Jan. 23rd

Dear Willard

I send you a collection of news-paper clippings but have otherwise not much to report since last I wrote you. All anxious to have your letter with an account of the ball of 1906. The N.Y. Herald which you just now refers to Fairchild's death and the first rumor of its cause. There is nothing in it I can but hope.

We have had an almost un-broken two months drought which

Sunday - the 27th - the German club has a dance to commemorate the Kaiser's birthday. The French ship now in port is to be "relieved" by another. Delaire - who - as I may have remarked in another letter - is a fussy little person - learning said that in the present unsettled condition France thinks it well to keep a ship on the spot. When Brault Duffy arrives about Feb 20 he may keep him here.

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[1-23-07]

Last night interrupted with a rain storm while I was hearing Barrientos - a fair Spanish singer - at the Tacon Theatre. She has a season & Italians here which is more acceptable than usual and which society, as general- ly patronized. Having paid 10 a seat for the first representation I feel free to test the door keeper I am going to the "Gala Presi- dente" and walk in without a ticket. Thursday is her benefit night and up counts and I have accepted an invitation from three others together with the Rebel leaders her social status has fallen. She was however at the Spanish legation the other night at a select- ed soiree at which Barrientos sang.

On Monday the Governor was Fete'd at Santa Isidoro to music by a cuban band and on Friday I dine aboard the "Stein" the German school ship now in the harbor - On several Liberal leaders were arrested recently at a cock fight. Coronado - La Discusion editor - was attached next day in the street for an edit- orial he wrote on the incident & a Spanish fascimile cock fighting were placed in the Liberal platform the Liberal ticket at the next election would certainly win. On the surface for the moment the waters how- ever are sufficiently calm.

I like our new Legation officers.

AMERICAN LEGATION

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malacca 24/8 - Letter from our
former, Wilson, lives in the bor-
er state, Kearing - who rents
somewhat better - is still look-
ing but must find a room
elsewhere & my house fills
up with visitors. My brother is
now due to reach K.L. on Sept
7th and to arrive here on the 13th.
My new Packard although
long overdue in delivery has
not yet come.

With all affectionate regards
sincerely
Edwin Morgan

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[copy]

Mukden, January 23rd, 1907

Dear Excellency:

Two letters and many interesting clippings from you the other day and they were very welcome. You have no idea how much letters mean here - how much it is to have a written word to remind one of the fact that really there are other people and other places - and that they will all be part of one's life again someday though they may not be at the present time. The realization that such people exist - and think of one now and then is a tremendous help for I think that one is strangely apt to see only the dull present - the narrow circle - the work that to be done demands so much time that all these "interests" which would do so much to make things less monotonous to sink themselves with all the past as memories.

What a blue picture you will take this to be - the one I am painting for you - and how you will be able to say - Ah! Ha! what did I tell you - you who galavanted in Peking and Tokyo will find Mukden dull. I don't think its that exactly but its being so far away and so much thrown on your own resources which you cannot play with as you will.

I see it telling on poor Arnell who has been a rather lonesome person all his life 0 and yet who finds this a little too much. So off he goes tomorrow for two weeks up country. Thats all very well and will do him a world of good, but one can't send one's assistants off rambling for a week a month. Thats rather pushing it. But in the springtime when we get a house if we ever do, and ponies, it ought to be much better and then too more people will be passing through.

These past few days have been good enough for Lawton of Manchu Maru and Bobby Dunn fame has passed through - one Frank Meyer, an agricultural explorer with a Dutch accent and most marvellous stories has been here and Moss Thompson and one or two other folk from Newchwang have been in to lunch and dine

so that I feel almost in touch with the world again. I had really begun to think that Arnell, Obri, the German Consul and myself were about the only folk in the world, which was foolish, wasn't it?

The legation has finally subscribed to define its attitude and consequently I feel better prepared to act. I appreciate your suggestion about diplomatic initiative and would be quite content to take more - and to follow instructions to the letter, but the latter are in many cases based on a half conception of conditions here for which there is no excuse - for the despatches will give all the information necessary.

Things at present are at a deadlock. The Viceroy has declared that the whole city of Mukden is not open to foreign trade - that all goods passing the boundaries of the Concession will be taxed a/c to the Inland Regulations - that foreigners must reside within certain fixed limits and that until the settlement is located and rules formulated therefor, all foreigners must submit to inland taxation. We have refused to recognize his position and have interchanged one or two notes. The Japanese who have been having all kinds of rows about illicit trade in salt, importation of arms, residence in the interior, maintenance of police stations inside the city and so on ad infinitum have been strangely ready to cooperate in the matter of duties and the right to reside in the city. Hagiwara, when I first came here told me that he wanted no settlement, and preferred indiscriminate residence. He did not wish to do anything about fulfilling his part of the treaty and select sites for concessions.

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[1-23-07]

A few days ago, however, shortly after the Imperial Commissioner who have just ~~pa~~ been through Manchuria had made their report to the Throne, Hagiwara suddenly adopted a new attitude and urged the viceroy to go ahead with the settlement negotiations. The viceroy then came to me and ~~said~~ I was rather surprised to hear of Hagiwara's proposition but said that I would do what I could. Then lo and behold the Chinese journal edited by Japanese came out with a series of articles telling of the aggressive methods of the foreign consuls who had been prevented from openly breaking with the viceroy by the intermediation of our friend. He was unwilling to reply to a sassy note sent in by the viceroy unless I did so and has already used the text of my note as the form for his own and wants to do so again. Of course our attitude in this matter is the same, and while he and I do one thing together, Fulford and Mezgar follow us up and say in identical tones that they accept our interpretation of our treaties and desire similar treatment.

The Chinese of course are not hoodwinked by this endeavour to let some one else do the the blustering, for they well know whose chestnuts are being pulled.

With warmest regards to Miss Bogart and Mrs. Delafield, and best wishes always,

Yours,

Willard Straight.

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Jan. 25.

Dear Willard

You were more than unusually good to remember me with the excellent illustration to the "Esquire Buster" - worthy of an illuminated address to a crowned Head at the Guild Hall - which came by yesterday's post in good condition. I am immensely pleased and heartily grateful. It rounds with your best work,

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Your letters of Dec. 18th and 19th also arrived

Of course I am at your service as a source of assistance at any time and am ready to aid when and how I may. In this instance however the fight is the Department's and not yours, since the location of your residence is fixed by questions of policy and not by personal considerations or the amount of your income. The U.S. therefore must provide the funds since it is understood that in the conditions in which you are beyond a certain point you are not a free agent. Since the cable you speak of sending has not been received I hope the situation has improved and that the Department has seen fit to do its part.

I have ventured to write you privately on this subject

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in order to give Bill an unofficial view and will communicate his reply to you. He should look at it again pathetically.

Have I written you that Dick Davis and Bruce sailed yesterday for England? But whether or not they go further I do not know.

With renewed thanks for your presents, always up dear, affectionately.

Edwin Morgan.

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL .

MUKDEN, CHINA.

January 26 , 1907 .

Dear Sir ;-

I enclose herewith a bill of lading for three trunks and two boxes , containing the effects of the late Mr. Nelson Fairchild . The charges to Dalny have been prepaid but I have been unable at this place to pay through to Kobe . The articles above mentioned are to be sent to Mr. J. C. Fairchild , 8 Exchange Place , Boston , Mass. and I shall pay the charges thereon if you care to collect them here rather than in the United States .

By mistake a small black , tin lined box was packed in the larger of the two wooden boxes . Will you kindly open the same and remove the box mentioned. You need not return it to me .

You will kindly telegraph the American Minister in Peking the name of the steamer , date and place of arrival in the United States innorder that Mr. Rockhill may inform the Collector of the Port .

Yours truly ,

Messrs. T. A. Christensen &cO,
No. 38 Nakamachi ,
Kobe , Japan .

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their interests. if not exactly similar with ours in Manchuria are closely allied in other parts of China. Your account of Hayashi's change of attitude is certainly puzzling for it was the declared policy of the Japanese minister here. The Russian minister told us formally yesterday that the Russian troops in Manchuria were to be withdrawn it was, save for the Railway Guards. The Customs questions on the Russian frontier seem to be about settled, & it looks as if the Russians were trying to show up well, by carrying out the terms of their treaty ahead of the Japanese.

Write me sometime as to what you have come with Fairchild's help. Was evacuation possible?

Yrs. W. Rockhill

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

Jan. 28/07

Dear Straight:

Forgive me for not answering your letters more promptly, for I have been frightfully rushed of late and have also been entertaining a friend from Boston as my guest, all of which eats up the spare moments.

As for the interpretation of the "open port", I don't know that I can say anything more. The whole cities of Antung & Mukden are open to foreign trade and residence, according to the position taken by our Government. There

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is no use going into the whys and wherefores, because our attitude is a "fait accompli".

The clauses in the treaty in regard to the settlements are purely for the convenience of the foreigner in an extra territorial country, and take no bearing whatsoever on the principle of the opened city.

The English have taken the same position and are committed absolutely to the same interpretation.

I read Mr. Rockhill your letter of the 17th in reference to exceptional treatment for Manchuria re Taxes & Customs Regulations. He was very much interested in everything you had to say and when I asked him for comments thereon, he said he had nothing to say. He seems fairly convinced that we should ask for nothing exceptional in the way of Customs Regulations, but the one thing he urges most is to "go slow". Between, to tell you the honest truth, he fears a little bit your righteous indignation. You see we are not the only bigears in the bill, and therefore it is not for us to assume the sole responsibility. We shall most certainly work with the English, for because

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AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AFRA," NEWCHWANG.

A.I., A.B.C. IV. Edition and private Codes used.

Newchwang, 31st January 1907

H. J. Consul W. D. Straight, Esq.
Mukden.

Dear Sir!

I am in receipt of your favour of the 29th inst. contents of which have had my best attention.

The case of books for Consul Fairchild went forward by yesterday's train to Mr. Ruffio, whom I have given instructions to deliver the box to you, against payment of charges, as per instructions received from Messrs Schiller & Co. Shanghai.

With regard to the shortage & spoiled contents of several of your goods, which I forwarded to Mr. Ruffio, as per agreement when you purchased these goods, I shall give instruction to Mr. Ruffio to deliver to you the cases which he still holds for you viz:

1 case Moulin à vent & Pôgen claret

however I cannot accept, under any circumstances, to forward you any cargo on my own risk, and I think, I pointed this clearly enough out to you: The goods to be forwarded together & stored in Mukden with Mr. Ruffio's goods, at your expense & risk., as you will certainly be aware, that no firm is forwarding goods under any other conditions, so much more, when the danger of freezing is so great as it was when you ordered the goods. I am sorry, that such a great breakage has occurred to your goods, but you can not make me responsible for this, as all the bottles were wrapped up in straw, and with this packing my responsibility for any cargo ceases.

As I am closing my accounts for past year, you will oblige me by forwarding

AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG.

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:
"AFRA," NEWCHWANG.

A.I., A.B.C. IV. Edition and private Codes used.

Newchwang, 31st January 1907

W. D. S. Esq.

your cheque for the amount of your bill viz Mex $ 124.50

I regret to inform you, that I have no stock of cherrooks at present, but shall forward you the 200 cigars, as soon as I get a new cargo.

I remain, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
Aug. Frahm

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[1907]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dec 31.

my dear Pop,

Three letters from you came this morning. One written on Dec. 24th - one a note and one just after the accident. The incident was as bad as it could be and I scarcely see how you could have been called upon to go through a more heart breaking catastrophe. You stood up against it

the independent official position and his present post may be vacant.

I have two Harvard men with me Lyman - who went to Korea to shoot tigers - in - vain - last summer - and Wells. They stay till next week. My brother should have sailed from Liverpool on Wednesday en route here.

always affectionately
Edwin Morgan

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MUKDEN Feb. 1. 1907

M. St. W. Straight U.S. Consulate General

克隆洋行

Dr to KO LUNG COMPANY

GENERAL STORES

CHINESE-NAME
KO
LUNG

Jan.	To account rendered		₰ 14	65
	1 box chocolat creams 3.20 1 Reine Victoria 8.50		11	70
	1 dozen Stout 4.50 1 chocolat creams 3.20		7	70
	5 best moulin à vent (doz. 27.30 /		11	60
	1 pre gloves 9.- 1 Semitino 4.50 1 chocolat menier 3.20		16	70
	1 tin toffee		0	80
			₰ 63	15

Per 1 maynard 53.96 with Hamm. Ko Lung Co. Ltd

63.15
2.80
59.95
10
59.95
5.99
$ 53.96.

Mukden.
Feb. 2d 1907.

Dear Henry - [Schoellkopf K.T.]

Your letter, two of them, and duly have received. Both have been thankfully received. Glad I am you were seated by the Irwins. I know you'll a cordially enjoy each other and I am especially glad to hear of the Hitchmans. Hope soon again. We were sorry Pat ended. Have you any plans. Here I am going to Peking. Have a short vacation right now. Expect to be back in Mukden the 15th. Then I am indeed ready to be busy. Think Pat will be back then. Otherwise very lonely. Am in receipt of letter from Mr. Hamm. Will write to him in regard to the matter. Have not yet heard

for international residence or trade shall be set apart'. The Chinese
have never got the word "Reserve" inserted in a treaty before -
and have not often been successful in having a stipulation
regarding a settlement put into an instrument of this sort.
Ham of course been howling in great glee - that this clause
was limited etc in so that the white devils do not live anywhere
within three cities - but must reside in a 'ghetto'.
Which they - Heaven bless the Black Chinaman - would hate.
Light as generally manage. It has now reached a discussion
of the settlement question although Mr Sammons did come
up from Hankow and dabble with the question for a
time last year. In some months we have been fighting the
larger question of treaty interpretation. and last Saturday
I called on the Viceroy and gave him a memorandum
in which I refused to discuss the question further and
also told him that until he was behaved to reorganize
the entire cities of Mukden and Antung then there was
no need of hashing the question of settlement up etc etc.
For a week now he's been quite quiet and I imagine will
pretty well stay where he's put, for a while anyway.

Knowing my sentiments about the W.C.P. I need
only to tell you that it seems to me that they have been
somewhat maligned - Ugh whether this is a state of mind
attained by my vagaries of visit at in or not I do not
know at any rate I am quite indifferent now.

We are still living in the scotched hovel and I see
no chance of getting away therefore - for the
Government is not generous and there are 40 thousand
of dollars in my own pocket to do things in. That is the
great mistake we made in going into a service of this sort
as a dependent on a salary. But how to help it?

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The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
0059

I meant this thick flat to send
Rice Queen Tea to get out at
the end of
instead - I
in the
Buffalo to
And
Rain. is the earnest Jim Hopkins.
I what way it be. Cheerless & Jerome
Egan & with the Lunch Stable and
with the skin Clean yr rugs
be. It's been n and dusted
Ridgeway. Has clean the
Wms Bros -

Yrs

Willard Straight

TO

Mr. W. Straight
U. S. Consul General
Mukden

CHINESE NAME
KO LUNG YUEN CHI

MEMO

FROM

克隆元記 **KO LUNG COMPANY**

AGENTS: SINGER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY FOR MANCHURIA, CHINA.

CENTRAL OFFICE: MUKDEN MCHA. CHINA.

MUKDEN Feb 16. 1907

Dear Sir,

Herewith we send you the monkin a rent from Mr. Frahm's account. The four dozen Margarine have not been delivered yet as there was a Misunderstanding, we have Margarine but still in the cask and therefore I have to ask if we should deliver to you from our own bottling. I would advise you to be kind enough to pay Mr. Frahm's Bill and we will settle

P. T. O.

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Inclosed also find a bill for a case Lafleur received by me. This bill is wrong and I have nothing to do with it. You must pay it direct to the party. Therefore we pray you settle this separately.

Pantsun

between us.

For the deficiency of one bottle moulin a vent and the four dozen Claret you can hold us responsible that is we will send you the rest inside this week.

At the same time you receive a box cheroots wich you asked for last week.

Inclosed find copy of our letter to C.A. Edgerton & Co. also their circular for wich many thanks.

Respectfully yours
A. Pantsun

MEMO.

AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG & LIAOYANG

NEWCHWANG, 9th February 190 7.

TO
Hon. W. D. Straight, Esq.
U.S. Consul, Mukden.

Dear Sir.

I beg to own receipt of your favour of the 7th instant, having withdrawn from whith your cheque for Tls 89.40, which I have credited you in account and for which please accept my best thanks.

Mr. Heffio writes me under the 7th instant, that he has delivered to you one case Moulin à vent & 4 Doz ordinary table claret, which latter is not included in the amount you have remitted.

I shall be glad, to supply you your requirements for next spring.

Yours faithfully
Aug. Frahm

1 receipt.

LONDON AGENT:—
G. YOUNG, 25 GRAY'S INN RESIDENCES,
CLERKENWELL ROAD, E.C.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "REDSKABER, LONDON."

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ジヤパンクロニクル新聞社

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ESTABLISHED 1891.

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7 SAKAYE-MACHI, 1-CHOME, KOBE, JAPAN.

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contains all political, commercial, financial and general news, and is well adapted for mailing abroad, and for filing as a local record.

Kobe, 18. Febr. 1907.

Willard Straight Esqre
American Consul General
Mukden, China.

Dear Sir,

We received your favor of Febr. 7 with remittance of ¥ 12.— for which we thank you.

It seems, however, that our accountant must have made a mistake, in sending a bill to you, as ¥ 24.— has already been paid by Mr. Edwin Morgan of Habana, of which ¥ 12.— was to be for your subscription as per enclosed duplicate receipt.

Kindly let us know if we are to place the ¥ 12.— to your credit for prolonged subscription, or if we shall return it to you, or if we are to use them for any other payments you may have to make in Japan.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully
THE JAPAN CHRONICLE.
E. Junker.

57/8

4. Trafalgar Square,
London, W.C. 13th Sept-1906
American Cable Address — Stevebrown, London.

B. F. Stevens & Brown.

Willard D. Straight Esqr

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	"Nineteenth Century" October 1906 to September 1907 & postage	1	10	0

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for B. F. STEVENS & BROWN
E. Carlton
23/9/07

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[1907] pc.

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Feb. 26.

Dear Willard

This has just come and I have advised B to cable. You alone know all the facts and its connections are sound and the association desirable. It seems more certain than your present job. But I pass no judgment.

My house is just up

ity, which may come for a fortnight.

My time is practically given up to the tourists who are here in large numbers - greater than in years past. the army Friends, many relatives and friends. I date it. On the 22d we had a brass band and several hundred people in honor of George Washington. Always

E. M.

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brother and a friend coming arrived a fortnight ago and Hopkins Strachleigh son-in-law) and Daisy Rockhill by the last word I have heard. Tomorrow comes the Grant Duffs and to tea at the Palace - Mrs Cowles and Miss Boardman.

The 2d Secretaryship in Peking is virtually vacant as Phillips leaves in March and will not return. Moore goes to Tokyo at about the same time to marry Miss Tucker - Dacheson's niece. She probably wrote you in my last letter. Coolidge has not yet started through en route to Mexico but should do so soon. His new chief Thompson and his wife have been at the Palace several days. He is the Cowper type but more powerful! She much younger than he, large, tall, good looking with an Oasis-

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[encl. 2-26-07]

Lee, Higginson & Company.
Boston.

Office in New York:
43 Exchange Place.

New York: **Feb. 20, 1907**

His Excellency, Edwin V. Morgan,
United States Minister to Cuba,
Havana, Cuba.

Dear Morgan:

I received yesterday a letter from my sister, saying that Geoffrey Wheelock's partner is in such a sick condition that it seems probable that he will have to give up business. I do not know how much money could be made in this position. Geoffrey will not offer a job to anybody, but he is, I think, very much overworked and is exceedingly anxious to pick up a good man.

I wondered whether Willard Straight would consider leaving the government service and entering business. If you think he would, kindly let me know at once, and I will cable to Shanghai. If you have any other man in mind, kindly let me know also.

Gosh! Much I'd get down to see you.

Very truly yours,

B. Wendell.

Hunt has been very nice to me in Auburn, taken me to the Club

February 26, 1907.

My Dear B:

Have this morning received your letter of the 20th, replied once that I think it worth a cable, and that Straight might be tempted by an opportunity to join so sound a firm and so agreeable a connection as the one to which you refer.

He is having a hard time at Mukden, and I do not see a future which holds out many prizes. Should he eventually be made Secretary at Peking, he would have attained as much as he could hope for some time to achieve. My vote would be Shanghai.

I am hoping for the Dixies next week, and trust their visit may be satisfactory.

Always very truly,

Barret Wendell, Jr., Esq.,
Lee Higginson & Co.,
Boston, Mass.

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7d 48/49 Triplicate

Kobe. 5 March 1907

W. D. Straight Esq.

Dr. to T. A. CHRISTENSEN & CO.

SHIPPING, LANDING & FORWARDING AGENTS.

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					84. 94	
	Commission 5%				4. 39	
						¥ 97. 33
	E. & O. E.					

Received payment, with thanks. MAY 4 1907

T. A. Christensen & Co.

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[1907] PG

QUINTA HIDALGO.
MARIANAO.

March 10.

Dear Willard

Two of your letters to Edmund Kelly and Mrs Parker and Mrs Beardsmore wish to reply. Your latest letter was dated Jan 23 and I am glad your wrote me of your difficulties - not that or because they were such but that I am anxious to know just how matters are going and at the moment difficulties seem to constitute the main incidents of your days. I trust they are passing

for everyone must be held

and the definite programme which we are all waiting may then be announced. There is considerable indifference being shown that the future plans

Por cuenta de Mr Root's administration, several people told them that no real progress was being made toward a final solution and that time principally was being wasted. Mr Taft is coming down early in March

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or that you see your way to surmount them if even by cutting the Gordian knot.

Mrs Coles was too much "bored" by Mrs Bates to thoroughly enjoy her freedom and her journey to Santiago with 24 hours there was somewhat encumbered by the presence not only of that lady in Mrs Van Horne's crowded special car but of two fat heavy foreign men, friends of the governor, who were brought along by the same lady. Coy showed her about but she went to see Juana Cill in a carriage and to shop. Mr Boardman and she were four days in Havana and flew overland to Guiday point and coming from Santiago. On the Sunday they visited a sugar plantation, dined one night with us and had a dinner party at the Palace - and of course saw Jai Alai - as every one does who comes here. I am not sure what impression they

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and threats of Rueda Del Ramiro and other congressmen on their way from Panama. The weather continues to be charming - somewhat less warm than at the corresponding time last year.

The Dixeys are all more normal than when we last saw them. Romance's season in society seems to have all good. very sincerely Edwin Morgan

[3-10-07] [2]

ugh. It is said that municipal elections will come in the summer as feelers toward a presidential election which may come later and that the American army will remain this is the thing that universally is desired by all classes and nationalities since the general belief is that without the presence of American troops order would not be maintained a moment.

UNIVERSIDAD DE PUERTO RICO MAYAGUEZ

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I have had my house full
and shall continue to have it
so for another ten days. The
Divers came last Wednesday
and left with the 18th when
they go on to Mexico on the same
steamer on which my brother
and his friend Lawson Valentine
go. an uncle and his son
and daughter in-law - the
Zabriskies - come on Saturday
but before that the Grand Duke

who have secured a house in
Havana for a fortnight, take up their
abode here. Jay Burden & New
York and his brother, as well
as Fred Winthrop and his
wife, stayed last week here -
Daisy Rockefeller and Harkness
left just as the Divers came
We also have had a monster
assemblage of commercial
clubs on a two days' visit
on board a special steamer

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[Probably enclosed to W.D.S. in March. PGJ]

BRITISH LEGATION,
GUATEMALA.

Feb. 20th. 1907

Dear Mr. Morgan,

Many thanks for your letter of Jan 21st. It is so nice to hear everything that is going on in Havana but it makes me terribly homesick & I am afraid that a great many of my friends

been two or three dances, but we have not gone.

We have played bridge a good deal, once or twice a week here - that is our great treat. This house is beautiful & the garden is immense, and in time will be lovely, but at present it has a very unkempt appearance as it has been neglected for years.

By this time I suppose the

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will have left before I return, which will not be much before the end of June or July as my husband will try to come for me in April after which we shall go to Mexico for a month or two.

The Cordeus are giving a dinner tonight for the Combs who are leaving on the 25th for Lima. We are all very sorry to lose them for they are very nice. They, however will be glad to go as they have been here for four years and are tired of it. Fancy! four years in this awful place. I hope & trust that we may never be sent here.

When I tell you that we have only been out in the country three times since we came you will realize what the place is like. There has

BRITISH LEGATION,
GUATEMALA.

Grant. Dunfee are with you & I hope they are pleased with Havana. It will be so nice for her, having her sister & sister-in-law there. She will not feel like a stranger in a strange land.

Was it not too bad about the house? It will be a pity if there is not another house in Tulijaa, for it would

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BRITISH LEGATION
GUATEMALA.

It very nice to have them near us - Don't be greedy and try to get them out to Mariscao - You have so many nice people there now & Tulijan is deserted.

Will you tell Mr Wilson that Mr Brown is going to Romania as soon as Mr Lee comes.

He asked me to remember him to Mr Wilson.

I have a splitting head-ache so please forgive this stupid letter. I will do better next time - This is mail day & as we only have one a week I felt I must write.

With kind regards from the Cordens & myself

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,

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Blanche M. Griffith

[copy]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

Mukden, China.

March 13th, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Your assurances that you would be ready to stand by in case of need were ~~xxxx~~ indeed comforting. When I wrote you it all looked pretty hopeless, and I was well nigh at my wits end. Your ~~ec~~eccentric friend in Peking, however, apparently for no reason at all save that his stomach was better has authorized us to get a place where we "damn please". Now personally I damn please to get outside the city where from a clean wind swept location one may philosophize on the interesting situation created by the economic conflicts between China's teeming millions and the aggressive chrysanthemums, as you are pleased to call ~~th~~'em. If you insist upon the botanical appelation I beg to suggest that you alter your designation to alfalfa which grows six crops a year, spreads like wild fire and is good for pigs. That however is ~~merely~~ merely an aside. I started to tell you of our emancipation from His Ecc's lately established ~~xx~~ limitations.

On returning from Pekink I promptly made for a temple which had been up to a short before my departure occupied by the Japanese commanders. He had moved and only a dirty residue of soldiers - military silt, marked the passage of the torrent of occupation. Arnell went to see Watanabe, the C. referred to who after some circumlocution asked Arnell if we didn't want a place to live in. Arnell allowed that we did. "Well" he said, "what about the San Francisco matter?" Arnell told him that it was all newspaper talk fomented by the Germans who were anxious to profit by the estrangement of two such time honored friends. This seemed to satisfy the warrior, who asked whether we wouldn't like the temple he had lately vacated. Arnell promptly said "Yes", and though I believe myself that they intended to clear out anyway, they have assured us that

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it was for our sweet sakes that they had made up their minds to leave on the 20th a week from today. I shall invite Watanabe to a dinner and attempt to make him very drunk. When inebriated the Chrysanthemum becomes affectionate and blatantly courageous - when sober he's cold and merely insulting.

To continue the Tale of the Temple. We thereupon opened negotiations with the Chinese. In the meantime one Nikitine, the Russian Vice Consul appeared Unwarily I told him that I hoped to get a temple. He promptly went after one and with characteristic disregard of meum and teum attempted to inveigle the Llamas into signing a contract for mine. He could them have wired his Minister that all was arranged and laughed at me. I should have spanked him, driven his folks out of the place or never let them in - and told him to go to war - you know what Sherman said.

But he weakly budged a little and told me he was afraid there had been some mistake. I answered that there most certainly had and that the temple was, had been and would continue to be mine. So it seems settled and when you come out for a visit this summer you will sleep under painted beams, with gilt dragons looking down at you from a parti-colored ceiling.

It should really be most attractive.

The Germans are playing the foxiest game here at the present time and it is interesting to watch him at work. Mezger the Consul is a pleasant - rather conceited - lewd (I think) - very much of an official German of the better type. He has nothing whatever to lose and everything to gain. He is trying to gain an influence by butting in, to which his national interest in Manchuria does not entitle him. He giggles with Hagiwara and scowles with the Viceroy when that estimable diplomat is the subject of discussion. He has I am quite sure, told the Chinese that he would help them oppose the Japanese and do all he can to limit their activity. At the same time he avails himself of all the privileges which the Japanese have secured and answers the Chinese that he regrets the necessity of taking such actions but really, until they shut down on the Wonder People his own nationals must have the same privileges. By

blackguarding the W. P. he has apparently gained the Viceroy's confidence to a great extent, and the latter is evidently completely taken in by the wily Kaiserchild.

These things are all extremely interesting but personally I have let them all go their own way and acted with the Japanese against the Chinese quite as readily as I would reverse the position should the former try to interfere with our rights.

Yours,

Willard Straight.

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[Copy]

Mukden, China.
March 14, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Your letter written on my birthday, the 31st of Japuary, which I celebrated by freezing my ears, which incidentally I might have lost had I been out a quarter of an hour longer, and another sent through Peking and dated the 26th of December reached me today.

It has been the greatest help to me to hear from you so often and to know that you were thinking about me. I confess that I needed it, and I am very grateful. For the letters you enclosed I also thank you and return them herewith.

At last we are going to have a house I think. Your friend His Ecc. found out that he really didn't care so much about my going into the city after all and so after some trouble I have practically settled with some Llamas on a splendid temple out on the plain and between the city and the Railway station. We have two compounds and although I shall have to blow a little on putting up a kitchen and bath house and one or two other things, we should do very well considering and once installed should really live for a while, which is something that we haven't really done as yet.

I may have written you before about my Tientsin experience, how I came down on the train from Peking with Hayashi who invited me to lunch to meet the Viceroy the next day. I went, of course, and saw Yuan who impressed me tremendously. Adazuri, late Consul General in Shanghai, and one or two other leading lights of the Yokohama Specie Bank were there and I was the only alien in the crowd. What Hayashi's notion in inviting me was I don't know. He surely set his fellow countrymen by the ears for they were very disgruntled. Madame Kato, wife of the Consul General, late of Chemulpo, had a pretty speech which was translated of course, and which I understood. It was rather indiscreet in a way and had been prepared apparently before they knew that the pale face would

be present. Yuan, I think, has undoubtedly thrown in his lot with the Japanese, just as he did before with the Russians - to save his skin, for when the Dowager goes the Emperor who has never forgotten the events of 1898 will look for Mr. Yuan's scalp, or I am very much mistaken. The latter has a canny notion of the buttered side of bread and has thrown his anchor to windward. In the Japan "Mail" you have probably read that one Hsu Shi Chang was likely to come to Mukden. The Japanese have been trying for months past to oust Chao Erk Sun who has no use for them and Hsu's appointment would mean a victory for the W. L. P. for he is a creature of Yuan's and would not be one who would resist the game of grab.

On Sunday the Japanese celebrated the second anniversary of their triumphal entry into Mukden. For some reason the Viceroy attended. None of us, naturally, were invited. Hagiwara made a fiery speech in which he bitterly assailed the Russians and said that while they were in Manchuria China had been a week thing in their hands, without power, and without respect, that there were three classes who were thankful on this arriversary - the Japanese for their victory and the opening of new fields for their enterprise - the Chinese whose sovereign rights had been restored through the good will of Japan, and the foreigners generally who were for the first time assured of an open door in Manchuria.

The Viceroy was very much put out and took exception to Hagiwara's statement - denied that China's sovereign power had ever been sacrificed, and then followed by the entire official outfit left the place. Hagiwara so they say was in a frightful stew and begged the viceroy to remain. "Not on your life" said Mr. Chao and climbed into his chariot. The best part of the whole story is that the viceroy himself would never have had the nerve to do such a thing had he not been put up to it by one Tsao a young fellow, product of a Methodist University in the United States and now attached to the person of the Supreme One.

Our likin and settlement questions are shelved for the time being, but the Viceroy has been dragging his coat-tails again and we have stepped

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[3-14-07]

thereon. He issued a proclamation commanding all householders ~~taxfixedxrespect taxthexrates~~ who wished to rent a house to foreigners to first report to the police and receive their sanction before signing any contract. Hagiwara, Fulford and myself protested. Mezger who imagines that he is playing a very wily game, refused to do anything, saying that he would take it up when the rights of his nationals were interferred with. He didn't wish to support the Japanese and I am convinced received assurances from the Viceroy that if he did not act with us and tried to persuade Fulford and myself to hold out also, Germans would not be interfered with and Arnold Karberg would sell more guns. His methods are so crude that they are painful. Thank Heaven I am not a German and endowed with a Teutonic nature. It is a very dirty one I think. Almost Cuban but lacking the lightheartedness of the disreputable Latin methods. Pedantic - Kaiser trained intrigue pains me. It makes me ill and when I see Mezger boot licking I am almost constrained to be rude to the other person, by way of contrast. That is not diplomacy.

Yours,

Willard Straight.

W. NORTON WHITNEY, M.D., M.R.C.S.
THOMAS McCLOY, M.D.

Tel Dist: Telephone.
SHIMBASHI No. 4886.
AKASAKA HOSPITAL.

Monthly Statement.

Tokyo, Mch. 18 1907

M. W. Straight Esq

To W. NORTON WHITNEY, M.D., M.R.C.S. Dr.

For ~~Professional Services to date~~
Glasses obtained —
repair gold watch case
& 1 pair lenses Received Payment ¥ 20.00

Dr. WILLIAM NORTON WHITNEY,
No. 17, [illegible], Tokyo.
Collector

Cheques should be crossed, and P. O. orders made payable on Tameike P. O., Akasaka, Tokyo.

Hours. Tokyo, 17 Hikawa-cho, Akasaka: 8—9 a.m. Daily, and T[illegible] —4 p.m.
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WILSON & Co
典 孫 森
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.
"WILSON."

Tientsin 18th. March 1907.

W. D. Straight, Esq.
U. S. Consul General,
Mukden.

Dear Sir,

We beg to enclose a letter from the Standard Life Office, Shanghai, accepting the risk on your life.

You will note that, in view of your family history, your premium has been increased 10%.

Debit note for 1st premium is forwarded herewith.

Yrs. faithfully
Wilson & Co
per F. Douglas Irwin.

[3-18-07]

COPIED

The Standard Life Assurance Company,
Shanghai
12th March 1907.

W.D. Straight Esq

SIR,

I BEG to inform you that the BOARD OF DIRECTORS having considered your proposal dated 28th ult for Assurance of £1000 on your life Whole term Assurance Twenty Limited Payments without Profits have agreed to undertake the risk; and that a Policy in the usual form will be prepared upon your paying the Premium, as undernoted, to Messrs Wilson & Co of Tientsin

You will bear in mind that the risk of the Company does not commence until the Premium is paid, and that unless the Policy is taken up within Fourteen days from this date a new Certificate of Health will be required. In the meantime, until the Premium is paid, the Directors retain the power of declining to complete the transaction.

I am, SIR,

Your obedient Servant,

Ward J. Blount
Secretary

First Premium due Now £19.10.10
Future Premiums due 1/2 yearly on 11th Sept. & March £19.10.10
The above premium includes an extra of 10% —

NOTE.—*It is recommended that a Registrar's certificate of birth or other sufficient evidence of age be lodged with the Office when the proposal is accepted, or as soon thereafter as convenient, in order that the usual certificate of admission of age may be attached to the Policy.*

No. 49.
3000—11/6/01.

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[3-18-1907]

The Standard Life Assurance Company.

OFFICE SHANGHAI.

PROOF OF AGE.

Proof of Age is required before settlement of a Claim, unless previously furnished, and it is strongly recommended that a Registrar's certificate of birth or other sufficient evidence be lodged with the Office when the proposal is accepted, or as soon thereafter as convenient, in order that the usual certificate of admission of age may be attached to the Policy.

Age is marked as "admitted" on the Company's Policies in all cases where proof is given satisfactory to the Directors.

E. T. J. BLOUNT,
Secretary,
THE FAR EASTERN BRANCH.

[c.3-19-07]

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dear Willard

The Divers and my brother have left for Mexico in company. I regret to say with a "flare" here who are about to descend on that land. They have been paying this country low for the past months and though I have not attended them their standard is even worse than it was last year.

The Divers were much

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more cheerful than when you saw them. He was quite normal and the ladies fairly so. Neither are what I call "interesting" but they all stand for the principles and ideals which we like and as such are responsive. They made the Matanzas excursion (which I now include in my program) and I should have accompanied them when it had not been for Mr Metcalf and four senators - among whom were Hale and Penrose - arrived and I had to give the Sunday to them - entertaining them to supper and luncheon at the "Miramar" where there is now a good table d'hote at $1.50 a head. Next Sunday more Congressmen, among whom is the Speaker, arrive on the U. S. A. steamer which is making a West Indian tour. They are fortunately to be in port but 24 hours. We have had also 3 Pole (besides the politicians and as an antidote to them) a Jew agreeable

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people - such as the Van Rensselaers of Philadelphia - or their
packet the "Map", with whom
was a very nice cousin of
daughters - a miss Biddle.

You know of course that daughter
Lin either is or soon will be in
Peking - as 2d secty - acting as
1st and that when he can be
moved from there Dearing is
to succeed him as 2d. This
we have from Bacon direct.
The transfer however may not
take place for some months
and is not likely to do so.

until then. I shall be sorry to have Dearing go but consider a change very necessary for the good of his health. In the absence of both Philips and Moore it was necessary to send some one to Peking from the near vacinity. Dearing will be very glad to see the Far East.

I now have her Johnson, with always and his wife and child but they leave tomorrow and after them I have no one

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on my books, My brother will return from Mexico and stop some weeks longer. Tonight the 15th Barnes are dining with us as well as Macdonald & Sleeper & Co, a very nice fellow. The Barnes are here only for three days this time. She inquired particularly for you. I know nothing of the Harriman movements. Last week stocks went very badly down and Macdonald tells me it was enforced

[3-19-07] [3]

to be liquidating. The President is especially down on Cuba and is thought to intend to "break" Cuba. We shall see who wins in that fight.

Steinhart goes to Europe in the summer.

Always affectionately

E.M.

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[Copy]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

MUKDEN, CHINA.

March 19, 1907.

Dear Mr. Harriman:-

My promise to send you certain extracts from the report I was preparing on the South Manchurian Railway was never fulfilled as my inquiries at the Head Office in Dalny elicited no information which would have enabled me to add to that already in your possession.

The evacuation of both the Russian and Japanese forces will shortly be completed and the garrisons will be reduced to the numbers allowed under the provisions of the Portsmouth Treaty. The military administration of the Railway will, at the end of March or beginning of April, hand over to the civilian company, and the change of gauge will be immediately undertaken. Mr. Hagtwana, the Japanese Consul General informs me that the plan of reconstruction has been somewhat altered and that a third rail will be laid, permitting the passage of cars equipped for the standard as well as for the Japanese gauge. When the work is finished the task of doubling the line will be commenced.

Notwithstanding the unpopularity of the Rail-

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road and the pretended failure of the administration to furnish adequate transportation facilities, the profits have been fairly satisfactory. The figures for February which I enclose herewith show a falling off as compared with the earnings of the month before and are less than a fourth of the returns of the Chinese Newchwang, Tientsin, Peking line which last year amounted to $133.00 Mex. per mile per day.

The construction by the Chinese of the Kirin, Kuangohangtsu (Changchun) road and the extension of the Imperial Railways of North China from Hsinmintun to Fakumen has practically been decided upon. The line from the latter place to Tsitsihar and Kuangchengtsu as well as another road from Kaiywan, a point of the Japanese Railway south of Kuangchangtsu, ninety miles eastward to the coal fields at Hsilungcheng, is being discussed by the officials interested.

Through certain officials here the Viceroy has expressed that he would like to interest American capital in his schemes. While his intentions may be excellent I am rather inclined to believe that the conditions on which he would wish to borrow would not be

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such as to attract American investors.

The Chinese are anxious to secure loans but they wish to do it "sub resa". They do not dare face the criticism which would be directed against them should it become generally known that they were using foreign money for the prosecution of domestic enterprises. The so-called "China for the Chinese" party is pretty strongand even Yuan Shih Kai is afraid to replenish his exchequer in the usual manner. Syndicates like the British-Chinese Corporation and the French and German Banks are going very slow and the representative of the former is so discouraged with the present prospects that he is going home on leave. The Japanese, however are apparently ready for political reasons to accept terms which do not attract foreign capitalists. They have been laboring with the Viceroys at Hankow and Nankin and when I was recently in Tientsin I learned that Yuan who had been unable to reach any agreement with the British and Chinese Corporation was making overtures to the Japanese.

It may interest you to learn that it is believed that Yuan has thrown in his lot with the Japanese in much the same way that Li Hung Chang allied himself with the Russians. The death of the Empress Dowager and

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the secession of the Emperor or the members of the party which has supported him would be the signal for the downfall of Yuan unless he was retained in his present position by external aid, and he is wise enough to cast an anchor to windward.

Probably at the instance of the Japanese he has been attempting to oust the local Viceroy Chao, who for months past has been a stumbling block in the path of the latter. Thanks to a contribution which that made to Prince Ching's private purse the crisis seems to have been past and Neu Shih Chang a creature of Yuan's who had all but been appointed to Mukden has been obliged to remain in Peking.

I was much disappointed to learn of the amendment which altered the Sbsidy Bill and hope that the report that you are about to dispose of the large Pacific Mail steamers is unfounded, for such a step would be a severe blow to our prestige in the Far East.

Yours sincerely,

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Returns of S. M. R. R. for month of February

(The average February returns have always been the smallest of any month in the year.)

Total returns - Yen 497,809.50

Freight returns - 303,521.30

Passenger returns - 194,103.50

Average daily receipts - 17,778.91

Average daily receipt per mile - 32.62

As compared with last month (January) 228,732 yen smaller total receipts, 5,647.91 smaller daily receipts, 10.38 smaller daily receipts per mile.

Mr. D. Straight. Esq.

Telegraphic Address: "Press Tientsin,"
Telephone No. 1239.

Tientsin, 19 - 3. 1907.

Dr. Tientsin Press, Limited,

天津印字館

Fol.

General, Lithographic, Copperplate and Colour Printers, Publishers, Stationers, Bookbinders, Account Book Manufacturers, Colour Stampers, India-Rubber Stamp Manufacturers, News Agents, &c.
Proprietors of the "Peking and Tientsin Times" Newspaper.

			Dollars.	Cents.
		Account rendered.		
Feb	26	To 200 Visiting Cards	4	00
"	"	" Photo Frames	3	00
"	"	" Postage		30
			7	30

RECEIVED PAYMENT
19-3. 1907
TIENTSIN PRESS, LIMITED.

John Straight by Thomas

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Newchwang, 20. März 1907.

M U. S. Consul General W. S. Straight, Esq. Mukden.

Dr. to Aug. Frahm, Newchwang, ~~and Liaoyang~~

Charges on 2 cases Official Supplies ex S. Chili from Shanghai.

Clearing Customs	$	2.50
Import Duty on 1 case Potatoes.		1.80
cartage & coolihire		1.40
Silver Yen	$	3.70.

Exc. E.
Aug. Frahm

Yingkow to Mukden Freight		0.50
Station Coolihire & Cartage		1.60
		1.10
		3.70
Silver Yen	$	4.10

[copy]

Mukden, China,

March 20, 1907.

Dear Fairchild:

Concerning the copper mine, the inspector from whom I had hoped to secure further information has not yet come down from the north. However, I have learnt from two independent sources that there are very rich deposits of copper at a place called Macershan in the Province of Kirin, and I am inclined to believe that the reports are thoroughly reliable. If you care to have me do so and will wire me to that effect upon the receipt of this letter, I shall at once proceed to the city of Kirin and try to make arrangements with the Viceroy there to have him give you an option on the claim. In the meantime you had better send a man out here to be prepared to commence prospecting work. Although, in case you secured the concession, you would find the Chinese mining regulations rather unsatisfactory and obstructive, it is not probable that, in view of the desire of the Viceroy to keep out the Japanese who are attempting locate claims throughout Manchuria, some special arrangement might be made by which you would be freed from many of the restrictions usually imposed. As I am informed that another concern is

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anxious to secure a concession of the Maoershan mines, it is necessary that we act quickly.

The deposits are located in a remote and unsettled part of the country so that few obstacles in the form of troublesome land titles would be encountered. The Yalu River in whose vicinity Maoerhshan is situated would furnish the necessary transportation facilities, and the forests growing there would supply all the timber needed for building and other purposes.

Trusting that something may come out of this and awaiting your reply, believe me,

Yours very sincerely,

Willard Straight

J.G. Fairchild, Esquire,
No. 8, Exchange Place,
Boston, Massachusetts.

[copy]

Mukden, March 22, 1907.

Wilson and Company,
Tientsin.

Dear Sirs:

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 18th instant enclosing a letter from the Standard Life Office, Shanghai, accepting the risk on my life.

With regard to the additional 10% by which they have seen fit to supplement the regular premium I should like a little further information. Will the higher rate be reduced at the expiration of a certain term of years or will it be necessary for me to continue paying at that rate? I should think that the former course might be followed. I should also like to have some provision made for a reduction of the premium to the regular home rate in case I should leave China for the United States or some European or South American country. Trusting that I may hear from you at an early date regarding these matters, and that the transaction may then be satisfactorily closed, I am

Very truly yours,
Willard Straight.

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AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

MUKDEN, CHINA.

March 25, 1907.

SUBJECT

Premises for Consulate-General.

The Honorable

Assistant Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

Sir:

In confirming my telegram of March 9 and in acknowledging the receipt on the 21st of the Department's reply as follows:

(Telegram sent March 9, 1907)

"Secstate, Washington.

"Have secured excellent location con-
"sulate. One year's lease option two years' renewal.
"Permanent occupation probably possible. Rent 145
"Mexican monthly. Necessary repairs 3450 yen. Re-
"spectfully request reply by telegraph.

"Straight".

(Telegram received March 21, 1907)

"American Consul, Mukden.

"Lease approved. Draw and account
"separately for repairs 3450 yen.

"Bacon",

I have the honor to express to the Department my grateful

appreciation of the authorization to lease and repair the buildings which I have secured as a site for this Consulate General. Upon the completion of the necessary repairs, a work which will require at least five weeks' time, I shall forward to the Department a copy of the lease, photographs and sketch plans of the property, and an account of the expenditures involved.

Having had occasion to personally assure the Legation of the impossibility of obtaining premises within the walled city except at a very considerable expense, and having expressed by belief that, as long as numbers of Japanese continue to reside therein, it was not imperative that this Consulate-General should be located inside the walls, I was instructed to secure quarters wherever possible if the necessary steps could be taken without involving the apparent waiver of the right to locate this office within the walled town.

Freed from the restriction which had heretofore prevented me from securing suitable quarters, I have been able, through the courtesy of Mr. Consul-General Hagiwara, to obtain, upon the departure of the Japanese troops therefrom, a temple erected in 1901 to the memory of a former Viceroy of this province as well as a small adjoining shrine, and, thanks to the representations of the present Viceroy, to make arrangements to rent the buildings from the Lamas in charge. The only limitation of my control of the premises in consequence of their religious character is the necessity for permitting

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the priests twice a day to burn incense and perform certain rites before the tablet of the deceased, and twice a year to allow the members of the bereft family to pass in ceremonial procession through two of the buildings which I have been able to occupy on their way to the large hall in the rear of the compound which is the only structure that has been reserved by the Lamas for the purposes for which the entire temple was originally erected.

The buildings are located to the west of the city outside the mud wall and about 200 yards north of the main road to the station. The German Consulate is situated some hundred yards to the west; and it is probable that the Russian representative will occuply a neighboring temple.

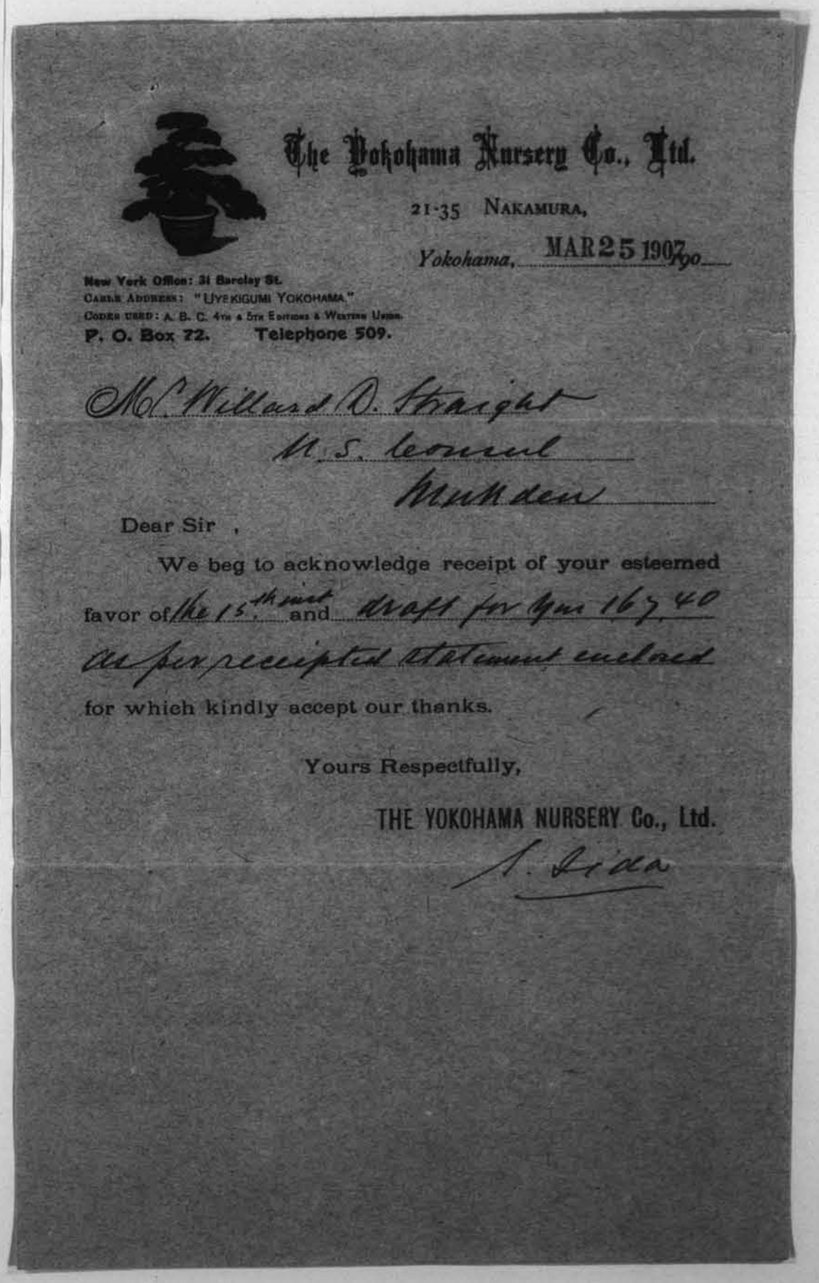
Although the members of the family of the late Viceroy as well as the Lamas in charge apparently desire to limit the term of years during which the temple premises are to be used for the purposes of this Consulate-General, I am inclined to believe that the priests will ultimately become disposed to regard the rent as an indispensable source of revenue, and feel confident that, should the Department so desire, it will be possible to extend the occupation of these quarters by this office for an indefinite period.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Sgd) Willard D. Straight



The Yokohama Nursery Co., Ltd.

21-35 NAKAMURA,

Yokohama, MAR 25 1907

New York Office: 31 Barclay St.
CABLE ADDRESS: "UYEKIGUMI YOKOHAMA."
CODES USED: A. B. C. 4TH & 5TH EDITIONS & WESTERN UNION.
P. O. Box 72. Telephone 509.

M^r Willard D. Straight
U.S. Consul
Mukden

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your esteemed favor of the 15th inst and draft for Yen 167.40 as per receipted statement enclosed for which kindly accept our thanks.

Yours Respectfully,

THE YOKOHAMA NURSERY Co., Ltd.

T. Aida

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STATEMENT.

Yokohama, FEB 6 1907

Mr Wm D Straight
U.S. Consul
Mukd

In a/c with

The Yo[illegible] Ltd.

21-3

Feb.	5	To amt [illegible]		
		Mrs Ebb		3370
	5	To amt of		
		Miss Edith Roo[illegible]		3370
			Mex	16740

[illegible] P
[illegible] 5 1907
[illegible] Co., Ltd.
S. Hara

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

28 March 1907

Dear Straight,

I learn that the Japanese are inserting a land frontier tariff duties only being levied on goods imported by them from Korea into Manchuria via Antung. I have spoken to the Wai-wu Pu about this and told them that our government could

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STATEMENT.

Yokohama, FEB 6 1907

M.r Wm D Straight
U.S. Consul
Mukden

In a/c with

The Yokohama Nursery Co., Ltd.
21-35, NAKAMURA, YOKOHAMA.

Feb.	5	To amt of Inv. No 378 Miss Elizabeth Stevenson	yen	100 —
"	5	To amt of Inv. No 382 Mrs John T. Watt		3370
"	5	To amt of Inv. No 383 Miss Edith Morgan		3370
			yen	167 40

K. Iida

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.

28 March 1907

Dear Straight,

I learn that the Japanese are inserting a land frontier tariff duties only being levied on goods imported by them from Korea into Manchuria via Antung. I have spoken to the Wai-wu Pu about this and told them that our government under

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enquete in the book of such
an arrangement as unjustif-
iable and as in the nature
of preferential treatment to
Japan. Would like to
know more about what is
going on at Antung. I
asked Hayashi if things
were progressing there so
that we could settle the
question of the international
settlement. He answered
not a word. T'ang
Shao-yi contests the Japanese right
to 3/5-ths of tariff duties at
Antung. I have also asked

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T'ang if the Wai-wu Pu did not see its way
to answer my note of Feb. 5th – you have a
copy of it. He was absolutely now committed.
By the way you can use me as an argument in
favor of my proposal that at Nan-ning
the Chinese have recognized or rather officially
declared that the whole of the city is open to foreign
trade free of any duties whatever – residential
rights being confined to the settlement. I have
told both the British and the German Ministers
here of the arrangement we have suggested for
Mukden & Antung. I think it will be quite
satisfactory to them, although the British have hereto-
fore that unrestricted residence as well as trade
is insured under their treaties with China –
Please keep an eye on Antung and let
me know how things are going on there –
if you can.
Laughlin has been ordered up here from Bankok
to temporarily act as 2d Sec. Phillips has been
given a position in the Department – He & Laughlin are
ordered to the Department and Chandler (a student at
Tokyo) takes his place as Tarien) –
Very sincerely yours
W. W. Rockhill

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[copy]

Mukden, March 28, 1907.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

You will see that I have accepted your suggestion and taken to the machine. I rather regret the step for while wicked penmanship may perhaps be the earmark of genius, bad typewriting can only be attributed to wanton carelessness. However in deference to your wishes I risk an exposure of human frailty.

I was indeed much pleased to receive a word from you at last for I had wondered many times whether we had been forgotten. Distance has the effect of making one rather sensitive, particularly when one is surrounded by space and Chinamen and craves even a wee overflow from the flesh pots.

As you may imagine there has been much of interest in the past few months. The wreckage of the war and its gradual clearing away and the homeward trickling of troops after the main tide has ebbed have all been attended incidents whose significance affords much food for speculation. The Japanese question has naturally always been first and foremost but it is unnecessary to

quote chapter and verse as you are familiar with the whole tale.

The evacuation period is now nearing an end and the Chinese apparently are inclined to regard the 15th of April as the epoch making date that will witness a wonderful transformation and see them firmly esconded on the cushions that have long been graced by aliens. Already they are showing signs that they feel that the hour of their delivery is at hand for in one or two recent conversations the officials have assumed an entirely new air of independence. In an argument with the Viceroy yesterday the old threadbars subject of the status of the "open ports" came up again and his right hand man a Taotai, Mr. "Gold", in reply to my statement that it would be wise for China to settle the question as soon as possible as under existing conditions foreigners would simply reside within the city and refuse to pay inland dues demanded "But what would you do if we should force them to pay?" Rather fresh of him wasn't it? I told him that such steps could hardly be taken, but that if they were, the consequences would probably be regrettable. Later when they said that the

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treaty made no provision for opening the "entire cities" but mentioned Fengtien fu (prefecture) and Antung hsien (magistracy) I told them that they could be thankful than, that the foreign powers didn't demand the opening of the entire districts named. What the attitude of these gentlemen will be when once "military occupation" no longer exists I do not know, but it is not difficult to believe that there may be differences of opinion on certain vital point.

This will be particularly true when negotiations are reopened for settlement delimitation, for as far as I am able to judge the Chinese expect to reserve to themselves many of the powers held by the Municipal Councils in the older treaty ports. Their high horse however will not, I imagine, be able to take all the jumps.

The whole question of Manchurian administration is in an unsettled state. Chao the present Viceroy has long been persona non gratta to the Japanese, who have for months libelled him in their journals and, if rumor be correct, brought great pressure to bear at Peking to secure his removal. Early in February it

[3-28-07]

looked as if he would go. Yuan Shih Kai was mentioned as his probable successor, but he of course would not accept such a post, and one Hsu Shih Chang was all but ordered to take over the seals. Hsu was one of the Imperial Commissioners who visited Manchuria last autumn and has owed his rise in life to the influence of Yuan Shih Kai. Yuan has of late been playing much with the Japanese. He needs money and the Yokohama Specie Bank are willing to lend, when advisable, on terms which would not appeal to the ordinary profit seeking investor. I happened when in Tientsin recently to attend a luncheon given Yuan by Hayashi the Japanese Minister. Why he asked me I cannot say, for I was the only white man present. Yuan was accompanied by the Customs Taotai and one other official, and besides Hayashi, there were the three principal Yokohama Specie Bank Managers in North China, the Japanese Consul General and a flock of interpreters. Madame Kato, the Consul's wife made a pretty speech which had evidently been doctored up before her Lord and Master knew that I was to be present, and which I, of course understood when it was put into

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Chinese. Most of the Japanese present were highly incensed at my appearance on the scene, and Hayashi rather seemed to enjoy their discomfiture, having probably brought me in as a sort of a political gooseberry.

I took occasion to make some inquiries as to what was going on behind the Viceregal scenery, and learned that several of the Governors General are in need of funds and that they are afraid to openly acknowledge the necessity for floating a foreign loan they wish to make their arrangements quietly. The British Chinese Corporation, as well as the French and German syndicates have been approached but have not been satisfied with the security offered.

The Specie Bank, however, is stepping merrily into the breach. To go back to Yuan. As you doubtless know, he won the enmity of the Emperor some years ago and has depended for his position upon the Dowager. That Lady is not only wicked but old. Her days are numbered and like his illustrious predecessor Li Hung Chang who threw in his lot with the Russians to save his own back. Yuan is now looking about for external support to serve him in the day of need that seems to be fast ap-

[3-28-07]

proaching. The Japanese are obviously, heaven sent, at his hand. All this mind you is based on assurances from very wise and very responsible people in Tientsin and not on the "hunder" of commerce. The selection of Hsu Shih Chang, Yuan's protege, for the Viceroyalty of the Three Eastern Provinces, a post that will, it is said shortly be created, would be very significant.

The February storm Chao weathered successfully, by duly contributing some two hundred thousand taels to Prince Ching's private bank account. Now that he has been shorn it seems likely that Hsu will shortly receive the place which Chao to his financial detriment wished to retain.

We are all awaiting developments with much interest, but the poor man was so frightfully depressed when last I saw him that I cannot but believe that he feels that his days are numbered.

Peking is now much stirred up about the complications in the Customs. Not only has Tang Shao Yi commenced an active campaign to secure the appointment of Chinese in the "Indoor Staff", heretofore reserves to foreigners, but poor Sir Robert is having troubles of a more intimate nature. He has been unhappy in the

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choice of his brother-in-law, who is also the Heir Apparent to the Inspector-Generalship. It seems that Bredon, the Deputy Inspector General, has been actively spreading the rumor that Sir Robert is unwell and would shortly go home on leave. It is even said that Bredon inspired his sister Lady Hart, to come to China a year ago in order to persuade Sir Robert to go home. This may or may not be true. It is however a fact that the "I.G." did intend to take leave but that he wishes to run the Service from London. Apparently Bredon would not agree and Sir Robert promptly made up his mind to remain at his post. Bredon's position is anomalous. He has little responsibility, and is very much of a man waiting to step into another's shoes. To make his lot even more uncomfortable Sir Robert who has for years had only junior men on his Peking staff has now ordered two of the oldest commissioners, one of whom Hippisley was the choice of the British Government for the position of Inspector General had Sir Robert been killed in the besieged Legations, to Peking. Both these men are not only enemies, but very active and bitter foes of Bredon's and the situation promises all manner of excitement to

those concerned and no little pleasure to the casual observer.

I was extremely pleased to receive word of Arnell's increase in salary. He had been having pretty hard pickings. He is an exceedingly efficient person and I hope that he may be sent to Antung or Dalny where his knowledge of Japanese and his familiarity with the Manchurian situation will be of service to the Government and profitable to himself. As regards the legation at Peking I fear that anything that I might say would have little influence. There is no need to go into details, as you are doubtless conversant with the whole matter.

For your interest and aid to which I am sure we largely owe our ability to leave this miserable den (the description is not prompted by any Oriental humility) I am indeed grateful. The temple will be a really splendid place and I shall hope that we may have the pleasure of receiving you when you take your projected trip around the world, which I trust will be within the next twelfthmonth.

Hientzleman writes me that he has been ordered home for duty at the Department and I am very curious to know what this new departure may signify. Is there

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to be a chance in the future for consular officers to serve for a time in Washington? I remember that you suggested this procedure in your article in the "Outlook", and I should think the scheme an admirable one. If it were possible to do so I should exceedingly like to have an opportunity to learn the workings of the Department, for the experience would be of the greatest value and I frankly confess that I do not feel that I can ever hope to be as effective if I continue to work out my own salvation as I might be able to be if I had a year or two and preferably more in Washington. When you are ready to send someone else here or to leave someone in charge for a time, I should appreciate it as a very great favor if you could arrange my transfer of temporary assignment to the Department.

The rugs I hope were satisfactory. I am sorry about the mistake but certainly understood that you wished two and not one.

You asked for a fish you see and received a whale. If the typewriting has been poor my intentions have at least been honorable, and my shortcomings were anticipated. Please assure Mrs. Wilson that I am faith-

fully her slave and believe me with best wishes always,

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight

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[1907] PG

April 4.

AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

Dear Willard

I send several self explanatory enclosures. Some time ago I paid a subscription to the Sagua Chronicle"-as I supposed-for the copy of that weekly sent you here last year. It now appears that I was paying a subscription for the current year mailed to Havana. The letter of which I forward a copy is written the Chronicle to head this off. A copy addressed to me arrives weekly.

My principal news regards among other people here Murray

when the nation as a state considers. Nor have the political parties ever come sufficiently together to agree on candidates. Several representatives and one senator, as well as three engineers are travelling with the Secretary, whom I shall have to care for.

My brother, who has been three weeks in Mexico, returns on Monday and will stay till the end of the month. Lawrence - who has fine memories of his voyage with you - I am seeing something of. He is one of the very few civilized young men here.

Miss Davis sends me a flesh

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Crane who gave birth to a ten lb
week- mother and child doing
well as far as I have learned.
Harriman and the President are
having a sharp bout - the U. S.
newspapers to which the enclosed
cutting refers have not yet reached
us. We had Speaker Cannon and 11
Congressmen - all of whom were guests
of Taft. Mr Pinchot is also, for the 2
days last week during which a
howling American excursion steamer
was in port. One afternoon they took a
long motor excursion and dined with
me. A special Sousa performance
drew them back afterwards early to
my satisfaction for Congressmen on
a Sunday a very dreadful and un-
less you can furnish them poker
and similar delights they are apt
to be bored before the end of the even-
ing comes. Next Sunday Mr Taft arrives
for a strenuous four days visit. It is
expected that many interesting
questions will be raised and the
public is very curious as to the
result. My belief is however that
the present indefinite status will
be maintained at least beyond
municipal elections after the crop
is gathered there will be no
changes in outward government.
During the last month through
public order has been re-established
no leaders have come to the front in

[2] [4-4-07]
Cuba for the troops and I am
writing mine in care of our con-
sul at Cape Town. Burtscher and
Gerald Morgan have been at
Caracas lately, trying to ascer-
tain whether or not Castro is
dead. Barry of Port Arthur
celebrity has been making a
tour of Cuba for a news-paper
syndicate. He is a very humorous
youth - less attractive than many
correspondents.

I hope the Spring promises
more satisfaction than the
hard winter proved

always affectionately
Edith Morgan

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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[encl. 4-4-07]

April 3, 1907.

Business Manager,

Japan Chronicle (Weekly Edition),

Kobe, Japan.

Sir:-

Acknowledging your letter of February 15th. which was in reply to mine of November 15th. I have to request that you discontinue sending to the American Legation, Havana, Cuba, one copy of the Weekly Chronical addressed to W. D. Straight, Esq., and credit to the account of the American Legation, Havana, any monies remaining from that subscription between the date of receiving this letter and September 8, 1907, when Mr. Straight's subscription ends.

The subcription to the American Legation of the Weekly Chronicle expires July 31, 1907. Please extend it beyond that date as far as the money transfered from Mr. Straight's subscription will permit.

Yours very truly,

[COPY]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL.

Mukden, China, April 5th, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

There has been a long gap between letters and I was delighted to hear from you again today. You were very kind to suggest to "B" that I might be available for Wheelock's partner and I appreciate your interest in my welfare. I have heard nothing of the matter however, and presume that Wheelock had other ideas on the subject. In any case I fear that I should not have been willing to chuck the service. I have had too many shake-ups in too short a time. I want to go on and am in no hurry for the next jump for I am ill enough prepared for my present job and can well afford to wait a long time and in the meantime try to justify those who were foolish enough or confident enough to put me where I am. I have no desire to remain a Consul all my days but I am certainly going to try and earn anything I may get in the future and to do so I feel that several years of Chinaman and Law Books will be the best things in the world.

I am sorry to hear that the touring mosquitos are bothering and biting, but there seems to be no help for that when you're in such a romantic and immediate vicinity.

Your friend at Peking loosened up the other day and wrote me a personal note. Imagine the condescension. He wanted to know about Antung - As a matter of fact I had reported the very thing he quoted as a rumour, i.e. the admission of Japanese goods for 2/3 of the regular import duty but he doesn't seem to read despatches always. However, who can blame him - he has so many poor men. Phillips writes that he is going to a "Dept" of Eastern Affairs in Washington. A feather for Wilson's hat I imagine and an excellent plan. I have written Wilson asking for a Washington assignment when he can find a place for me and hope that something can be done - as training is of all things the saddest deficiency in my cosmos.

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[4-5-07]

I will write of people and things anon - more rows with the Viceroy - a Japanese atrocity - in the course of which I assaulted and battered a truculent gentleman and the arrival of the first tourists in Mukden - J. A. Jordan of St. Lewis - scissors maker and all around traveller - accompanied by nephew and wife and daughter.

Thank you again.

Yours,

Willard Straight.

[copy]

Mukden, China.

April 5, 1907.

Dear Taylor:-

I am charged with a rather peculiar commission and am sending the same to you for proper performance. There is a wooden faced Johnny in the local Foreign Office who came to me the other day and wanted to know whether I knew a good place to buy books. I told him that I did, thinking that I might land a contract for you, for supplying schools out here with expensive and useless literature. I told him that I would secure them for him. He wanted after dinner speeches he said and books on mathematics. Queer combination. I asked him what all these things were for and discovered that he wished to acquire an easy, flowing command of English, and apparently thinking that he might be called upon to go abroad in the near future wished to be able to acquit himself with credit at the numerous banquets which will doubtless be given in his honor. The books on Mathematics he wants to use locally. Some of his pals in the Foreign Office have studied in Japan and try, in their leisure moments to stump him on different sorts of problems. He apparently wants to do his

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[4-5-07]

friends and therefore asks for Teacher's editions. The books could be shipped care this office and you had better send the bill to me made out to S.M. Heu, Mukden Foreign Office, Mukden.

By the way, I am not sure whether one or two stray accounts of mine in Ithaca were ever settled. I remember that you very kindly sent me a list from the Business Men's Association, but I have kept no record of what happened thereafter and know that I settled one or two when I was last in Oswego. If you could look this question up for me and settle the accounts enclosing the entire amount in the bill which you will send for the books, I should be extremely obliged.

With kindest regards and best wishes, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

List of books enclosed.

[encl. 4-5-07]

Books desired by S.M. Hsu, Esquire,
Mukden Foreign Office,
Care American Consulate General,
Mukden, China.

Published by Dick, Fitzgerald and Co.,
18 Ann Street, New York.

Barber's American Book of Ready Made Speeches.
5000 French phrases with their English translations.
How to learn the sense of 3000 French words in one hour.
Frost's American Etiquette or Laws of Good Society.
Ogden's Model Speeches for all School Occasions.
Dicks book of Toasts, Speeches and Responses.

American Book Co.,
Wentworth's Grammar School Arithmetic.
" Complete Algebra.
" Plane and Solid Geometry.
" Plane and Spherical Trigonometry.
Robinson's Complete Arithmetic.
French and English Complete Letter writer.

B. B. All text books should be "Teacher's editions."

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Newchwang, 5th April 1907

M Hon. W. D. Straight, Esq. U. S. Consul General, Mukden.

Dr. to Aug. Frahm, Newchwang and Liaoyang

To: clearing Customs	$	2. 50.
" sorting delivery & medicine	"	~ 40.
	$	2. 90.

E. & O. E.
Aug. Frahm

Received payment
pcting Frahm
F Fee

[COPY]

Mukden, China.

April 8, 1907.

Dear Mr. Gilder:-

Herewith I am sending you the article on Sir Robert Hart. I fear that I have not been able to draw any conclusions that will impress upon the reader the desirability of a permanent Diplomatic and Consular Service, though he may, perhaps, be convinced that consular officers should be literarily commercial and not commercially literary. The verdict might be justifiable.

I have confined myself pretty well to Sir Robert's public career and not attempted, for reasons which I am sure you will understand, to deal with his more personal side. I am working on a pencil sketch from a photograph, which I will send you as soon as it is finished.

I trust that the enclosed will meet with your approval and serve to offset the "Neighborly Emperor" of unhappy memory. I should like to try my hand at other things if you have anything to suggest, something of course that would be discreet. I should regret the consequences of any expression of my opinion regarding

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[4-8-07]

the Japanese for instance.

The "Monthly" has never turned up. The open mails are comparatively safe, and the subscription might be deducted from the cheque for the enclosed, if that would not be contrary to your office practice. If you will kindly send whatever balance there may be to Miss Hazel Straight, Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, I should be greatly obliged.

With kindest regards and many thanks for this opportunity which you have given me, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight.

J. B. Gilder, Esquire,
Editor "Putnam's Monthly"
27 - 29 W. 23rd Street,
New York City.

ARNHOLD, KARBERG & Co.

LONDON, BERLIN, NEW YORK
HONGKONG, CANTON,
SHANGHAI, HANKOW,
TIENTSIN, TSINGTAU,
CHUNGKING, WUHU,
NEWCHWANG.

Newchwang, 10th. April, 1907.

(1)

W. Straight Esq.
American Consul General.
Mukden.

Dear Sir,

With regard to our payment to you in December last of G.$1000.-. our New York house now debits us with telegram expenses amounting to Taels 16,66 which we request you to kindly refund to us at your convenience.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,
ppa. Arnhold, Karberg & Co.

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WILSON & Co
典 家 新
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.
"WILSON."

Tientsin 11th. April. 1907.

W. D. Straight, Esqre,
U. S. Consul General,
Mukden.

Dear Sir,

In reply to your favour of the 22nd. ulto, we would state that we ~~have~~ have submitted Your queries to the Stand. Life Office. Shanghai, and that they reply as follows:—

"* * * * our medical officer is of opinion that "the extra premium of 10% might be removed when "Mr. Straight reaches the age his father died at, "upon his then passing a satisfactory medical "examination.
"

The ordinary premium would of course be "altered to the premium applicable to Europe etc "Should the proposer leave China at any time."

Hoping to hear that you are prepared to take up your policy,

We are,
Dear Sir.
Yrs faithfully,
Wilson & Co
per F. Vaughan Jarvis.

[1907]

Havana. April 13th.

Dear Willard

Enclosed are several clippings presumably of interest to you among the consuls transferred has also been announced Rodgers from Shanghai to Havana. Dunlop, chief clerk, succeeds Cunningham leaves the service on or before July 1 but the Government wishes him to retain the duties of general advisor to which he is now performing it rests with Spain whether he shall acquiesce. The situation is peculiar

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was Delafield Pasha with us
the 20th with my brother and
we are finishing off our enter-
tainments. Last evening the Zan-
ettis came to dine with them,
and was Barry and some other
people. Tonight we have to dine
at the Viceroy with Alfred the
"Herald" correspondent - which
I do not look forward to in the least.
The "Herald" has been violently for
a Protectorate. The U.S. "Sun" is
now represented by a young fel-
low who has been out of their
men in Washington. He is a
brother of Pathin who used
to represent the "Sun" at the De-
partment. Bailey has returned
to England of his own accord.

Mr Tyler's visit cleared the
situation a good deal. It is fixed
that we shall be here for
least 18 months more, and the
army and American advisors
may remain even longer. All
defends upon how the Cubans
behave. My belief is that the
Liberals will not have the patience
to bide their time and will
overthrow the Abbas Cart. The
proposed plan assures bankers
and planters to make profits.

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In the next issue and tobacco of (that of 1908) and therefore the resumption of Cuban autonomy until the next American Presidential campaign is through Even the Republican Party can go to the country with promises fulfilled and no further charge of imperialism against it and without the fear that a 3d occupation must be inaugurated - as might well be the case were the Republicans left in sufficiently long before the American elections

to give it time to topple again, as Taft is now recognized as the Presidents' candidate his fun and pa in relation to Cuba must be cautious. He was accompanied by two wild congressmen - Barton of Cleveland and Lamond of St. Louis - and by Senator Burkett of South Dakota, - all of whom are local critics of the Taft candidacy. I looked after them Saturday then one day to Luis Mier Plantation and another to Cabanas.

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where the new hotel is given. it really a charming site. This is the fourth official party which has been here and the quietest and most decent of all. with the exception of the small one of sixty New Yorkers which was largely composed of Ladies. another reason - since the long session of Congress will be on - we are not likely to have so many.

I do hope you are somewhat more comfortable physically and that digestive

your work is interesting and sufficiently plentiful to grow. It seems a long time since I have heard from you. Mr. Minister - by the way - have received the plants you ordered for her. You are to listen in my thoughts - my dear, always affectionately.

Edwin Morgan

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AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA

April 23?

[1907-K.J.]

My dear Willard

Your fierce attack on N.Y., & Peking, the Germans and Heaven knows who else - dated Peking Feb. 24th and written March 14th arrived this morning. Though I was glad to perceive that writer frosts were melting and the gale of Spring was melting the arctic

I am very glad about the trouble - first for your health's sake and second for your spirits. You must have had hitherto most unpleasant surroundings and daily amid the comforts & Dumb Waiters have I thought of you. Would that I could aid your installation by sending you furniture or supplies! Is there nothing I can con-

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you I was alarmed to perceive that you were in such a state of irritation. I hoped the Japanese would prove a safety-valve through which it might all escape and that the rest of the world you might regard with complaisance. H. J. and yourself both know too much of China to think that either of you knows as much as the other knows I have observed that in each expert distrusts what information other experts possess. It is a perfectly nice question of you take him aright - irritating I grant you and not always of the same mind - but a man not to fight, and fundamentally a gentleman.

tribute!

All your political news much interests me. I read faithfully my Far Eastern newspapers in their weekly editions. Putnam Weale's "Indiscreet Letters from Peking". I am now reading. very superficial, very artificial - written long after the events described and with a knowledge of what came after

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[copy]

Mukden, April 25, 1907.

T. A. Christiansen and Co.,

Kobe, Japan.

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed please find my draft for the sum of Yen one hundred nineteen and seventy seven sen in payment of my account with you. Kindly send me two receipts one for Yen 27.44 and the other for the balance for two shipments per "Coptic". Were both the latter consigned to Mr. J. G. Fairchild?

Yours truly,

but what he wrote might
mean nothing but
what he wrote not without truth
and consequently not
without value. Shall I
send you a copy?
Mrs Delafield and Mrs
brother went to New York
on Saturday.
always affectionately
Edith Morgan

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[copy]

Mukden, April 25, 1907.

Taylor and Carpenter,

Ithaca, New York,

U.S.A.

Dear Sirs:-

While visiting Mr. Palen in Antung recently he told me of what seemed to me to be a most admirable arrangement which he had made with you, and I am going to take advantage of your kind offer made last summer to help me out when you could do so, to ask you to get for me as you have for him. Of course I hope that you will take such commissions as you deem due you, for I assure you that it will be of the greatest assistance to me to have some one to whom I can write for the little things that are so necessary and so hard to obtain at this distance.

I am enclosing herewith a draft for $75.00 and two small b ills which I should be greatly obliged if you would settle for me. One for the "Washington Post" and the other for the "Cornell Alumni News", to-

[4-25-07]

taling $18.90. I wish to that you would give $20.00 to the Field Fund and to "Sphinx Head" with the assurance that each of these sums will be increased to a final payment of $50.00 within the next two years, at latest. I should also like to have you send me Ploetz Epitome of History, and R.K. Douglass' "Europe in the Far East" published as part of the Cambridge Historical Series.

Trusting that I am not asking you to undertake too much and that you will suggest any arrangements that may seem to you desirable about the maintenance of a deposit with you, I am with kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

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[copy]

Mukden, April 25, 1907.

Wilson and Co.,

Tientsin.

Dear Sirs:-

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 11th inst. in which you inform me that the Standard Life Office of Shanghai has stated that the extra premium of 10% will be removed when I reach the age at which my father died, upon my then passing a satisfactory medical examination, and that the ordinary premium will be altered to that applicable to Europe, etc. should I leave China at any time.

I think that the conditions named willprove satisfactory and enclose herewith my draft for 11s. 127.40 the sum named in your letter of the 18th ult. If it be possible to do so I should like to have the insurance written in three policies, two of four hundred and one of two hundred Pounds. I trust that this may be arranged.

Yours truly,

[copy]

Mukden, China.

April 26, 1907.

John Byrns and Co.,

1322 F Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:-

Enclosed please find my draft for $51.50 in payment of the account returned herewith for Law Books forwarded to Mukden at my request.

Yours truly,

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Mukden, April 27, 1907.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter sent to Mr. Rockhill, which I thought might interest you.

Our new temple premises will soon be fit for occupancy, and we then hope to live in a manner commensurate with the dignity of representatives of the American Government. Despite the reactionary feeling at present throughout China, we hope to be able to maintain the status quo of Amity and good-will with the spirit of the Viceroy Chin-Japanese War fame with whom we shall have (few words in letter omitted when copying).

Mr. Chearre is expected to drop in upon us sometime in the course of the coming month, and we are anxiously awaiting the revelation of the scene which is to follow the judgment day. We are only hoping that we may be entertaining an angel in disguise.

With best wishes to Mrs. Wilson and yourself,

Very sincerely, yours,

Willard Straight.

[copy]

Mukden, April 27, 1907.

Dear Mr. Rockhill:

I have just returned from Antung via Dalny, where I saw Mr. Kurosawa Korowawa, who, as you know, has been charged with the task of negotiating for the establishment of a Chinese customs house at that place. He was apparently very much distressed at the hopelessness of his task for he informed me that he had been unable thus far to accomplish anything, although he had visited Dalny several times and had frequently conferred with the Japanese officials, he found himself at the present time as much at sea as he was at the beginning of his undertaking. He said that, although he had on that day the 22nd, met certain Japanese officials for the purpose of selecting a site for the Customs House, nothing had been done. He also told me that as far as he had been able to discover none of the Japanese officials at Dalny had the slightest conception of what the intentions

His Excellency,

W. W. Rockhill,

etc. etc. etc.

American Minister, Peking.

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of their Government might be as regards this matter. He said they did not seem to know whether there was to be a Customs House at Dalny, at Dalastion or at the frontier of the Leased Territory; or whether the free to embrace the district in the vicinity of Dalny alone or the entire Japanese portion of the Peninsula. Anchwang I have seen it announced in the newspaper, that the Customs House was to be opened by the first of May. I am very much of the opinion that at the rate at which negotiations are at present proceeding it will be nearer Christmas than "Decoration Day."

We have also had some news from the north, a Mr. Watson, the newly appointed Postal Commissioner for Manchuria, who is now stopping with me, had just returned from Harbin. He says that Mr. Kanovaroff and the Russians who have been supposed to see him are about as far from arriving at any definite conclusion as are the Japanese. Mr. Watson says that conferences are held from early morning until sunset, and that each day only witnesses the proposal of suggestions for the day following at which time they are consecutively quashed to make way for others equally ineffectual."

The buildings held by the Japanese military since their occupation of Mukden are most of them still in Japanese hands, although the long awaited reckoning day has already passed. The Chinese with whom I have discussed the matter are apparently unwilling to admit the extent of their discomfiture and their failure to secure all that they had hoped to upon the termination of the period of military occupation.

. . . . A statement . . . in explanation of the retention of a considerable number of buildings by the Japanese at Antung. I hope to submit my report on conditions at that place within the next day or two, and trust that you will find the matter contained therein of some interest.

Yours very sincerely,

Willard D. Straight

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WILSON & Co
威爾遜洋行
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"WILSON."

Tientsin. 29th. Apr. 1907.

W. D. Straight, Esqre.,
U. S. A. Consul General.
Mukden.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 25th. inst, enclosing draft for Tls. 127.40 in payment of first premium on your policy no. $\frac{530}{5}$ $\frac{Tls.}{1}$.

We note your request that your present policy be exchanged for two of £400 & one of £200, and we are accordingly returning the document in question to Shai in order that the required exchange may be effected.

We are,
Dear Sir,
Your faithfully
Wilson Bros
per F. Douglas Pearce

Havana. April 30th [1907]

Dear Willard

I am so pleased about the temple that I acknowledge at once your letter of March 13th received this morning. I am most eager to hear more. Do send me a plan and if Sammons is on board and takes the lovely chinese glass windows out of our house at Seoul can not you insure them.

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Is there nothing I can send you.

I have never heard from Sharpe but Jones has heard to a telegram I sent Morris regard of the stars. The gift was a token of affection and I do not look for repayment.

News has just come that Moore is transferred to Lisbon and will not return to Peking. I wonder whether Fletcher and himself are not exchanging posts.

We are having a quiet, dull time here and I am heartily because the existence of the Prov. Gov. as with the wings of the Legation that responsibility and activity are scarcely possible. Our role seems to be polite to all and non-trouble makers which may lead people to think us non-effective. I don't see any other part

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[4-30-07]
[2]

to play and must see the situation through as best I can.

W. Woodall tells me he wrote and did not call wheeler regarding your name in connection with his prize. This explains delay. The letter Woodall from the summer in Salem with Mary Wheelock-Dorring in June. Peter Bondtich Jr is now Forbes in Manila in the legal department of the Philippine

Gov. after he ends his Paris school course in June. He recently wrote me this. His year [illegible] with me in the Far East would thus appear to have had a certain effect. Noble Beardsley goes to the Reids in London at the end of this month for a Red Cross Congress

Your two last letters have been so fine that I fancy the last ideas you will exclude.

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Grow your temple will be the God of war! Why be irritated with your German and Japanese colleagues for trying to be active! Always up hear. Louis Morgan -

TAHE TRADE OF MUKDEN DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1907.

(Report of the Mukden Japanese Chamber) of Commerce.

EXPORTS.

Bean Cake.-- Bean-cake has been the most important export of Mukden during the first quarter. The amount shipped out through Dalny was 213,936 piculs, consisting of about 465,000 cakes, valued at about 550,000 yen.

On account of the large amount of bean-cake which still remained at Newchwang after the closing of that port to navigation last year, and the increased demand in Japan for that product as a fertilizer for the mulberry tree in order to take advantage of the good market for raw silk which was predicted, the price of bean-cake went up in Japan; this was immediately by a rise in Dalny, and the native merchants, thrown into a state of excitement, competed with the Japanese in buying up the available stocks, and foreseeing a high market not only in Japan but also in southern China, continued to hold back their bean-cake in expectation of further rises. And the prices , as was anticipated, did go up. At the close of last year they were 1.15 (small coin); toward the middle of January they rose to 1.25; during February from 1.30 to 1.35; and by March they stood at from 1.40 to 1.42.

Beans: The exportation of beans for the first quarter amounted to 16,290 piculs, valued at at about 50,000 yen. More than half were exported during January. From February onwards there was a decrease

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in the supply and in increase in prices, with a corresponding falling off in the shipments.

Cereals.- The exportations of kaoliang and other classes of cereals amounted to 72,677 piculs, valued at about 125,000 yen. Most of the shipments were destined to central China to relieve the famine, those to Kinchou and Port Arthur being very limited.

Scrap metal.- There was a considerable exportation of scrap metal, consisting chiefly of empty cartridges from the late battlefields. The total shipments amounted to some 477,000 catties and brought large returns.

Cow Bones.- Although one of the important Manchurian exports to Japan is cow bones, the shipments for the first quarter were very small. The other exports,- tobacco, hemp, opium, mushrooms, hides, skins and hair,-were destined almost entirely to Chinese ports. The re-exports were fairly large, and consisted of miscellaneous goods, petroleum, porcelain ware, liquors, paper, medicines, and fruit.

MUKDEN May 1. 1907

Messrs Okura & Co. Tengtsin

克隆洋行

Dr to KO LUNG COMPANY

GENERAL STORES

CHINESE-NAME KO LUNG

28	Rolls of Wallpaper @ $1.15		$ 32.20
	for the American consulate General		
	Rec'd payment with thanks. Compt.		
	L. Ruffin		

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[COPY]

Mukden, May 1st, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

There have been three letters from you since I returned from Antung about ten days ago - and none of them I fear have been answered this far. You've no idea how busy I've been and I cannot begin to see my way out of the woods yet, for about a thousand things have happened since the 15th of April and they all must be reported and commented upon with a certain degree of intelligence.

Your news of Dearing's probable appointment Peking was an agreeable surprise. Cuba to the fore! for you know Fletcher has been given the First Secretaryship and that means that he will be Charge when H. Ecc. goes on leave within the next few months.

We are still in this hole but with prospects of moving very soon. I am very much obliged indeed to you for having written to Carr on my behalf and it undoubtedly helped things along for as you know we landed a very decent allowance for repairs and are going to have a really splendid place in which to receive you when you come gadding about the world again and take up your post as Minister to China, for here you should come to sit with your ancient Korean colleagues.

Some time ago I wrote Wilson asking that when the chance came for a

[5-1-07]

transfer or an assignment I be shifted if possible to the Department in order to learn a little about my business of which I am woefully ignorant I fear. That is about the only place I would care to go. Failing that I am quite content to stay put for when the present rush is off we should have an excellent chance to do a little study and I am starting both Law and Spanish and working at my French. I am becoming keener on my job every minute and hope that someday I may understand the diplomatic and consular business and this should be an excellent school room. as before long it will be comparatively quiet, though doubly trying because of the appointment of Tang Shao Yi as Governor of the Province. He will be a far more difficult person to handle than the present old lady has been and should be a training in himself.

Antung I found in the condition which might have been expected. Privileges acquired under the cloak of military occupation have been retained and while I would not say that the W.L.P. were trying to reserve the port to the exclusion of other interests, they are certainly showing no inclination to sacrifice any of the advantages they have gained under extraordinary conditions to facilitate the establishment of their possible competitors.

The Consul at Antung has also been appointed Resident for New Wiju and the intention and desire of both officials and merchants seems to be to regard the whole Yalu region as a political and commercial as well as a geographical entity.

You've no idea how much I appreciate your frequent letters.

Yours,

Willard Straight.

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The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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OFFICE OF
THIRD ASSISTANT SECRETARY.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
WASHINGTON.

May 1, 1907.

Dear Straight:

The rugs safely arrived and they are perfect beauties. We are greatly delighted with them. As a matter of fact, it was only one we wanted, for the library, but it does not matter. We shall either sell the extra one or file it for future reference. The one in the library is ideal in design and color scheme and suits the room perfectly. We are very grateful for this exercise of your artistic taste and for all the trouble you took in the matter. Herewith I enclose a draft for ¥435.83, which has been calculated to be the equivalent of $217.26, which has been calculated to be the equivalent of $436.28, Mexican. If there is any discrepancy to your detriment, please let me know.

Your letter of February 18th was very welcome and interested me greatly. The wheels within wheels and apparent inconsistencies in the Chinese-Japanese relations on the spot are a facinating if a very puzzling study.

Willard D. Straight, Esquire,
American Consul-General,
Mukden, Manchuria, China.

By this time I hope you are getting into your new quarters and that they will be suitable and satisfactory. It was indeed a long struggle.

Now that Arnell has been raised to $1500 as an interpreter, I hope he can make both ends meet. His promotion makes a vacancy in the student interpreter corps and places him in the line of promotion, but he would better give part of his time to study on the general line laid down by Mr. Rockhill. I think his reports are pretty good and I notice the generous manner in which you give him credit for them.

We have no special news. Everything is going on here in the same plodding, hum-drum fashion.

With warm regards, in which my wife joins, believe me, always,

Yours very sincerely,

Huntington Wilson.

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[5-2-07]

Confidential

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

May 2, 1907.

My dear Straight:

I received yesterday your letter of the 27th April, and the contents have interested me very much and not a little disturbed me. I saw the British Minister this morning and told him the contents of your letter and asked him if he had heard anything recently from Fulford and if so whether the information bore out what you told me. He said that he had within the last few days seen both the Russian and Japanese Ministers and Sir Robert Hart in relation to the present status of the negotiations for the establishment of Customs Houses in Manchuria; they had all assured him that only a few unimportant questions were still pending and that the Customs Houses would very shortly be opened. Sir John admitted, however, that he did not feel thoroughly reassured by these statements of our Colleagues and that

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

he feared that the present unsatisfactory conditions in Manchuria might be considerably prolonged.

After seeing Sir John I called upon Mr.Hayashi and asked him if I could tell our Government that a final date had been decided upon for the opening of the Customs at Dalny. He said that he could not give me any exact date; that a few questions remained to be settled there which could not be done until the arrival on the 6th instant of Baron Goto. One of the questions to be settled, mentioned by him, was that concerning the mails; another that of the location of Customs Houses. I said to him that I presumed that it was then only a matter of a few days time at most before these questions were finally disposed of. He replied that he thought so.

The British Minister is quite willing to join with me in asking his Government to make strong representations to both Russia and Japan regarding the

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[5-2-07]

failure to carry out their promises concerning the establishment of Customs and the restoration of normal conditions in Manchuria, but before I can feel justified in cabling our Government for this purpose I must be very sure of the facts. I am of course strongly disposed to think that your statement of the case is the correct one, but it is impossible for me, or the British Minister or any of the other Ministers here, to ignore the very emphatic statements of the Russian and Japanese Ministers.

Keep me posted promptly and fully on these matters, using the telegraph whenever you think it advisable to save time.

I have been admiring very much of late some of your sketches of Koreans. I would deem it a very great favor and appreciate it very much if you could find in your sketch book one that you

[5-2-07].

could spare me. Laughlin has a sketch of an old Korean by you which I think is admirable.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

C. M. Rockhill

Willard D. Straight, Esq.,
American Consul General,
Mukden.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Fol. No. Duplicate

W. D. Straight Esq.
American Consul General
Mukden

Per s.s. "Korea" 21st inst.

Kobe, 27th Jan 1907

Dr. to T. A. CHRISTENSEN & CO.
SHIPPING, LANDING AND FORWARDING AGENTS.
HEAD OFFICE: No. 38 NAKAMACHI, KOBE.

		Y.		Y.
12/1/07	Per s.s. "Keelung Maru"			
	To Landing Clearing & Shipping Chgs W. D. Straight Am Consul General Mukden } 1 ch. Filing Cabinet	3.	00	
	Freight to Mukden	4.	30	
	Marine Insurance for 200.00		90	
	Freight from America $8.85 @ 19 3/8	17	93	
		26.	13	
	Commission 5%	1.	31	
		¥	27.	44

Received Payment, with thanks. MAY 4 1907 T. A. Christensen

Fol No. Triplicate

W. D. Straight Esq.
American Consul General
Mukden

Per s.s. "Korea" 21st inst.

Kobe, 27th Jan 1907

Dr. to T. A. CHRISTENSEN & CO.
SHIPPING, LANDING AND FORWARDING AGENTS.
HEAD OFFICE: No. 15 NANIWAMACHI, KOBE.

		Y.		Y.
12/1/07	Per s.s. Keelung Maru			
	To Landing Clearing & Shipping Chgs W. D. Straight Am Consul General Mukden } 1 ch. Filing Cabinet	3.	00	
	Freight to Mukden	4.	30	
	Marine Insurance for 200.00		90	
	Freight from America $8.85 @ 19 3/8	17	93.	
		26.	13	
	Commission 5%	1.	31	
		¥	27.	44

T. A. C. & Co.

Received Payment, with thanks. MAY 4 1907 T. A. Christensen

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

Memo

In a despatch from Mukden, May 4, 1907, Consul General Straight urges the establishment of a Commercial Information Bureau in the Far East, preferably at Yokohama or Shanghai, said bureau to be under the direction of the Dept of State or the Dept of Commerce and Labor. In this way way American firms already represented in the Far East could be put in touch with business opportunities. Consular officers throughout the East would notify such a bureau of commercial opportunities and Americans should thus be able to secure contracts which might otherwise be lost.

He also urges that American manufacturers place illustrated catalogues on file in the Consulate?

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

H. COLLBRAN H. R. BOSTWICK

COLLBRAN & BOSTWICK

GENERAL AND RAILWAY CONTRACTORS

~~SEOUL, KOREA,~~

Kwanchantze
May 8th 1907.

Dear Mr. Straight

If any mail comes for me care of the American Consulate would you mind forwarding it to me at the Post Office, Kirin— I am just getting ready to start for Kirin & its possible Mr. Collbran may address me care of you—

There is great excitement in Kwanchantze just now in official Chinese circles—it appears that the Chief of Constabulary here has been selling rifles from a Japanese firm for some time past—It seems that more rifles have been coming into the town than seemed quite necessary for the arming of the noble defenders of the city so—suspicion being aroused—the gentleman's books were examined

H. COLLBRAN H. R. BOSTWICK

COLLBRAN & BOSTWICK

GENERAL AND RAILWAY CONTRACTORS

~~SEOUL, KOREA,~~

& strict inquiries made— About 2000 rifles appear on the books officially but—as a matter of fact something like 10,000 rifles have actually passed thro the Chief of Constabulary's hands— The unofficial 8000 rifles have been sold to Hunghutzes —These figures given are on Chinese authority by the way— My Interpreter says that the Chief of C. is going to be executed or banished— The Japanese authorities have refused to do anything to stop their firm doing this fine trade in contraband —

Have you heard from Mr. Collbran yet— Things don't seem much more promising here than they did at Mukden.

My compliments to Mrs Straight

Yours Sincerely

H.S. Bostwick

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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[5-12-07]

Mukden, May 12, 1907

Dear Bragdon -

Now that is temerity indeed. I wonder if you know the feeling that one has when one wonders about tacking on the tail to a name, or letting it drop in a desire not to be thought too formal--yet regretting the amputation as possibly an over-hasty claim of familiarity. However, I should have written you long ago, for I want to congratulate you on being a father. It must be a rather strange and yet a very wonderful thing to look such a problem in the face. For it is the making of one cannot foretell how much that is in one's hands, and the benefit of all manner of experience that should be given, and which one would so wish to impress upon the growing mind, but which will, I suppose, as long as we are human, be disregarded by Youth who prefers to learn from nature and not from a parental text-book. I've often wondered whether a boy ought to be taught to fight, and I rather think he had. Dont you? Dont you believe that beautiful instincts will come with age--control and regulation--while if the natural, primitive manifestations of a desire to excel or to conquer (which in the human male as in the other nobler animals must be exhibited in physical strife, more or less) is suppressed and discouraged, is'nt the result more apt to be a weakling? And is'nt it easier to control strength than to virilize weakness? If I ever have a boy I think that I should make it a point that he should never fight in a wrong cause, or without reason, but that if he did he would have to win! Isthat Christian, or not?

I have just re-read your letter in which you speak of Maxfield Parrish's decoration for the Knickerbocker hotel. I should like to see it. One admires his work tremendously--though as you say, it is too literal, in a way--there's no sweep of action. His people are all mural decoration people, and not really of red flesh and blood. Yet after all is it not possible that as decorations they are more honest and frank admissions that they are decorations--color schemes embodying natural and human forms as the patterns?

2/

I should like very much to see your designs for the leaded windows. Have'nt you a rough sketch thereof that you could send me? You've no idea how barren one becomes in this part of the world--how much a machine--or an ambitious sponge-like being, dipping into Treaties, and Regulations, and questions of procedure, or policy, or trade, with never an instant hardly in which to think even of the better things--they are higher you know for they are enjoyed by those who have won the right to do so after having passed through all this travail which we are watching now--commercial readjustment--I mean of course from a broad point of view.

In Italy the Renaissance came, did'nt it, at a time when there was a great commercial prosperity, when the tradal relations between cities were fairly well regulated, and when war had been reduced largely to a matter of the purchase and re-purchase of mercenaries. Things were more or less adjusted, and people could stop a moment to think or to paint. Am I correct? They could'nt have done these things if they were all clustering around one market,, clutching at one another, squabbling and pulling over taxes and freight rates, preferential treatment, and the confusion of political design with commercial ambition--could they?

In Manchuria, many times, it is fascinating to think of it all in the abstract, but so frequently it becomes such a reality, so near and intimate a part of life, that it is impossible to secure the necessary perspective. In a way, therefore, you who at home have your plays, and above all your music, and your telegraphic connection with all parts of the world, are in many ways more blessed than we who are way at the end--the nerves far away from the center of intelligence and sensation.

The political problem is a fascinating one, and I wonder what you would think of the fellow-countrymen of Hokusai and Hiroshige if you knew them as diplomats, soldiers and merchants, in a land where they were preceded by folk who had little sense of the finer distinctions between meum and teum. I make no comments.

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[5-12-07]

3/

What China is going to be able to do in these troubled parts I do not know, but it will at least be interesting to see, unless some sudden changes take place in the capital, which is not unlikely. We are to have a new Governor here--a person who has graduated from Columbia--who speaks English perfectly, who has passed through the Boxer trouble, and is as a result bitterly anti-foreign,--but not in the old blood-curdling style--intelligently so, I mean, with a stern resolve apparently to wound them in their tenderest spot--their pocket--by refusing any form of mining or railway concession. He is reputed to be the cleverest diplomat in China and has stood the Russians off in good staad for some months in Peking. What will happen after his arrival, I do not, as I say, know, but that something will happen we all feel quite sure.

I am sending you some foolish pictures that may interest you. With kindest regards, and hoping to hear from you,

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight.

MONTHLY BILL FOR MEMBERS.
會員每月勘定書

11th May 1907.

W. Straight Esq.

Dr. to the Tokio Club.

本書之金額東京倶樂部へ御拂渡被下度候也

	YEN 圓	SEN 錢
Account 190 月分		
Subscription Quarter 190 會費第 期		
Unpaid Accounts 未拂勘定 Ent. fee	50	00
Dec. 04. 9c		80
Jan 05. "	6	26
Sub. "	3	00
Total 合計	60	06

TOKIO CLUB.
Received Payment
S. Okta Manager.
11 Mayo 07

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[copy]

Mukden, China,

May 14, 1907.

Dear Mr. Gardner:-

Mr. Bland writes me that you have very kindly consented to let me have a loan of $2000.00 (Mex) with my life insurance policy for Four hundred pounds as a security. I have today telegraphed Wilson and Co. of Tientsin asking them to send it on to you. The policy has just been written and may not have arrived from Shanghai as yet. I trust however that that will make no difference as it can be only a matter of a day or two before it arrives. It is with the Standard Life of London.

I shall hope to clear this loan off by monthly payments within one year and if possible before that and hope that you may be willing to let me have the funds on the understanding that the interest payments cease as soon as the debt is cleared. Thanking you in advance.

Yours truly,

Willard Straight.

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

May 15. 1907.

My dear Straight,

I received the day before yesterday your letter of the 8th & showed it yesterday to Jordan; he told me that on Monday (13th inst.,) Hayashi stated to him that the only point which remained to be settled in connexion with the establishment of Customs at Dalny was one relating to the carriage of Chinese mails by launches plying between Dalny & Chinese ports under the steam inland navigation Regulations which are to be made applicable to Dalny - He added that he expected

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a speedy solution -

As to the Russian contention that goods imported into Manchuria by the railway after payment of 2/3rds of the tariff import duty are freed from all duty as long as they have not left the railway limits - i.e., stations along the railway, I think that this point is well taken, and in this, I understand, Jordan, the D.G. and the German Minister concur. What would be the value of a reduced tariff - conceded on account of the length of the haul to get the goods to market, if it only brought them to inside the Chinese frontier and that to reach the market they had to pay transit dues? All the important centres along the railways in Manchuria Russian as well as Japanese, are now

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treaty ports - The Japanese will doubtless insist that goods shipped over their lines to any point on their railways shall only pay tariff import duty - I can see no objection to this - It is quite in accordance with what our government considers as right to export of China - and to the general benefit - The use of exemption certificates will be most useful and the adoption of this plan is greatly to be desired - Goods going from one treaty port to another storage having once paid the full import duty should not be subject to any additional tax whatever. I have discussed with the Wai-wu Pu on this point and shall continue to whenever an opportunity offers - I have again yesterday asked it to reply promptly to my note to it of February 26th last - a copy of which I sent you accepting the exemption certificate plan. I told them that we are not asking for exceptional or preferential treatment in Manchuria - but we do ask and shall insist on the application pure et simple to Manchuria of the methods in customs matters which at Shanghai, Tientsin, Canton and all other treaty ports in China -

I send this by Leonard who leaves to-morrow morning and tells me he expects to stop with you for a day. I hope to be following the same route next September. Thanks for the promised sketch, I shall value it greatly.

Very sincerely yours

W. W. Rockhill.

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Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED AND REMITTANCES MADE PAYABLE TO THE "HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION" NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

Peking, May 18 1907

Dear Mr Straight

As I am handing over to Mr Bisbee very shortly I like to explain the matter to him myself proper holding it over till he comes.

You do not state the purpose of the loan, & do not state what security you say is: Please inform me.

Yours very truly
J Gardner

Willard D. Straight Esq
H.B.M. Consul General
Mukden

P.S. Private
I think we can fix it up O.K. but am handing over to Bisbee that I may not be in which I hope you understand

WILSON & Co
典 孫 薪
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"WILSON."

Tientsin. 18th May 1907

W. D. Straight Esquire,
H.B.M. Consul General
Mukden.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 14th inst instructing us to forward one policy for £400 to Mr. Gardner of the H.S.B. Bank, Peking.

We yesterday received a letter from Shai. enclosing three proposal forms for which your signature is required; and which we now forward herewith. In order that time may be economised we would suggest that you return these papers duly signed direct to Shai.- On receipt of your policies we will forward two to you direct & one for £400 to Mr. Gardner.

The unavoidable delay in completing this transaction, we much regret, but hope that the matter will shortly be successfully completed.

We are, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
Wilson & Co
F. B. Thacker

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

[copy]

Mukden, May 19, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Many thanks for your letter with the many enclosures which I return herewith. We are comfortably settled now in our new place and should be very happy, for it is a charming temple - the air is splendid and save the fact that expenses are running up all is as it should be.

We came in Tuesday and have really had no time to settle down for we have been full of guests ever since that time. Two British officers who are with a crowd from the Indian Staff College, 20 of whom come in tomorrow night for a smoking concert given by the "Goat" (non-missionary) residents of Mukden - Leonard and Rubido - Zichy from Peking and lastly Cheshire who arrived this morning and who has been inspecting all day. He will likely be here for another day or so and I am thankful to say, seems fairly well satisfied with what he has found. He is an awfully nice man and it is a great pleasure to have him here.

There is a lot of excitement afoot here about the proposed Viceregal changes but nothing is known yet. What is to happen. Whether Tang is really coming or not , I hope so for it would be a most interesting thing to have to deal with so clever and astute a politician - an education really in itself and that is what I am looking for.

[5-19-07]

Cheshire encourages me by saying that he thinks the Consular service is undoubtedly to be a permanent one and you may rest assured that now that I am really able to live I want no change unless it be Washington - as Peking has too much responsibility and draws too little pay - so it must be forgotten entirely.

With best wishes always,

Yours,

Willard Straight

Read the National Review for April - for the real truth about the W.L.P. Fine: I hope the good work keeps on. D---m 'em.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED AND REMITTANCES MADE PAYABLE TO THE "HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION," NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

Peking, May. 28. 1907.

Willard Straight Esq.
U.S. Consul General
Mukden

Dear Sir

In continuation of our letter of 18 May we beg to hand you herewith promissory note for $2000 Mex, which kindly sign return. The money will be placed to credit of your current account here.
The Standard Life Policy is not yet to hand, but on receipt we will communicate with you. We understand that the amount will be paid off gradually within one year from date.

Yours faithfully

W. Fenwick
Ag. Agent

and German ad probably the Russians to accept the arrangement when completed. What will the Japs do?

We were glad to learn by a letter from Denby that you were so comfortably settled.

Sincerely yours
W.W. Rockhill

Many thanks for the stuffed, it is excellent!

24th May '07

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

My dear Straight,

I was much pleased to learn by your telegram of Monday that you had made such progress in customs matters. I await with impatience a copy of your proposal and of the acceptance by the Chinese. I think we can get the British

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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[copy]

Mukden, China.

May 24, 1907.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

By today's post I forwarded the Department a dispatch regarding the definition of consular jurisdiction in Manchuria. I trust that you will not object to my supplementing this formidable document by a personal explanation, for as you may, perhaps, imagine, I felt some reluctance in saying anything further about the matter, for although I had already written in this connection after consultation with Pontius at Newchwang, it is scarcely "up to me" to advocate any change which in the natural course of things might well bring more power to this office at the expense of the others.

I really believe that the post at Mukden is an extremely important one. You will easily understand, moreover, that I should very deeply regret my transfer from this focal point to another less interesting. I am fully aware, however, that the position might mean more for American interests, if it were filled by an older and more experienced man. This would be particularly true if the Department should see fit to do what

[5-24-07]

I venture to think would be the wisest thing and that is to place the various Manchurian consulates under one consulate-general located at the principal seat of vice-regal authority, for I am quite convinced that this territory should be treated as a unit.

The Germans and the British have already taken steps in this direction and the Japanese policy is apparently the same though not as yet so clearly defined. With them, however, as you well know, their official relations are so intimate that there is not the same necessity for specific instructions to insure coordination and cooperation on the part of the consular and diplomatic officers. I have therefore written as I have, feeling that anything that might be done to insure a consolidation of our interests in this region would be for the best interests of the Service and of American trade. Personally I am anxious to remain where I am, officially I feel it my duty to point out the responsibilities of this post.

Arnell is off tomorrow for Japan. This place is all very well for a few months but with plenty of work to do there is a chance of going stale pretty rapid-

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[5-24-07]

ly, and a change of air is needed every so often. He's been at the grindstone now since early February and the trip ought to do him a lot of good. While he's away I shall be up to my ears in work as we've just had Cheshire here and the regular routine has been badly interrupted, while the transfer from our old quarters into the Temple required time and naturally caused considerable confusion in our happy family. In decent surroundings life has a new charm, one that I had almost come to believe did not exist any longer anywhere..

Dalny is still hanging fire. Tang is expected within ten days and then the fun will doubtless commence.

Please salute Mrs. Wilson for me. With best wishes for a prosperous year and a joyous summer, believe me.

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight.

I hear that you are shortly to leave Washington for a foreign mission?

I trust that the typewriting has improved since the last effort.

[copy]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL,

MUKDEN, CHINA.

May 27, 1907.

Dear Mr. Gardner:-

Enclosed I send you my promissory note duly signed. I trust that you will find the same in good order. The policy from Shanghai will be forwarded you by Wilson and Co. of Tientsin in due course.

As you state in the text of the note I am I think able to guarantee that this sum will be paid you with interest within the year.

I should like if possible, to know what arrangements will be made for interest payments as the principal is gradually paid off. For instance if within the next three months I should clear off six hundred dollars of the loan, would the interest for the following quarter be calculated on one thousand four hundred dollars?

I enclose a cheque for one thousand dollars which I trust you will send on by a Yokohama Specie Bank draft.

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[5-27-07]

Thanking you for your kindness in this matter believe me,

Yours truly,

Willard D. Straight.

W. G. Gardner, Esquire,

Agent Hongkong and Shanghai Bank,

Peking.

All Letters to be Addressed and Remittances made payable to the "Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation," not to individuals.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Peking. 31st May 1907

Willard .D.Straight Esqre

American Consulate General

Mukden

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 24th and 27th the former enclosing Messrs Wilson & Coy's letter which I return herewith and the latter enclosing you note for $2000.

In reply to your enquiry the interest is worked on the existing balance,i.e.if you pay off say $200 a month you are only charged interest on the actual balance from day to day.

Enclosed please find draft on Mukden for the equivalent of your cheque for Peking $1000. The Yokohama Bank have given us s draft on Fengtien for Silver Yen 1030.93 as per memo enclosed

Yours faithfully

H. Gardner

Acting Agent

Dear Straight

for safety I have altered the cheque to 'order'

yours H.G.

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[copy]

Sunday, June 2nd, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Your letter reproving me for [irritation] imitation with the oracle was timely. Fortunately the advice and counsel contained therein is no longer absolutely necessary as we seem to have passed the difficult stages. Why this climate or whatever it is should be so conducive to ill temper I do not know but it really is. One pouts and bubbles and curses and swears in a frightful manner - that would put our famous uncle Toby to shame even in his palmiest days in Flanders.

With Peking however all seems to be going very well now though it didn't at first and if I do say it, I believe even now in the light of recent developments that I had some ~~xxxx~~ cause for feeling aggrieved in the beginning.

We have finally cleared up the likin question by making what is ostensibly a temporary arrangement. The Chinese agree not to attempt to collect these inland taxes - pending the definition of the status of the open marts, i.e. whether the free areas are limited to the settlements or not. They stipulate that a record shall be kept of the amounts of duties to which they consider these goods liable and we say that these duties will be paid in case the American Government ultimately recognizes the right of China to levy outside the settlements Our despatch however is prefaced by the statement that we continue to maintain our original contention that these cities have been opened in their entirety. This of course practically nullifies the value of our agreement that back duties may be collected for we render impossible the contingency on which such collection must depend. Thus it goes. As to the settlement I am rather of the opinion that nothing will ever be done. The fact that the Japanese will insist upon the right of unrestricted residence which to them is very vital while to us only an academical issue and the apparent desire of the Chinese to propose and to insist upon our acceptance of regulations which would be quite objectionable not to say impossible, will together result in an indefinite postponement of any agreement.

[6-2-07]

Bland passed through here a week ago and the last week has been a gay one in other respects. The Consular Body gave a dinner to the Viceroy here. During Hagiwara's absence I am Senior Consul and we had the first white performance given since the 10th of March 1905. Not a single J. officer! The new people when they came didn't call on the Consuls so we told Yoshida the Japanese in charge that if they would do so we would gladly receive them and invite them to this dinner. Not one called. Whether Yoshida told them or not I don't know. Perhaps he didn't.

I enclose a copy of the toast - the first really official one I've made as a budding official. We had a huge gramophone running all during dinner and afterwards a Russian horoscope performance. It was quite a success all together but an awful nuisance for the house was all torn up and it finished me really for about three days.

Last night the Viceroy came again. This time quite privately, with the No. 2 Banner General. The Germans and Oliver were here and the Viceroy told us a good deal about the Fushim mines, about Fuhsihu and the mines there, the handing over of the Hsinmintun Railroad, etc. The latter has really been a farce - 3 engines - 1 second class car, 3 third class, 20 closed and 30 open trucks together with 37 miles of pretty bad track for £166,000. Its a shame really. However, this is tiring and the pen's bad.

These days I often think of you on the Malecon, lunching at the Los Hermanos and running back and forth in the automobile. Where will you go next for surely they can't keep you in Habana much longer. Mr. Rockhill goes on leave in August or September, I believe. How about Peking?

Always yours,

Willard Straight.

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Mukden June 1st. 1907.

Mr. W. D. Straight Esq.

Dr. to The Manchurian Trading Co. Ltd.

1 Iron bedstead	$ 16.50
1 Case of Hiram water	8.00
	Total 24.50

17/5/07 Received Cash $24.50

for The Manchurian Trading Co. Ltd.

Cr. W. D. Straight Esq.

[end. 6-3-08]

Received of Willard D. Straight $85.00.

Hazel Straight

March 7, 1908

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.
CHINA, HONGKONG, SINGAPORE,
LONDON & GLASGOW.

Per s/s "Singan" P1 June 13

Shanghai, 27th March, *1907.*

W. D. Straight, Esq.,

MUKDEN.

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the instructions contained in your favour of the 15th instant *we have shipped you per* bearer to the kind care of the American Consul, Newchwang,

4 cases Wine

which we trust will reach you in good order, and meet with your approval.

We beg to enclose ~~*calling for*~~ ~~*packages, and*~~ *Invoice amounting to* $119.25

Awaiting your further orders, which shall receive our prompt care and attention.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Caldbeck Macgregor & Co

P. T. O.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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P. S.

We are sorry we cannot give you special rates on your order, as our prices for Wines &c. have been reduced. We are sending you a copy of our New Price list under a separate cover.

Com. C.

[6-4-07]

Booksellers, Printers, Publishers, Printsellers, Stationers, Bookbinders, Account Book Manufacturers, Die Stampers, India Rubber Stamp Manufacturers, News Agents, Tobacconists and Commission Agents.

No. 4394 Shanghai, May 20th 1907

W. D. Straight Esq
U.S. Consulate Mouken

Head Office: SHANGHAI, CHINA.

Subscriptions to Newspapers and Periodicals are positively payable in Advance.

To **Kelly & Walsh, Limited.**

Branches:—HONGKONG, SINGAPORE, YOKOHAMA.

1907					
Mar	11	To Hints Kleys Jurisdiction	$ 8	50	
		" Postage		20	
Apr.	19	" 1 Denny's China & Corea		50	
		" 1 Gold Paint		80	
		" 1 Color Brush		70	
		" Postage		20	
Feby	19	" 1 Chron & Directory & "	6	30	
		" N. Fairchild's a/c transferred	1	90	
		" a/c as rendered on 1/2/07	92	95	$111 85
		By Goods transferred to Consulate a/c			55 80
					$56 05

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

000675

June 3, 1907

Dear Willard,

Your letter with check and draft has just come. I wrote you last week about Aunt Laura's financial affairs, which she explained to me at Christmas time but in case something might have happened to the letter I'll do it again at the risk of repetition. She has five thousand dollars invested the usual amounts under different lawyers Lands-

who are reliable. There would have been a much larger principle had not the investments - some of them turned out poorly some time ago. But you see the investments are made for a number of years - and in any case there'd be no use in calling them in for there's no way of making them up.

Mr. Putnam appears to be doing the best he can to send us back the principal, and then I've started him up to promising to send it within a few months. I've thought of writing Mr. Schaelkopf, but it might anger Mr Putnam & the extent

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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getting nothing out of him.
I'm perfectly sure that $50. will be plenty for us here for I can support myself all right - there's just the difficulty of home expenses, and that amount would help out enough I'm sure, especially in view of your own difficulties.

You say nothing of Mary Cately. She wrote me & what he father had written you and does that mean that you will have to wait until you can spend more time in this country. It is a constant joy to think of someday having such a wonderful sister.

Do you remember Margaret L. Smith who used to be at the Normal School? She's at the New Paltz Normal School just across the river so I'm going over to see her some day.

I'm learning to play tennis like anything - I mean learning. Etc anything and thanks to you love here able to purchase a racket. Some ball have been most thankfully played with. With a great deal of love

[COPY]

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

MUKDEN, CHINA.

June 7, 1907.

H. G. Gardner, Esquire,

Agent Hongkong and Shanghai Bank,

Peking.

Dear Mr. Gardner:

I have received your favor of the 31st ultimo enclosing Messrs. Wislen and Coye letter to me and a draft for Silver Yen 1,030.93 the equivalent of $Mex. 1,000.00 and am greatly obliged therefor.

Enclosed I send you a cheque for $ 900.00 which I trust you will also convert for me into Silver Yen and remit as before.

I am gratified to learn that interest on this loan is to be worked on the existing balance.

Yours faithfully,

Willard Straight.

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June 8. 1907

AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING, CHINA.

My dear Straight,

I got to-day your letter of the 4th & liked not forgotten your recommendation but reading & recalling to Peking, I was waiting to see how things were going on before doing anything. I enclose copy of the telegram sent to-day to the Secretary of State. I hope action will promptly be taken on it.

With your wonted zeal you will send me a despatch summarizing what has been done down to the present date in regard to our trade in Yangtsze, the conditions under which it can be carried on - & bringing the results of your activity. I want to send it to the D of S. with my report. Don't make it too long or intricate - don't for men who know little of nothing about the question such as are now in the D of S.

Sincerely yours

W. W. Rockhill

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Encl. in letter to WDS
from Rockhill,
6-8-07, K. J.

TELEGRAM SENT.

Peking, June 8, 1907.

Secstate,

Washington,

Presence of Consular officer at Antung very desirable, questions affecting Japanese and Customs need our attention. Could not Arnell go there some capacity until the settlement of questions of importance to us. Straight is of the same opinion.

Rockhill.

I would very much like to know if the Japs are actually paying 2/3rds unjust tariff as good faith by way of obtaining and if so under what provision of what treaty — WR

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Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

ALL LETTERS TO BE ADDRESSED AND REMITTANCES MADE PAYABLE TO THE "HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION," NOT TO INDIVIDUALS.

~~Tientsin~~ June 10. 1907.
Peking.

Willard D Straight Esq
American Consul General
Mukden

Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of 7th inst we beg to hand you herewith demand draft for Yen 927.84 Equivalent of $900, as per Yokohama Bank memo attached.

Yours faithfully
Hongkong Bank
Agents

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE:
SHANGHAI,—11, The Bund.
PRINTING OFFICE,—12, Nanking Road.

BRANCHES:
HONGKONG YOKOHAMA
SINGAPORE

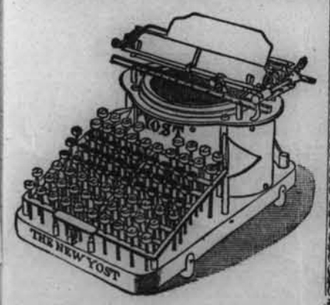
Printers, Publishers, Lithographers, Booksellers, Printsellers, Stationers, Book-binders, Account Book Manufacturers, Die Engravers, Colour Stampers, India Rubber Stamp Manufacturers, Artists' Colourmen, News Agents, Tobacconists and Commission Agents.

OUTPORT DEPARTMENT.

All Orders and Correspondence received from Outports will meet with prompt and careful attention, and Goods will be despatched (if possible) by return of post.

ESTIMATES & PRICE LISTS SUPPLIED GRATIS.

AGENTS FOR
THE YŌST TYPEWRITER CO.



Shanghai, 12 June 1907

W. D. Straight Esq
US Consulate
Mukden

Dear Sir ,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your favor dated the 11th inst and the remittance referred to amounting to $56.05 + 66.20 shall be credited in due course ~~to~~ the first named to your account.

and $66.20 to that of the US Consulate with thanks.

Special Bill attached & Voucher

We remain, Dear Sir ,
for Stock department.
Yours faithfully,
For KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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HONG NAME:

協合烟卷公司

60, Taku Road.

Tientsin, 12 June 1907

Dr. to TIENTSIN TOBACCO Co.

GENERAL TOBACCONISTS,

Manufacturers of High-Class Egyptian Cigarettes.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MONTHLY TERMS NET CASH.

M. W. D. Straight Esq, Mukden,

Fol.

			$	cts.
June 11	500	Imperial Cigarettes	10	00
	200	Wilson "	4	00
	100	Eastell "	2	00
	200	Grande Duchesse "	5	00
	25	Imperiales Cigars	2	50
	25	Perfectos "	2	50
	25	Rubes "	1	70
			27	70
		(Postage Free)		

路三百六十五四號

花林洽洋行大馬

Shanghai, 13th June 1907

W. D. Straight Esq.

Bought of FRAMJEE SORABJEE & CO.

GENERAL STORE-KEEPERS,

364-5, P. Nanking Road.

Mukden.

		$	Cts.
To	memo of one case liquors per.		
"	S.S. Haichow.		
"	7.20 2.70		
"	1 doz tins Coffee. 3 Bots. Olives.	9	90
"	1 " pkts Chocolate	3	60
"		13	50
"	less 10% Discount	1	35
"		$ 12	15
"	Freight	1	40
"	Total $	13	55

—E. & O. E.—

364P, Nanking Road.

Shanghai, 13th June 1907

To

W. D. Straight Esq.

Mukden

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your most esteemed favor of 14th inst., and to advise you shipment of one package per S. S. Haichow, which, we trust, will arrive in order and give you every satisfaction Enclosed please find ~~B/L and~~ memo for same.

Thanking you very much for your kind continued support, and awaiting the favor of your further commands,

We beg to remain
Dear Sir
Yours most obediently,

FRAMJEE SORABJEE & Co.

DAS

P.S:- We also beg to acknowledge receipt of your cheque for $ 230.74 in payment of your a/c with thanks.
DAS

No.

Telephone No. 16.
4, Foochow Road.

Telephone No. 16.
4, Foochow Road.

Received from M W. D. Straight Esq Mukden
the sum of Dollars One hundred nineteen & 25/100 -
and Taels
being amount of account rendered (as per Invoice 27/3/07) paid. 13/6/1907.
$ 119.25
Tls.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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[copy]

Mukden, China.

June 18, 1907.

Dear Mr. Secretary:-

Many thanks for your letter of the 1st of May which reached me the other day. The enclosure was welcome but as you will see from the enclosed exchange slip the vagaries of silver have left me a little in the hole. You see we have a strange brand of money here known as the silver yen which is a little more valuable than its gold dollar and a little less so than the venerable dollar Mex. A dollar Mex at a 4½ premium which is the average rate here would be but 455.91. This leaves a balance of about $ 36.00 to my credit. If you'll just send whatever it comes to in gold to Taylor and Carpenter of Ithaca, N.Y. they will send me books therefor. Of if you knew something what I ought to read we'll call it quits. I do not like to trouble you with these rag and, but you would, I am sure, rather have me do so.

I am at present much concerned regarding one George Marvin whom Mr. Carr wires has been sent to Mukden as Deputy Consul and Clerk, for not only will it be rather difficult to break in a new man here, but the

[6-18-07]

conditions are such that should he not prove as agreeable a companion as well as an efficient assistant it would be very hard for both of us. There are so few people here that one is quite dependent upon those about one and to have one uncongenial of habits of the consulate would be really awful. Doubtless, however, you who know the situation have taken all this into consideration and have sent a fellow who will be all that one could ask. I must say that I am rather sorry at not having Chandler whom I know and like and who could do his Japanese in translating local journals. As always, however, I am your obedient.

Arnold should do well at Antung for he is even tempered enough not to let any fooling or of personal aggravation warp his judgment a danger which cannot be too strictly guarded against in this land of hasty and unreasoning prejudices. I shall mourn his departure as he is a clever and exceptionally able fellow. I hope that the responsibility of his new post will instill a little more ambition in his soul as the only fault that I have ever found has been that he is apt to be heedless of the little things about the office which worry

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and vex no doubt but which never the less must be done as part of the day's work.

Antung is a very sore and very interesting spot at the present time and there are more vital issues in the making there than in almost any other spot in Manchuria for the Japanese seem to be endeavoring to gain control of the Yalu Valley. Of course all these questions are the subject of negotiations here at Mukden, but as you know it is much easier to discover what is going on on the spot than at the seat of argument thereanent.

The New Administration is al last installed and it will be extremely interesting to watch the progress of events during the next months. Tang is one of the Cleverest men in China but whether he is strong enough to resist and unselfish and patriotic to risk the consequences of resisting Japanese aggression one cannot tell. If there were a Central Government that could be depended upon to support the stands taken by provincial officials it would be another story, while if the provincial officials would only realize the difference between the essentials and non-essentials, and grasp the desirability of living up to their treaty obligations and the dangers of trying to evade the consequences of their own admissions, [extorted] perhaps but nevertheless on record, China would be able to hold her own. The case is similar, though more

fraught with momentous consequences, to many instances that we saw in Korea, where the natives with every right on their side would lie and intrigue to such an extent that the Japanese could simply turn to their critics and say, "You see these people cannot be believed. We are right after all." And on the other side, you could do nothing but keep your peace.

Hayashi has been here and lunched with me yesterday. He talked quite freely and apparently with the purpose of inducing me to report his words. This I shall do. The substance of it all was that he regretted many of the excesses committed by the Military, that he was willing to grant all China's just claims, and adopt a conciliatory attitude with regard to minor differences where the rights of the cases were perhaps open to question, but that he would insist absolutely that China

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should live up to her treaty engagements. This latter statement was made with particular reference to what has been happening on the Yalu where the Japanese are taking strong measures to force the Chinese to concur in a very liberal interpretation of the Agreement of 1905. The same afternoon I saw Tang, Hsu, and Chao Erh Sun the retiring Tartar General. Hayashi had assured me that he favored the withdrawal of the Railway Guards, which I had suggested would be a step calculated to quiet much of the criticism that he had deplored. I later told Tang what Hayashi had said. He seemed much amused and not at all inclined to consider it as really representing Japanese views. In talking with Chao we discussed Hayashi, and knowing the Tartar General's opinion of Hagiwara I remarked that the Minister seemed a nice, quiet, even tempered man. Had Chao been an American or even a foreign educated Chinese he would have been profane for he was still much excited about an interview he had had with Hayashi that morning in which they had argued the Timber question. The Tartar General said that three hundred Japanese soldiers had been sent up stream and that the Japanese were determined to

stop everything until the Chinese acceded to their demands.

It was, as you may imagine, a rather interesting day. In the evening Tang and Hsu gave a farewell dinner to Chao, and although it had been said that the foreign consuls would be invited, only Hayashi, Hagiwara, and the men from Newchwang and Harbin who have quietly appeared to take part in the conference here, were present. This may or may not be significant.

It is now stated that Tang will be made "Kai Fu Ta Chen" of Manchuria, or "Commissioner charged with the Opening of the Treaty Marts" and that all negotiations regarding customs regulations and settlement arrangements will be carried on with him. In Manchuria at present everything is being centralized. The customs, Posts, Telegraphs, Military affairs and all commercial matters of importance will be directed or dealt with, here.

As I have already written it seems that it might be wise to meet these conditions by placing one Consul General in charge of the Manchurian consulates, and to instruct the Dalny and Vladivostock offices to

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correspond with this central authority. Then it would be possible to secure a broad view of the situation and by bringing a local knowledge to bear on all questions that might arise to grasp the full significance of current events and to report with a full appreciation of the conditions at the ports of entry and exportation, on the commercial development of this region. The consul at Mukden might be in regular communication with the Embassies at Petersburg and Tokyo as well as with the Department and the Legation at Peking, while from these posts copies of dispatches on relevant matters might be forwarded to Mukden. In this respect the German system is an excellent one, for my colleague here constantly receives communications from Berlin transmitting Tokyo's dispatches and in addition has a very intimate knowledge of all that happens at Peking. Acting on your suggestion I have sent copies of all dispatches on political matters or an questions affecting the Japanese to Mr. Wright but we have never had any idea of the Government's attitude with regard to affairs in Tokyo save that which we have been able to formulate on the basis of newspaper information.

I fear that the plan outlined would be too dif-

[6-18-07]

ficult in execution and possibly too cumbersome, for doubtless our interests in Manchuria would not warrant such an elaborate organization. I trust that you will pardon me, however, for writing at such length for I have thought much about these things and wish that something might be done.

In this regard I should greatly appreciate a word from you as to whether we are sending too much or too little from here and whether it is information which the Department cares for. You know how difficult it is to gauge these things. It is in order that I may learn about such matters that I hope that one day I may be able to serve for a time in Washington.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Wilson and yourself and best wishes for a pleasant summer, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight

I send a copy of a letter to Mr. Rockhill that may interest you.

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Memo

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CHIEF SPECIAL AGENT

In a despatch dated June 19, 1907, Consul General Straight, Mukden, says, in conclusion:

"This consulate ventures to hope that it may be the wish of the Department, while insisting upon a full recognition by the Chinese authorities of our treaty rights and resisting any curtailment thereof, to welcome and to encourage the consolidation of Chinese authority as constituting the strongest guarantee of the equality of opportunity in Manchuria."

[copy]

Mukden, China.

June 21, 1907.

H.G. Gardner, Esquire,

Agent Hongkong and Shanghai Bank,

Peking.

Dear Sir:-

I have to acknowledge with thanks your favor of the 10th instant enclosing a demand draft for Silver Yen 927.84 equivalent to $900.00 Mex.

Yours faithfully,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

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AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE.

Mukden, June 23rd, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Your letter telling me of Dearing's transfer reached me a day or two ago. I had noticed already in the Washington Post that another man from Missouri who will doubtless have to be "shown" had been appointed as Second in Havana - and that Wilson had been ordered to the Argentine. I rather wondered who was to go to you as First for the presence of two new men will be I fear rather a trial for you - particularly as you must run your chances on getting someone who knows Spanish - not always the easiest thing in the world I imagine. Here's luck.

At Mukden there have been great changes. Hsu and Tang arrived with a flourish of trumpets and the old man Chao, the much Japan mailed gentleman - went away - glad to be rid of the difficulties of his post, -I expect and looking forward to the French in Szechuan with a sigh of relief. He was given a fine send off - and it must have given him a good deal of satisfaction to ride to the station in a brougham over an excellent macadamized road through lines of well set up and well clothed troops - preceded by an excellent squadron of cavalry - and last but not least of all - to pass a line of girls - if you please, - trousered - one cannot say gowned - in light blue, who after the fashion of Japanese maids-from-school appeared in charge of a semi-civilized young lady in black ~~xp~~ alpaca skirt and foreign shoes to bid farewell to the inaugurator of feminine education in Manchuria.

Hayashi, Hagiwara, Kawakami of Harbin and the Newchwang man have been here with their heads together - doubtless racking their brains for the benefit of a backward and untutored China. The formation of the Yalu Lumber Co. was the principal object of Hayashi's visit though I imagine that he wished to come up here on the heels of the new administration much as the prospective owner of

[page 2 missing]

[6-23-07]

Manchuria and a number of minor duty questions. You will be able to imagine how much we've done when I tell you that our register shows 125 despatches to Peking, 128 to the Department, with miscellaneous and Consular running over 120, and the Foreign Office up above the 50 mark. Much paper and many words.

I shall look forward to smoking to you -

Yours

Willard Straight.

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[copy]

Mukden, China.

June 26, 1907.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Pray do not think that I am devoting all my time to taking yours, which is so much more valuable, and please pardon me for troubling you again about Mukden which I am sure you must wish had never been opened to trade. I should like however to introduce to you a friend and classmate of mine L.L. Robertson of Syracuse who for some strange reason has a touch of Oriental fever and wishes to join the Consular Service in China. He has been a practicing lawyer since he left Cornell and has a good deal of business experience and has been successful in his work, and I am much astonished at his desire to leave a promising career for the uncertain blessings of life in the Far East. He made a trip to the Philippines and China some years ago however and the glamour and mystery of it all seems to have entered into his soul. Such men are rather hard to find and are certainly the ones who will be the most likely to remain in the Service and to be content

[6-26-07]

with life out here for the sake of the "game" without which it means but very little.

Before leaving America I promised Robertson that I would let him know if a vacancy ever occurred here at Mukden and some time ago I told him of the clerkship here. He writes that he will be willing to come for $2,500.00 a year. Of course Marvin will be well under way before this note reaches you. There may however be calls for me elsewhere in China and some arrangement may occur to you by which Robertson can be taken on. Whether anything comes of it or not I shall be glad to have him know you and am sure that you will like him tremendously. He's one of my best friends, was Captain of the Cornell Base Ball team, and is a crack tennis player. Of his more solid abilities there can be no question as he has already done most excellent legal work in Syracuse and in northern New York generally. Robertson is rather keen on starting all his wires working at once. Secretaries Root and Taft are the usual leaders in the "district." I've told him however to talk it all over with yourself and with Philips and then see what he really wants to do.

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I hope that you'll be able to help him with the advice you think best suited to his own future welfare and happiness and shall greatly appreciate anything that you do for him. I don't want him to be rash, but I think that you'll agree that he is the sort of a man we should all like to see in the foreign service and particularly in China.

With warmest regards to Mrs. Wilson and yourself.

Yours sincerely,

Willard Straight.

MUKDEN, CHINA.
June 27 , 1907 .

T . A . Christensen and Co.

Kobe , Japan .

Dear Sirs :-

Severaldays ago I forwarded you via Dalny two wooden cases , containing books belonging to and the effects of the late Mr. Nelson Fairchild , Vice Consul General at Mukden . I should like to have th ese forwarded to his mother Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild , 94 Washington Street , Newport ,R.I. , U.S.A.

Please forward me the bill for shipping etc.

Yours truly ,

American Consul General.

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