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

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
for I feel sure the thi
ed, I am sure this will be an
addition to the book. All I can
can say in that I do not
be of any service to
you. You have been
to mention it. I am
while will you please
accept this Japanese
letter of my book
as a foregummer
of the London one?
I hope to send you
later. My address
in

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
I shall have seen the first sketch this morning, and be ready to send it to the printer. The date I will add to the letter which I have already written to you in the middle of April. I am afraid it will be too late so it is more than probable a book may be brought out that month. I will write to you about this.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 16th</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>£3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Pastry</td>
<td>£1.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 28th</td>
<td>One dinner, Sandwiches, Pâté</td>
<td>£0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Paid out for Petrika</td>
<td>£0.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 2nd</td>
<td>Two Coffees</td>
<td>£3.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>One piston, Chateau Macave</td>
<td>£0.75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
Dear Henry, [Schoeller, R.T.]

Never a great stranger to me not to hear from you these many years through Chicago, in the near
place for your mailing here was one of the last months I was taking
charge of a large bank here in Chicago.

The way to me it was not
Henry is in your town there and
see a new country, it is very
attractive for them in like it and

July 22, 1906.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
any kindness return with us even to them; I judge from
you here that you'd not be there now. Write me soon
how things have gone with you since the last letter:
how the weather and how the news are. I have
heard of the Willard Straight Paper and I wish
you'd write to me about it. It was certainly good to
have a long talk again and decide the fate of life and
the like, and all that.
Bobbie Dunn was lucky in respect.
He starts not tomorrow the day I left New York. Simply
very, I'm sure! He's probably got three more seasons in
Peter Brindley. I hope it was Lucy for him. Still Peter
and Bob have both the same. I went to the
Cornell club about three times — once at 4 a.m.,
no so late again at 6 p.m. on Sabbath. I gave
why "We're More and Cleverly Dancing". My next
afternoon was at 7 A.M. the day I left. That's the
most fortunate name. Lucy was lucky with the Dorsett:
a column at the St. George — with Mrs. J. until
3:30. Trip up 5th Avenue in an Ice Coach — and
"Pat" Brise until 6:30. Then to see Mr. Galey through,
and the Bobbi Dunn from a drawn carriage to
breakfast. Off in Cuba at 12 M.

You certainly seem to be doing things up
with your wife, show. You've seen that you are
the leading lawyer in Massachusetts. That's the way.
you mustn't imagine that I'm taking up a lot of the
business means my real — and I know it is. I am
at present under whether I began fallen into a
not as regular as I think
imagined hit my way says
away. Have been my
get behind the Chicago
is our. I think
began the 5th. I
see that life is so very very
that I should advise you to
take care under time the
please thank your mother.

For many Smith and friends
in order to meet her [sic]
a letter to him about if
just address, your mother
March 5th, 1905

Dear Henry:

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

The following statement I believe is correct.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Balance due October 1905</td>
<td>$499.54</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest at 4% 6 months</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Less enclosure</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Balance due</strong></td>
<td><strong>$318.92</strong></td>
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</table>

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

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Handwritten note to Willard Straight:]

Embattled. With much respect, I Shant a sho!...t get a... for my a second copy, you check Shant. - and adj to the center.
March 31st, 1906

Dear Paddock:

It has 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 Mr. and Mrs. Longworth came to Havana for their honeymoon. Rather suitable, eminently so, I should say after the Seattle events of last autumn. My stay in the United States was therefore brief and peremptory. Arrived in San Francisco on the twenty-sixth of January and started for Havana on the 14th of February. In the meantime had been wildly doing thousands of things. Dined with the Harrimans several times, at the White House on the Princesses' birthday, event to Boston and stopped for a day with the Dizes' and saw a good deal of B. Wendell and Peter Dewitch in a very short space of time. Then made Washington again and had a few hours in Oswego N.Y. Incidentally I stopped with the Davis' at Mount Kisco which didn't help much as far as time saving went. Had led off here to prepare the House for the Royal visit. Party I was certainly up against it. There was no one in the Legation who took the slightest interest in the matter except one fellow who was half dead with cataract of the stomach or something. I couldn't speak the language and stood by and watched the ropes twist, like mad things, knowing none of them.

There were no, or rather no house in the first place. These people have had 'em rented one. That was my first joy. I thought on arrival. All HA here are people with leather shoes and trousers. Executive ability and money are sufficient for all daily evils. Order and it will be done and things like that. Had they worn pig tails or yakutas, or bamboo hats, one would have expected nothing. But me, surely we were out of the trail of the boa drag and back with the Whites. Not so. I began to appreciate the meaning of that awful word tomorrow. "Havana" was all I could get. I telephoned the House Agent that I wanted to see him particularly quick on particularly important business. At first said he, at five came a message not until Monday? This being Saturday afternoon and the cruisers arriving on Thursday morning. At once I insisted. All right he replied. Ten minutes later. Tuesday he pleased. A picnic for Sunday and a great deal of left over business on Monday. Really quite impossible to ask it over with so many things on his mind.Then I became wrath and told him he went to the devil with his house. If he wanted to rent it to talk if not to shut it up and forever. He was grieved at my harshness to me. 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 ideals to find that bum was and aloe 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 ever hard.

Then the Princess came and there were balls and many grand parties. N. E. turned up with them. They had travelled only a very small part of the way alone; it seemed to bore 'em
to be by themselves for any length of time. They stopped at
Marianas, eight miles out of town where H. R. has taken up
his abode and we played tennis and had close harmony in the
intervals between Gala Performances at the opera and Presidentia-
nal Balls. They killed off two on their first night her e.
One at the American Club and one at the Palace. The latter was
quite a wonderful affair and allowed one to see all the dusky
belles at once. One great thing about this palace is that they
have no colour line. Every body evidently has a whisk of the
tar brush, in their makeup, and the y thing nothing of it.

Lucky thing is it not?

Then H.R. and I accompanied them on their journey to
Santiago. Special train furnished by the Government which I see
by the Treasury statement cost $1,754.90. We did it in three
days exactly. Had an engine, a baggage car, a chair car and a
carpet. So most of the day with our feet in the windows, in
Longsworth 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. Having 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 distinction
these days in view of the present attitude of the Senate.
There were great numbers of them and they were all generals and
all had bands, and were accompanied by special photographers,
to perpetuate them as seen with Mrs. Longworth & generally
they went at all for it was either early in the morning,
before she arose, or at noon when she was eating, or a little
later when the siesta season was on. It was a sleepy trip.
Sometimes they came in the middle of the night and that was the
worst of all. Then the porter came to wake me, if the band
had not already done so and I had to hold off dozing old
reprobates with soft words, for the sake of the Minister and th
Dear Henie,

Meant to answer your letter some time ago, but there have been so many people here that I had to play with and so few moments when I could see the pavilions, who have been here so for more than a fortnight, 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 won't I shall go to Ithaca for my Class reunion in June. That seems a long way off however and lots of things might happen ever that. I have no thought of venue to impart, no views on the situation at present, no revolutions, no Presidents, am weary, but still inside the ring? Had a letter from the old I.G. the other day, told me that I could rejoin the Customs at the same place 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 assurances of my distinguished consideration,

Yours ever,
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
under more remunerative
and better than the U.S. post.

My regiment will be here
when you met this place
it will probably be larger,
but are any body. Without
it has been worth all?

Should you for your letter
in your kindness say
to think. Where really some
meantimes as it hence
and way the world smile
as you and love you as it
should - all 1 of it you
know.

[Signature]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
April 22, 1906.

HENRY SCHOELKOPF.
MILWAUKEE.

Dear Sir:

Your letter, which I have just received, contains no new lines up, and will
not come the thing for 2 or 3, which please accept of my thanks. According to my recog-
nition of Ezr's. 4:12, I don't remember what you states the account to
be in your last letter. As I can not write it is subject to correction if I have to have
taken advantage of you.

The Kansas to-morrow is apparent
in every sense it was in the country one of a
lot of horses to ride it to the根据 of it be.
I have been in a state of mind the whole of the time.

The best were 2 thoughts of 1 day more to get
me to know the facts. I cannot help but feel that I have
been too literally here but it has shown to
be a point of the people was necessary and that
the best things becomes part of their sur

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
touch has broken his heart, so it all
up is a wonderful. To fight all over to
Corning and back a great. to the way of ending
money and happiness and that is all our anxious
feeling of it you picture. But you
probably knows just to touch about this
in it. our song remains well for you.
I believe he the has intense gay
California and he will probably have
alleys in place.
I have accepted a more permanent
job in the office in which I have been working
and it looks as if I were going to the
law. No intermittent volume, but"open
has been. The end one will continue
very to you and will have to get more
to start again before. I'll take aimed
several points out of the life.
Read with me over a great while.
and like the little you, that the child who he, among
the to your friends. Yet the love from
also. Don't take you, it is almost gone for you.
Open street, mean, and very,
By direct order 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) W. Loeb, Jr.
Secretary to the President.

Hon. Elihu Root,
Secretary of State.

Enclosure.
else who knows him does not speak of him so 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,
Crosbylea Farm,
North Castle, N. Y.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON.

Dear Harris,

I have been trying to contact you for some time and was wondering if you were still interested in the position. I am currently in the process of hiring a new secretary and the Openings for this position are ready to be filled.

Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[5, May 15, 1955]
The 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,

(署名) Chas. L. Knapp
June 18th, 1906.

My dear Henry:—

I've been wired congratulations as Consul General at Mukden, 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 Mukden 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. How for the summer. I leave here on the 7th of July, all being well. There will be fixed eyes 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 Aski at the summer Embasy, and also want to see the Davises at Marion for a minute. Thats all, Ithaca I want to look at
for a minute too. Now what have you to suggest. As I wrote you I've a good many things to say to you and I want to get together for a while somewhere, why not Ithaca. We might also arrange with Alec to go to Erie which I think would be a great stunt. We'd have a time I suppose, but still there won't 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 don't fail to make definite and unbreakable plans 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 X,

Yours,

[Signature]

---

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 Bukeden 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 Bukeden 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 Bukeden appointment for of all places in Manchuria it seems the most interesting and the
most suitable from which to watch post-bellum 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 -

[signed] Willard Straight

Note:
Mr. Straight was in Havana
as private secretary to
Mr. Morgan, U. S. Minister
24 Oct
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

American Legation Havana

[Letter]

Sirs, Aug. 17th, 1943

Dear Mr. Straight,

I was very interested in your letter of August 10th and I was very pleased to hear from you. I am very glad to hear that you are well and that your summer was enjoyable.

I have been thinking about your suggestion of a meeting in Philadelphia. I would be very happy to meet with you there. I am sure we can arrange something suitable.

Please let me know if you have any other suggestions.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

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

(eng) Willard Straight

168 W. End St.
Oswego, N. Y.

Copy of memo attached to letter to Mr. Bacon from Sagamore Hill, Aug. 18, 1906.

The Assistant Secretary

August 16, 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. S.

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.
Dear Henry -

again on the train. On the last few days I haven't known where the devil I've been at for the President held me to do Ishoua and I've been wanting to hear from you the last I heard today that Ishoua was a go and we were sailing from New York the 20th. 11 days hence.
I am afraid that this will knock out the Milwaukee game entirely and
I am more than sorry. I'm after you
and think it to arrange. I had hoped to
see a lot of you in a day or so of
Can you some
preparation give
as a guide to the cost. Can you any
in again on the 27th.

heavies in New York for the 27th.
be in on having a small draw out
in that reason and (wait you
until)

unless our being is going well, we
as has been for to set up a family.

he has a very nice fellow and in one
has been together to see concert
College, which you both miss.
form to the Davis by Sunday and then
19 to the Davis by Sunday and then
on until Sunday night the 26th
are we know to 2 you's where you
will be able to do.

Yours,

[Signature]

Harry Sheidroff, Aug. 28, 1906, R.J.

Bless you, and

Best, Angel.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

In the first place when such an agreement is to
reach, much more in the written word,
be wiser and less rash to omit than to add.
From the mind be single and to keep on going.
Or in and ever change an excellent thing.
Then in argument with a certain amount
of facts enough and physical and a medium.

The last state is the first in a funny
place. Within three weeks I was always to try...
And then to judge the sudden and... without a climax.
One...
When the writing is a great meeting of

The pen in blank. At almost any turn,
by the manner of writing. It seems so infectious.

And then to judge the sudden and... without a climax.

The pen in blank. At almost any turn,
by the manner of writing. It seems so infectious.

And then to judge the sudden and... without a climax.

The pen in blank. At almost any turn,
Dear Mr. Straight,

This letter containing the enclosed photos. While I appreciate your continued interest in reconciliation, I must assure you that the situation is not improving. I am confident that the government officials are committed to finding a solution that respects the rights of all parties involved. I hope that this correspondence will aid in the pursuit of peace.

Yours sincerely,

[Handwritten signature]

[Address]

This letter contains the enclosed photos.
Dear Mr. [Name],

I am writing to you from [location]. I am in [location] due to [reason]. I am sorry to hear that you are ill. My heart goes out to you in this time of need. I hope that you will recover soon.

I am currently working on [project]. I am finding it challenging, but [positive note]. I am looking forward to our conversation in [date].

Please take care of yourself. I am thinking of you.

Yours sincerely,

[Name]
The American Express

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

The Whistle Stop is a spot

A great many people said, "Friend of the

It is a true story, a true story, true story of the

It is a true story, a true story of the

A true story of a

I write this letter to you, to all of you, the

To mention this delightful visit.

It always has a place

And way of expressing things

That there that

That was without ever watching

It all the way. They came

The heart of them. The heart

The joy of this time

And it all in order for you.
to us & he able to avoid the detection by the time of our return. We were well prepared against fire & breakage. Indeed, I never enjoyed anything as much in my life as I have for the ability & ability of the people. As many as the people. I think the people. It is a great thing & a great joy to entertain. Very great joy for them & for us. They were so impressed by the event.

I am glad to hear that a woman can do in Diplomacy, things that I have never done before.
of this very intriguing difficulty of integrating these two concepts. The Herbert had
closed, and space is served to pursue but sufficient the decision that a clearer
understanding when the leading ideas don't operate clearly. A cheap personality
appeals more than the present plus
Then any representation organizations. Unfortunately for

Humanity, beliefs often
may hold always. Presuming
the individuality of the indiv
idual will often form after
declarers of the present.

John's had a great on
writing two months on
reports. We were severely
handicapped in the work by
having their wisdom in the
Little Mountain capital. He
tried to find a place in this
as well. But found not one
available. He said, "Campbells
is as nearly about as possible to
be flat in taking the trip to
know all the important people"
to always going out so
much for this, I'm
putting many things
on the account of money.
I should think you
would find it more
by handling, but the above
if not the frequent
Climate was the deterring of
The Greek great twice, and
My Greek vacation next
As soon as I lay the report
As long as I lay, without

Dear friend,

I have been at your
Read to hear that
Your letter has been
accepted. I find that

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 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 Reichenberg 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 "Sewastopol" in Port Arthur, and he talked all day about commune I and land questions and legends.

Here we found Bliss who much regretted not seeing you in London - Eddy and Gibson - the Military attaché, St. Claire and McCutcheon turned up the second morning and we almost persuaded the former to go to Harbin 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 War" with a splendid ballet and most marvellous costumes and afterwards supped at the "Medved" with an American named Urena who seems to be the colliery and postick and many other things in Russian circles. You doubtless know him. Today we lunched with Ulena Russell and dined with Urena and a very handsome Russian girl and a Cornish man and his wife found on the premises, afterwards seeing a little Russian opera and some splendid dancing ending up at the Narody Doma with one of Pushkin - Tchaikovsky - or however you spell his name.

Tomorrow we light out for Moscow with a Train de Luxe to Harbin and pass to 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 Palmer issuing calls for Congress and Herradura in the rebel's hands. A week ago tonight we dined and supped with you and tonight we drank your health in Kvas, which has given me the respect for bread as vodka has for potatoes.

Please write me of Cuba and the House beautiful and 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 Dearing and Sleeper and my best wishes always to you, and may a change come soon.

Yours,

Willard Straight.
On board S.S. "Cedric"

En route Tampico.

S.S. "Cedric"

Sept. 17, 1906

Dear Bill:

I am writing you on a steamer bound for Tampico which will not arrive until tomorrow morning. I have been with a Mr. Coop who was formerly with the American Consul in Portland and a great deal of business as well as a representative of the A. S. C. (American Steamship Co.) and dealt with I think all headed for Havana on a special mission of investigation. I am writing now

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The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

On board S.S. CEDRIC.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

larger and the interest will take much greater. Than this letter reaches you if it does you will have read the others also. It is what we are not ignorant of, and you are the same here in America and have unkind thoughts of interest before you do.

Walter Morgan and his letters were on the ship. The letters were:

a committee in the form of a quill. The former way I join me company down on this week's boat.

I should like to have known.

As I arrived in New York at 9:30 A.M. and left at 9:00 A.M. I saw no one else.

Always

Walter Morgan
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From Backedge
London. Sept. 22nd 1846.

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And over the ruin one came and
in the blood of the faithful
lived a few and became the
subject to all that they fight.

It was as he had a few in one corner
but the turmoil — who goes with his
unruly fate — the remain, no bleeds
at whatever — always left a few of his
fruit but no subject would live the same
in to make a cake — and they're
not to find out after years.

And again in central Asia and
subject to the gods of metal and
their god is the power of light
in that they have written
so many cities when they did not
at what they inscribed.

Yet there was a small street between
their own and foreign land in our
subjugation. In that they stood and laid
a few into the faith and faith rest in
the town. Yet was found away
that was inscribed to a friendship
of a brother, that the
best but two years in the
United States — in the West. Morz
Sec. of State
Washington

Arrived Tuesday.

Straight
Mukden, October 5th, 1906.

Dear Excellency:

A letter from you written at West Park arrived from Paris 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 Ubu, and have only gathered vague rumors that your name had been frequently mentioned, that a fleet had gone to Java, 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 United Continental power that will probably be receiving your Ministries within a short time. The long-predicted European conflagration will probably be the result.

I am only sorry that it was not 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. Meanwhile 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 Ubu, with regards to Gerald and Veering, and hoping that you are not worked and worried to death, I am

Ever yours,

Willard Straight.
Dear Sir,

Our man Rosendal and a provisional government established of which he is a chief—Mr. Toft is head. He is to succeed by Judge Magoo of Panama who arrives next week. The independence of Cuba is maintained and her government is temporarily administered by the K.P. our group.

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The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Sherman leaves today and Wilson dine today. They both their meals.

Arrive shortly

With thanks for your letter. Your Petersburg and regards to Sallie. Always

Affectionately,

[Signature]
American Consulate General,
Mukden, (via Mukwhang),
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 venture 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 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 abdlingino, 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 Zlataouet the boundary town we noticed guards and hangaro-on from what seemed to be the regular reserve cadres of the 54th Division, as well as men from the 53rd Dragoons, while at Zlataouet 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 Attache 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.
Rather than relinquishing 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 view 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 although they said that the revolutionists 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...
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, Changchun 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 characterised 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 desireous of travelling over the railway been allowed to pass the Manchurian boundary.

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 Skaterinsburg-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 Stratesn and Habarovsk running north of the Anur, 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 Karimkaya where the Chinese Eastern leaves the so-called Trans-Baikal railway which continues north to Stratesn.
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 lends 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 Vladivostock or elsewhere in the extreme east rather than along the railway line for the numbers which they bore were not in evidence at Harbin or the other garrison towns which we passed on route.

Innocentakaya, Irkutak, Chita, Khilar 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 Irkutak, 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 Irkutak 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 unsared 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
May said that the "evacuation" was practically finished and we were told that the Government proposed to erect large barracks at Irkutak, 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 allotted 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 accoutrements 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.
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 constructions from 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 Haiminmun 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
"camp follower", Greeks, Georgians, Jews, poles with a plentiful mixture of folk from the convict colonies of Sakhalin. 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 although 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 chaperones 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 accommodate 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:
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.

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 several 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 сотня of
Oral 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 Hunghutsu, numerous minor incidents convinced us that foreign travellers were not regarded as a desirable class.

At Erhahihilipu 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 Erhahihilipu we saw only 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 roadbed was poor and the one second class car, the rest being box and third, was dirty and cold.

Between Ssupinkai and Erhhtaokou 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 Erhhtaokou 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 rough. Foreigners are
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 Tieling 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 pursuits 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. Alto 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,
No. 1.

Subject: Arrival at Inkden.

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

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm below my telegram of October 2d, as follows:

Text of telegram sent.

October 2d, 1906.

Bacon, Secretary, Washington.

Arrived Tuesday.

Straight.

I beg to state that Mr. Nelson Fairchild, vice and Deputy Consul General
and myself reached Inkden on the evening of October 2d., 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 for the subject for a sub-
sequent despatch.

Trust 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 Puchang. I informed the Bureau of Foreign Affairs, however,
of my presence in the city, and upon the receipt of my credentials on the 6th
instant I notified the local authorities, entering upon the discharge of my duties
on the 6th of October.

On the second day following my arrival I informally called upon His
Excellency Ho Shu Hun 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 viceroyal Yamam, both His
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 whose 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."

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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, 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 have been no general movement of troops to the west. Although there are occasional soldiers of the regular line travelling by and stationed along the railroad between Cheliabinsk and Harbin the Eastern 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, Stremsk, Hakurovsk, Vladivostock and other points in the Primorisk 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
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. To saw, however, a number of East Siberian troops and at Milan 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 coopers, 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 doing a good business and enlarging their plants.

The Commander of the Manchurian forces, General Troekoff [1] administers the local government as well, and the city is under martial law. A Chinese vanguard 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.

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 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 doing a good business and enlarging their plants.

The Commander of the Manchurian forces, General Troekoff [1] administers the local government as well, and the city is under martial law. A Chinese vanguard 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.

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 encaissement which is large enough to accommodate at least thirty thousand men of a single Corps d'Armée. 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 cottages, 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 barracks buildings are scattered throughout the city and we saw besides large numbers of East Siberian soldiers, European dragoons and infantrymen horses and field artillery, small and large storehouses are not far away, surrounded by a net work of railway sidings.

Other barracks buildings are scattered throughout the city and we saw besides large numbers of East Siberian soldiers, European dragoons and infantrymen horses and field artillery, small and large storehouses are not far away, surrounded by a net work of railway sidings.

At the stations between Harbin and Changchun we saw besides the Railway Guards and occasional East Siberian soldiers. Cosacks, and one or two European infantrymen.
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 Chelabinsk had been commenced simultaneously at both ends, that a road is to be built to the south of the present circum-Siberian route, and another from Streletsk to Khakassk. There will be, therefore, only a short stretch of a single track between the juncture of the proposed road around the lake and Khabrskaya, the point where the Chinese Eastern leaves the Trans-Siberian Railway. The fact that the Russian Minister of Ways and Communications is in the Far East at this time lends a color to such reports.

Northern Manchuria.

From Changchun the last Russian station, we were given a mounted guard to the Japanese lines at Ershihpu, eight miles to the south. Here we found a Japanese captain and half a dozen soldiers, a few gentlemen, 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 stage assuring us that no harm 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 Nanchao, the point at which we were able to entrain for Hukden. 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 confused, however, chiefly to dealings with their own nationals.

The roadbed and bridges between Ershihpu and Seupingkai were in good condition but south of the latter station the original Russian bridges, with but two exceptions were down and the river beds strewn with twisted wreckage, the track leaving the main embankments and crossing the streams over temporary structures.

From Ershihku to Hukden 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 Usbistan 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 Ershihoku 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 Kiangchengtzu in accordance with Seupingkai agreement of November last, military officers desiring of visiting the city were turned back on the 4th 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 the Government to investigate these matters he intended to go north on the 12th inst. to visit both Kiangchengtzu and Harbin.

The foregoing incidents but confirm the impression gained both in St. Petersburg and Moscow, on the train and in Harbin and Kiangchengtzu, 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.
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 Huishuang) October 18, 1906.

Dear Mr. Morgan:

Enclosed I am sending you a draft for £1,618.14. the equivalent of 251. S. 18. R. the amount which you kindly expended for me in purchasing the linen and other things for Mukden.

With many thanks, believe me,
Yours sincerely,

His Excellency,

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

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Mukden, Manchuria.

October 18th., 1906.

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

American Consulate General,
Mukden, China.
(Via Inchwang) October 18, 1906.

Dear Henry:-

Enclosed I am sending you a draft for
£800.00 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, Wis.
American Consulate General,
Nanking, China.

October 19th, 1906.

Dear Father:

I find that I am in a rather uncomfortable position and should like if possible to take advantage of your former proposal.

I am sending you here with 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 Wayman
C/o Thomas Hunt
Auburn, N.Y.

F 61 & 16 d 4.

Henry Schellkopf,
1700 Grand Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis.

$ 200.00.

I should like $200.00 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 to be quite necessary to have a small balance at any time 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 frightfully 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 that 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 not be anything new 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 end 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.
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 Living Moore and my final exit from the scene, but these 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...
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 mind.

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 paid a few miles inside of the city and, for the rest, don't 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.
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 in the long run this policy is the best. I have hopes that a large number of Japanese who held on the army will gradually withdraw from Mukden and that land values will return to more normal conditions.

In your correspondence with the Legation do not be too voluminous and 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 bushel 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
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 you had said in an interview that we were mainly interested in rice goods, flour & oil, and that most other branches of trade would fall to the Japanese. His concern unfortunately 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 ends this long dull letter.

I was much pleased with Fairchild and I am glad you have got him. As for Cornell 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.
one and that to send him to Isbouden 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 there 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 12 of the
regulations so whenever it appears I will have to turn
over to him and I shall then be down and out. It
in my own doing and I have no regret, 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. B. 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
write weekly correspondents
and I think that their
report will represent a re-
action from the gush of last
year. Collins left us a
few days ago and you have undoubtedly seen him the this.

Her 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 Waite Simpson is in town in search of plausible misinformation.

It is not true that he is the guest of the Italian officer's mess. I saw Prospiglioni the other night at Keshiang on my way up the river with the Phillips family. He is un

changed. Sir Robert looks as well as I have ever seen him and the invaluable Childs is back in the out door pools from South Africa. Bredon is

not owing to all the powers that be or may be. The Chinese

Government with its new prime

Yang Shao I. I is simply impossible.

Yours sincerely

J. P. Conkling

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Dear Mr. Sneed,

You must almost have neglected your correspondence, for my letters have become infrequent. 1537 to 1538, the reason is that there is so much as well as so little to do.

We have not been so well-rested after 3 weeks here. Last week we had a wet and rainy weather. Moreover, there is too much work.
living in the Palace with Tsar Boris.
The head of the General Staff was in
his temporary as commanding
General. He will be succeeded in
a month, or by Pavlovich (Chert-
inskii) who is a Grand Officer
in the Imperial Cabinet. The
Grand Duke is in charge of the
executive departments as def-
rivens and not to receive a Palace
Cabinet. The under-secretaries
and minor officers are.

The school has dwindled
and been partially
arrived and the presence of
the Tsar has been felt.
James and really has us grounded in authority and we have
from a different and a man wondering in the
position. I keep the foreign
Government government map
he placed under the State as
suggested - its study case the
upset. You map the rise in
manpower as soon as I
told you. I should be there

The general rule is to know we
come down on some and away
both American and foreign
interests accommodation is useful
ly suggested. The American
writers generally seems to
consider that it much come,
newspapers like the Boston
Traveler it even saying it
is as the necessary situation.
ask the newspaper man was here.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
different and we worked until late to finish the winders in the upper rooms which are continuous in view from the window. The flow was the worst Havana had experienced in many years but though severe in Finian the Rio was not extensive so as to be a major factor in the western end of the island.

I am glad you assure me that you are always affectionately,

W.
Stanley Salkin was aged 50. She has Pansy's weather to Richardson - give her duty and have a son. So her 

Salkins' winds must be so 

rest. A guide to purchase 

friends, books for the Harvard 

library in memory of another 

is being raised. He sends his 

friends, children and Dively 

are shaping with me and 

love

officers not infrequently to 

dish, said Negro whom you 

know is in commanded of the 

British ship. In that a 

ship, there are several naval 

records in the larder, but most 

of them will go to the soon, 

we had a terrible explosion 

one night this week which 

did much damage to trees 

and those in the fields were 

blown over. The trees also
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

American Legation General
Kulthei, China

CONSULAR SERVICE, U. S. A.

Oct. 22, 1906

Consul,

Kulthei, China.

I have the honor to acknowledge your note of
October 21st, 1906, transmitted by the Legation,
informing me that the

small

wagon, which the honor mentioned in your note to
the Commissioner of Customs, is in the possession of
the

said wagon, as the same was taken by the Commissioner,
not knowing it to be a wagon, and that it was

attached to the

wagon, as it was not in the hands of
the

he himself was at the time in the

wagon.

The Commissioner

the

wagon.
October 28th, 1906.

Dear Excellency:

Thank you for your note en route to cops. you're we have perused constantly and assiduously

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.

Our trip was interesting and well worth while and save for the Japanese part of the line extremely comfortable. A day in a Chinese cart did not improve our temper 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. Sanes 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
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. Chiao dined here last night with four of his henchmen - Arnell, Fairchild and myself and Allen, a Customs commissioner late of Hankow 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 very pleasant talks together - always, and it is most amusing.

Pulford comes up from Kewehwang a Vice Consulate, he having supervising powers for the province. The Germans have a nice man named Felsinger, who has established himself as 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 whirnnaen 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 dust 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.
Dear Mr. Harriman:

In connection with the matters to which you referred 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 accommodation afforded was excellent. Coal, wood and coke were used as fuel, the two former mined and felled respectively not far from the line. There are sidings every five or six miles but the tracks are light, the ballast mean 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 dissatisfaction with the present Krasnoiur Baikal route on account of landslips and it is proposed to construct another road around the lake as well as a new line between Strastensk and Hataresk thus practically doubling the railway from Europe to Vladivostok.

The 166 odd miles of road between Harbin, which is a flour milling center, and Changchun (Kuangchings) the last point in

E. H. Harriman

Equitable Building, Broadway,
New York City.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
in the Russian sphere, is in good condition as is the portion from this point, over the Japanese road, south to Suipingkai, a distance of 70 miles. From this place to Erhaotou (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 Erhaotou 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 accommodation 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 little freight, the profits being derived principally from the third and fourth class (box cars) Chinese passengers. The Mukden-Hailanintun 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 development 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 administration 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 believed that sufficient funds for the prosecution of the enterprise will not 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 Kuangchentzu, the busiest center in Manchuria, to Vladivostok, a distance of miles, as opposed to the 315 miles to Newchwang and the 446 to Dairen. The Japanese Consul here tells me that the Russian military authorities at Changshun 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 involved considerable, and the volume of trade is increasing to such an extent that there is a demand for a better service.

Trusting
I 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.
[Handwritten text not legible]
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
I have not heard from our friends in New York. The correspondence is still on the minds, and some days ago we had news of the turkeys and geese being taken. The turkeys are transformed (as chimney, and ministration to the Argentinian. He now succeeds Mr. John Smith in Washington. His name is Howard and he is married to an Italian whose father is an English Earl.

H.L. D. Straight
March 1, 1920

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
though an English citizen. 
Squier, his native minister to Panama, the first 
levy having re-instated 
Chiao and in the spring this 
coin is to be transferred to 
Russia, Meyer enters the 
field as Postmaster General. 
The report that Paris is to go to 
Paris is not yet confirmed. 

Seashell is safe and sound. 
and that last 
first duty 

Take the bungee jump 
in quick to come there. 

Should the reader see at 
Yuan it must bring you 
my best wishes and 

Fancier sorts regards, 
and rest assured you the 
of "Fulmar's" as you 
must already have re- 
ceived a copy. Your article 
reads very worth and well 
the picture and your skilful
Memo to H.P. Marshall, November 6, 1906

Subject: Newchwang & Liangyang

From: W.D. Tombage, Superintendent

To: H.P. Marshall

Date: November 6, 1906

I have the honor to invite your attention to the following facts:

1. The present bundle is in earnest form, as confirmed by communication from the Board of the Newchwang & Liangyang.

2. I have reason to believe that there has been an unauthorized change in the system of auditing the records of the Newchwang & Liangyang.

3. I have reason to believe that the change has been initiated by unauthorized persons.

I trust you will take necessary steps to prevent further unauthorized changes.

Yours truly,

W.D. Tombage, Superintendent
Enochwang, 12th November, 1906

Dr. to Aug. Fehrm, Korea and Busang

Statement.

W. W. H. Wright

19. 6
7. 35
2. 75
6. 69
11. 50
11. 50
19. 80
9. 69
11. 50
14. 60
15. 50
55. 0
54. 5
18. 60
2. 75
11. 50

Aug. Fehrm

Papers at Cornell University
Dear Mr. Straight,

We have heard of your safe arrival in Blidö and I meant to have sent a letter acknowledging your visit but other good intentions have materialized.

American Consul
Hankus.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

The WUllard Straight Paper. at Cornell University.
November 25th

From

Dear

Sir,

Here is the enclosed piece for the

English literature club.

The morning

Sherman was calling

and asked after you

the other day. I told

her to visit in Wharton.

Do you ever hear from

the Simpsons? I hope

to see them in Europe.

Do write and

tell us about what you are doing,

how you like it, etc.

These days you
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 few weeks been making inquiries regarding the possibilities for such a road.

There is a consensus of opinion among commercial men and those 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 Heimintun by Russian interference. The Russians feared the competition 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 privileges 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 Heimintun 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 similar 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 Heimintun road to Reik, 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. Pekumen and Tungschantzu which he have recently suffered would revive with the building of a Heimintun-Changchun line with a northern branch to Taitsihar. 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 car 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 bonding it would be possible to run trains to elevators which
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

R. H. Harrison, Esquire,
The Equitable Building,
Broadway,
New York City.
James, because he would not reduce a sufficient number of moderates to accept his platform or from some political stability the insurrection of which is not clear. Maggie is not pleasing the better share of Jews - to go on as this middle-aged man in the matter. I agree and others do not think the American government is handling the problem well. My own opinion is that it should be handled to give India to the again with

[Signature]

[Date]
The Fillard Straight Papers at Cornell University
and only Wilson is staying with me. Mr. Wrigley & I got
a little dinner for you & had
the rest. She is reminds me
whether the clock or you, add to
the case of a girl & social studies
rational. I am going to let
one four years he married at
my house this week. His bride
does not know how to instruct
me exactly to give her life
put on her legs so that
she may lose even the official
ancestors. She has grown to stand
long enough to attempt to
writing. There is complaint
to that Starchfield is the real
governor. In fact, there is
some truth to this anyway. He can
bring him into some fresh
water and she is so
identified with the Prov.
that he cannot escape
wishing.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

With the Pres. Wood, Root and Co.

ay Great Senator, Dick S—.

in order to go into the sale of

frees and Canadian wheat.

When Congress wants Cuba back

rushing come in for much notice.

Since my return I have kept

clear as far as possible from

any connections with or in

any possibility for any act of the

Pres. Co. and have stuck to the

previous work.

Steering who rode down

a delightful app. has gone

home packing yesterday.
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 Japanese, 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 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.
Newchwang, 26th November 1898

Sir,

I beg to receive your favor of December 17th, with cheque for $47.45, for which please accept my best thanks. Should I have to have you forward duplicates bills for same, official supplies or apparatus, please so request.

Your letters have gone forward on Tuesday last by train to the 12 Hong Kong, Honkow, where you may apply for same, as soon you wish to take delivery of the same.

Respectfully, please find my cheque for these goods amounting to $123.90. Your credit will be taken into account.

I may mention that I have forwarded to the store, named by your firm, a variety of stores, provision and fancy goods. I trust, when you are in want of some goods, you will forward the same with your list.

Meanwhile, I beg to remain,

Yours faithfully,

Aug. Frahm

Newchwang.

[Enclosure]

Dr. to Aug. Frahm, Newchwang and Singang

[Invoice]

First.

1. 200 Yards Dec. 1.50. Spain all over 3 lbs $ 1.50 - 70
2. 5 Yds. Chinese K. 1.50, Chinese K. 1.50. Polishing 50. 20. 50. 50.

To Mr. Stebbins, 70.

For Mrs. Stebbins, 10% cash discount.

For Mr. Stebbins, $7.50 cash discount.

[Signature]

Aug. Frahm
I knew in the Galapagos in 1879 and have seen since in Europe. He is returning to his first home. Havana can scarcely be considered on the way between Berlin and Java! Grand-Duke is not to come and Sajora is to go away on a long leave though he bas just returned from his

Dear Willard,

Thank you for your kind letter. The 20 P. note is the finished manuscript. The first 500,000 grammes assured me that you had really dictated the draft. Cambridge also telegraphed me that.
were right. The reason for your inquiring was a report from Mrs. Davis who had just given the hair of all your children that you were ill with an illness 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 sufficiently

hard to have resulted in seriously to your health.

If you are not more careful I should be lessened to request weekly called health reports.

We rog on. Miss Roberts comes back in two days and tomorrow I expect a visit from Dr. Smith. The German governor is coming.
This would not be pleasant

I understand a wonderful

writing from "Country Life".

She Francis Blackburn is on a

visit & has to be a

cousin of Edith Spanton, the

wife of the British Ambassador

at Rome, who has been kept

in writing to one of the Rome

men and has written thus:

Is it true?

Always affectionately

E. M.

statistically one. Unfortunately

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 us little interest

whether he also will be

withdrawn as his British

and French colleagues

have been. So far.
enlighten us - or he may be sent to study and report on the situation, which is complicated enough. A movement is growing for a deflection, and it is the common hope that unless some sort of permanent control is established another row will occur. If the liberals write in an election the moderates go out. The President and Reed still seem set on forcing Cuba to remain self-governed and within a few months Congress however may intercede. Or the two after discussing for three months and nothing much may have questions unsettled and everything be settled.
For the next few months, how it was all this - there alone will tell.

You are holding and having good in my district are the best city in China to be offered by an American to the public. The time to be sold is in the midst of the change, and they tell me some of the best places are things to place. 

To be sold in the midst of the change, and they tell me some of the best places are things to place. 

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Dear Rose -

Your telegram came right in a great bit of frust-ment. I'm glad you like it - but - you see I am in need -

To medical school - not much of a need -

In Morley and the true faith. I have been here trying to

Theodore not here and I am also -

And here it is the race -

And like that you could

It was a good thing -

In Morley and the true faith.

This is just a note. I hope
again be a couple of years - you
had better one - you will find
the less you join the street...
just before leaving I sent you
a small item away - Care
but better so than more - but
that unless go with the same-
but the girl in the world. Bassoon
is you.
Yours,
Collin

Address one Muldun -
Not doing the Franky.

Wrote that in right turn here
and let me know any we right
than than a thing it two.

If they had a little more
I would go to see you. But you see,
there been about to make things
be the state of meet and bad
and delay in this state of men.
In the time devours to so exceeding
in certain. You must and keep
be the - rather than the
poor with a train that made
delay me a week.

I think not to have had the
telephone of going next. Be sure
write and you kind and lovely
self - but if it go - if you
won't be nice. I am not
Telegram from Washington that the British representation would be given leave of absence to gain information. However, there is no diplomatic business which any of the floor can do. We are rather surprised that there is no movement to return here. The idea of the fleet being expected to return only under construction.

There is a general feeling that the French are ready to join us.

Dear Sir,

My best letter with love and affection to learn and your satisfaction of seeing us up here, and again. I am sorry about the illness, although it is not necessary. I was the only one to gain speed.

This week has not been without incident. In Tuesday we got word that 1200 or more of German sailors arrived accompanied.

AMERICAN LEGATION
Havana
Dec. 2.
He said heartily that a nice trip. Their steamers from France to
Algiers were at sea, and they followed their route to see Havana
and Mexico City, reaching the main line again at St. Peter's.
I knew Sister John as President of the Agnes University. From
which I was graduated to
that she was Governor Know Whoso
and Switzerland went to Germany
on the drawing. He was killed by
the official ship's road and
even Germans were the best
in good temper.

This week means Father's dinner
and a cold night once a week to
Bruck D. would D. Kearns, how
old (not the cement, but
remember) and among the
Cuba minister to Berlin as
well as the German and Thu-
mann's the German consul
and about and some of our
officers. Thanksgiving night
there were only Americans
and last night the refugees
came and I dinner them.

After several attempts, it
was been finished in an o. t.
with a manly attack, and some work to do, but that the house and family were in attendance. This disease is most painful though as long as the lungs are not affected not necessarily dangerous. God more secure than a doctor, a healthy and vigorous in the house, and if our officers are using in the house, allow others who are married to please their wives.

Did I tell you how Sanborn and Stanley would have been more secure, and that the other house, the S. amount is always and in proportion to the face. S. amount is always and in proportion to the face. S. amount is always and in proportion to the face.
The moderates have not organized solid and the conservative may not even pull up a ticket. A liberal wall-over would probably result in another confrontation which would confound our people to think the conservatives are not those with plain nothing by being defeated but that of American expansion is made permanent there will be an opportunity for their intelligence, education and their freedom and interest is the recognition which is their due in the conduct of public affairs. Much turns on the failure among several places through which the President is wont to view his duties and whether or not he will cheer his views by a clear study of facts.

Mr. Brough came back on Wednesday but I regret to say he has taken cold and at this moment is ill.
laughingly, who is married to a

Katharine Goodrich. Katharine

is coming here to join her hus-

band who is one of the Governor's

sons. I send you a cutting from

the Post with an account of the

laughter. Katharine looks upon

an among the ladies you will

recognize as friends.

Robert Harriman fell from a

horse and broke a collar bone,

which was not a very serious

injury. I have asked the Jew to

treat me, and I am getting

more and better, and I am not

very limited in consequence.
My letter is addressed to
self in a house in Indiana. But
plans to join me here in Feb-
uary when my sister also comes.
Here, Philadelphia is to occur in
a fortnight or so. Winter is
not here and winter is ac-
ceptable. Spring does not re-
turn for another month. My
new Parkinson's car is on its
way from Paris with the
driver, who was formerly
with my brother, now ar-
mid. She must be

to be exchanged for another,
with our car leading to ten
as surely as our carriage

to another.
Dec. 7

Dear Willard,

Saturday came your letter of the 28th inst. while you were still under the uncomfortable condition which no longer exists I hope. Even as I write this letter you must have sat up and by the time this reaches you will be in full face.

Yours affectionately,

[Signature]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
although your [illegible] nothing
about your health. I am re-
Solemnly wishing you success
through friends. This [illegible]
month you must have been
since your letter was written. The Bankers
you expected were finished
sooner than you expected.
June 28th is better, news
of the meeting is due next Thurs-
day. Mother is well.

Shaftesbury has arrived and
the new French and German
are in Paris. Comes in the
ship. My Maxwell is to be
exchanged for another, to a
shall have two news cars
at the same time.

To thank you dearly for
keeping the France, I hope
question which is dangerous
since it will our friends on
their kindness again. Hope
seems to be in a word.
AMERICAN LEGATION
HAVANA
Dec. 20.

Dear Willard,

I do not know how to write in the face of the sad news regarding Rainbird, which reached me yesterday through a telegram from Dick Davis. It is very hard, but I am sure twice been brought to face such situations. As you know nothing yet to the cause and only hope that

always affectionately,

C. H.

political situations and while personal resources, I see Hurd has entered into residence and note that your Havana colleague is a dec.

with every good wish, and sympathetic expression.

always affectionately,

C. H.
If there were indeed you too were not involved as in another case a man needed to thank and friends.

living conditions would be

where anyone extra

ranging our world not. This

however does not mean my

constant anxiety has you

should become my or

should meet with an acci-

dent.

I called you yesterday

a word to say my need

with cable greetings on Christ-

was to let you know I am

thinking of you. Although

you must know that I

am doing so with this

indication. I wish you were

not so far away and in so

primary a community.

This winter will be busy

and hard though interested

up for a man who you

mean on this international.
Dear Willard,

I was glad to learn your letter yesterday "greetings" and to find that we were remembering each other as far away. I am thinking of you constantly, especially since I heard of your recent death. Fate is kind to make your tenure so thorough and a trail. The jaw jockeys you could so trust as your buddy and other…
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
[21]

[20]

[20]...and his wife. He was to succeed the Quinna Hidalgo. He was in command of the forces sent to the Philippines. The officers...especially those of the staff were a very good class some of them being quite civilized. There are about on the same level as the navy mean as a whole.

My brother comes to the Philippines in February with my sister, and she and Miss Ward and Miss Wolters and myself back upstairs about the same.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

something and the De Grasse from
back again. This is as far as 9
was written. Resembling him
is going on this season and
n't De Grasse. We had gone
Washington where he and the
were staging with the Barracks.

The Garrison Army, he gently satisfied with Rome.

Howard has died of polo sepsis
and I do not know who the

Laws and Secon. I wish it
might be you. I wish to
see you at Padding when
mother's health gives out as I
can only at work.

Dec. 28:
The enclosed writing has
just been any eye. Beautiful
as the event was. It has been
very. It was right instead
Dec 26/03

To my dear Eliza,

The last few weeks have been very eventful and trying. I find myself in a new environment, far removed from the familiar surroundings of home. The transition has been difficult, but I am trying to adjust.

Life in this new place is quite different from what we are used to. The people are friendly, but the customs and language are challenging. I am learning to communicate more effectively, and I am also trying to understand their ways.

The weather here is quite different as well. It is much colder than what we are accustomed to. I have to dress warmly and take extra care to avoid getting sick.

My work involves a lot of travel, which is both exciting and exhausting. I often find myself away from home for extended periods, which makes it difficult to keep in touch with everyone.

I miss you and the family dearly. I look forward to the day when I can return home and see all of you again. Until then, please know that I am thinking of you all the time.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

from Boston are thin. I realize how little I said while with you, which made me feel my intense sympathy for you in titles which you had gone through as you have.

The shock was terrible and left enough to tear, but the recent word of God with its reedcrick signs, can only be a tough struggle. You are famed for

me, my dear fellow. I can see, but I can sense, that you appreciate what you have won to continue writing.

As I write, I want you to remember that I cannot be in Peking if my friend the Kaiser of India, fairly in self-preservation, comes.

Reasons, because I believe it is you again and to know you better, and because I feel sure it would be a good thing in these times of tragedy behind for a few days.

I have spoken to Mr. Paul's several times about you coming about my wanting you to come, and his reply was not different to:

change me to telegraph you this official. He said that Section 468 Canal Regulations could be easy and you could

clear yourself for 10 days if you desired, but this while, attitude was very your first

and not come to Peking.
American Legation, Peking.

As far as I am informed, the present banking rates, and the interest, are as follows: 

[Text continues, but is not legible due to wear on the page]
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 north 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 Khilkooff and the Russian Commissioners associated with him, reports that the attempt made by his Government to secure control of the Changchun 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 Japan to the south. Here they also failed; the Russians refusing moreover to recognize 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 Changchun and Mengchiatun the most northern Japanese 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 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 dissatisfaction with the railway administration which by a manipulation of the rates has been endeavoring to divert all traffic from Newchwang to Dalry 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 organizations.

There is also a good deal of trouble over the title to the Hai-min-tung Line. It was provided in the treaty 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 Hai-min-tung matter the Viceroy informed me the other day that while he should like to have a road between that point and Changchun he feared 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 Manchuria 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, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

R. H. Harriman, Esquire,
Equitable Building,
New York City.
December 27th, 1904.

Dear Mr. Harriman:

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

According to the Japanese Press there were 11,355 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 "CHUNAI SHINBUN" a lending financial journal characterizes the proceedings as fanciful. It states that the South Manchurian Railway Co. drew interest on deposits of guarantee money at the rate of 3% per 100 Yen per day. Banks advanced funds for guarantee money to subscribers at an slightly increased rate and pocketed the difference, thus allowing comparatively poor men 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 Company's prospects or an increase 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 strain 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 so,

Yours sincerely,

E. H. Harriman, Esquire,
The Equitable Building,
Broadway,
New York City.
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 Company, 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 11,350 applicants for 106,644,016 shares, being 106,644,016 shares in excess of the 99,000 to be allotted.

Rather than expressing satisfaction with the situation as evidenced by the over-subscription, the "CHUKAI SHOGYO" a leading financial journal characterizes the proceedings as farcical. It states that the South Manchuria Railway Co. drew interest on deposits of guarantee money at the rate of 15% 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 men 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 Company's prospects or an increase 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 gauge within three years time. The track from Dalny to Buchiaton, 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 gauge 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 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 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 act at all in accordance with our interpretation 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
select a settlement site before negotiating with the 
Japanese for their exclusive concession provided for by 
the Agreement of 1905. The outcome promised to be rather 
interesting but I cannot help but feel that the San Fran-
cisco affair will have an unfortunate effect on our Man-
churian 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 
ten at this time in order to draw attention at home, 
which at one time was almost threatening, from the Jap-
namese 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 we,

Yours sincerely,

E. H. Harriman, Esquire,
The Equitable Building,
Broadway,
New York City.
I am glad that you will be very happy. The two will be very lucky. I told you that I was not here yet. I hope that you will be here soon. I am very pleased that you are coming. I believe that you were good people in the company. I wish you success.
attached you before when you were in charge of ad-
venturer. How that all
then talk of a Conclu-
sion for China. Well the
stranger,Bennett was
Conclution of being in
flage the daily touch an
inlet of his report.
May in the distance
such status on the all
Creagh was I be instructed.
I am interested in the lack
of your brother in Corin
ally with. As he
was a friend on a.
Hope you
patience is that you
like that business.Career
for The former of you
your great opportune
Country?
Have you heard of my
husband's appointment
at Fort Hall in Time.
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 letters from me, which will arrive, unfortunately, after the first shock of Fairchild's 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-
churia is much more imaginatively interesting than it practically is to be 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 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 address it to the Legation at Peking, as I generally do.

May there be much (Mission Aircraft)
Your letter to hand.

General Straight

Week was major. Tell me again if giving
of Rudge's and going back to the U. S.
He was still in Asia as general representative or otherwise. He seems stationed in Washington and goes to Europe frequently. I fancy ship may come here for a short stay.
January 6 1887

AMERICAN LEGATION, PEKING.

Dear Straight,

You letter telling

if your interview with the theater

came yesterday, and gave not

much amusement. I read it

of Miss Rockwell to Williams,

I will see that the inclusion be.

maximum four of the next batch.

I shall acknowledge its receipt

if you despatch it the department

which go through it. Each unless

you especially wish, but you can

rest assured that I shall place

all of them in the bag today.

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--

the arrival, but I have forgotten the date.

I have talked a good deal to Professor about working in the Cornell Service and I don't think he will accept you offer. I really could not conscientiously do it to do so, in view of the recent policy and true promotion which we are receiving at the hands of Sir Article. If he was a fellow who could afford to take the risk we have found this would always fall on his head, but he is an excellent fellow, and would be a great help to you in your time of need.

As regards the statement of his death, I think I was right. You should certainly take his unjust and you can get this, now, before it is too late. The Department may ask for it later on its family, and it will look better in my opinion.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
a city opened by treaty & interesting trade and not are going to try
to restrict them by telegraph.
I shall then know our
position more clearly.
I wish you would send the
rejection a copy of its memorandum
of your interview with the Korean
Emperor distinctly mentioning
the manner in which he requested
American influence to act himself
into Japanese sect.
I hope this letter is having
such an effect as to counteract
prejudiced Rule! the report should
be most interesting.
Hoping that you are keeping
your friends & family well.
W. B.

P. S.
AMERICAN LEGATION,
PEKING.
Jan. 7/7

Some were in saying that the
Department had not committed
itself to an interpretation of the

Treaty.

Mr. Rockhill
= 332 of June 26th last, a city of
which was sent to Mr. Samman
in one = 773 of June 28th were
sent with the thanks contained in
the letter of last April in
which he made known the condition
Pete your city.
Mr. Rockhill asks me to say
that he was not aware of the
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satisfaction of knowing that in the past five months that all the heart and nerves that all
is not work with you through and in order if you could offer assistance which may
remove the cause.

Summum Year you are spending a most lovely time with your friends and

sorrows. Your friends are...
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It is you use to envelop
your shoulders and
shrunken with a
air.

He avised actually said
England back next
his hands not their
ultimate destination.

It is settled that Mrs.
and Mrs. Braddock
come & stay at the house
in February. Mrs. Daret
Monton and Mrs. Williams
will have come to use
and gone however before
they come & present

Elaine and rented out.
Last night we received
a fairly good Spanish

This is not

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TIae Willard
Straight Paper.

at
ComeU
Univer.ity
Peking you will find a really welcome you. Certainly you must come before I leave which will be some time towards the latter part of March.

Tell Cornell that his report was very well received, and was pronounced most interesting. [Signature]

[1/18-07]

AMERICAN LEGATION, PEKING.

To: [Address] To: [Address]

The above message, in view of your intransigence in the promotion of the treaty to which we have alluded, the whole city we maintain, is then, not merely the frequent foreign resident, which was introduced into its streets as an addition to Article X, but not a limitation upon it. Besides the whole city itself is but a place for one of foreigner. This is the reason taken of the government, and which has been strongly taken by the
troublesome 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 pleasance 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 House Kakeha 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. 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
time, not only that goods may be placed on the market under the most favorable circumstances but that by constant vigilance valuable interests may be protected. Firms with offices at the points of importation, foreign representatives traveling in the interior, and native agents at Tientsin, Mukden, Liao-yang, Changchun, and Hailamintun would be better able to watch the demand 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 endeavoring to secure.

The British-American Tobacco Company have branches at all the important points along the railroad, with foreign representatives at Mukden and Tientsin and a manager resident at Pechino, who is constantly moving from point to point, keeping in close touch with the consumers. The company's sales have increased steadily, and in many places seriously threaten the profits of the Japanese tobacco monopoly. Arnold, Harbey & Co., a large German firm which deals extensively in American piece goods, as well as the Singer Sewing Machine Co., have opened offices in Mukden, and the Manchurian Trading Company, with an American agent, is preparing to handle tinned goods, cloths, 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, harvesters, mowers, 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 Pechino 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 purchaser when once he is convinced of the utility of an article.

A British firm has already sold four large Howard steam plows, snipping them north from Pechino. Tracts of Government land are now being opened to cultivation. The large grain firms would doubtless be ready to invest in millers 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 hitherto been sold in Manchuria largely by foreign firms and by native houses which purchase their stocks in Shanghai. If direct shipments were to be made to Pechino or Pechino, 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
plentiful supply of timber, in the area between the headwaters of the Liao and the Taluko, 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.
Sunday the 5th the German club had a dance to commemorate the Kaiser's birthday. The French Ships now in Port is to be relieved by another. St. Germain is lost as I may have remarked in another letter is a huge little person. Someone said that in the present unsettled condition France wishes it well to keep a thing on the shelf. When France diff. cases about 10 to 10 they torture famine even.

Dear Son:

Thank you for a letter.

After looking out some other wise

not much to report. I will send a

write to you. Any amusement to leave your

letter written an account of the war

early 1906. Sir W. Howard could

you just name refers to unsuitable

death and the fruit summer of its

cause. There is nothing in this

I can but hope.

The last two months brought

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last night interviewed with a rain storm strike & one December-Barricades again Spanish terp here at the Tacon Theatre. She has a season of Stdium guest which is more accepted than usual and which society has generally been homemade. Harrison said 10 a seat for the first representation it is fine to sell the door busters. I am going to the "select friend" and work in instead a ticket Thursday is her house. Last night and my aunt and I was accepted our invitation.

Now Nina Brown brought over par 2-justifications may suffer in case sequence since her alliance with the Reder leaders her social station was zeal. She was however at the Spanish regency for other night at a select or drink which Barricades sang. On Monday the Red and her father raised at separate Kiddo to music by a club and on Berday I drive around the "Stair the German School" which now in the banker. In several Liberal leaders were arrested recently at a cock "Pueblo" said "la Discrepancy" editor was attacked me day in the street. In an editorial he wrote on the incident if a national光明 week fighting were placed in the Liberal platform the Liberal ticket at the next election would certainly win. On the surface for the moment the nation here are sufficiently calm. I like our news packages.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 is 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.

That 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 raking and roko will find sudden dull. I don't think it is that exactly but it is 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 and yet who finds this a little too much. Do off he goes very well tomorrow for two weeks up country. What all Mexico and will do him a world of good, but one can't send one's assistants off rambling for a week a month. What 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 Lawson and Emau and Bobby Dunn fame has passed through — one Franz Meyer, an agricultural explorer with a Dutch accent and most marvellous stories has been here and Moses Thompson and one or two other folk from Newchwang have been in to lunch and dine.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
A few days ago, however, shortly after the Imperial commissioner who have just 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 amid 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, Rulford and Langfur 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 endeavor to let some one else do the blustering, for they well know whose chestnuts are being pulled.

with warmest regards to Mrs. Bogart and Mrs. Belsfield, and best wishes always.

Yours,

WILLARD STRAIGHT.

[diagram and handwritten notes]
Your letter 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 my instance however the S. A. in the Department and officers, since the location of your residence is fixed by questions of policy and not by personal considerations, in the amount of your

conve. The P.S. therefore would provide the funds since it is understood that in the instance in which you are beyond a certain point you are not a free agent. Since the cable you already received 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.
Dear Sir:

I enclose hereewith a bill of landing for three

trunks and two boxes, containing the effects

of the late Mr. Nelson Fairchild, to be sent to

Mr. J. G. Fairchild, a Exchange Place, Boston, Mass.

As I have been unable at this place to pay the

charges on account of my illness, I request you

will forward them so that I may pay them in

Boston. The articles above mentioned are to be sent to

the Collector of the Port, and will be delivered to

you for the charges, if you care to collect

Yours truly,

[Signature]

P.S. The small black box is to be sent to

[Address]

January 5th, 1907.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

This interest is, if not exactly similar with ours, in France, are closely allied in certain points of view. Your account of Huguenot's change of attitude is certainly intriguing. It is not the declared policy of the Japanese government to...

American Legation, Peking, Jan. 28/07

Dear Straight,

Enclosed are the letters you asked for answering your letters made in Japan. As I have been extremely busy of late and have also been entertaining a friend from Boston as my guest, all of which take up the above matters.

As for the interpretation of the "open ports," I don't know it can say anything more. The whole idea of open ports is that foreign trade and residence, according to the custom...
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Newchwang, 31st January 1907

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

[Handwritten letter]

To Mr.

I am in receipt of your favour of the 29th inst. contents of which have been very pleasing.

The case of books for recent publications went forward by yesterday's train to Mr. Forbes, whom I have given instructions to deliver the box to you, against payment of charges, as per instructions received from Mr. Snell, No. Shanghai.

With regard to the shortage of specific parts of several of your goods, which I forwarded to Mr. Forbes as per instructions when you purchased them, I shall give instructions to Mr. Forbes to deliver to you the same which is still held for you viz:

I trust boulin crept & Virgin soils

I have mentioned above under my signature, to forward you any cargo on my own risk, and I think, I cannot accept unless by special order for you. The goods to be forwarded together closed in burlap with Mr. Forbes's name, at your expense & risk, if you will certainly be aware that in furnishing goods under any other circumstances, so much more, when the danger of freezing is so great as it was when you received the goods. I am sorry that on a great deal of haste was required in forwarding, 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 my cargo ceases.

So I am sending my accounts for past year, you will oblige me by forwarding

AUG. FRAHM
NEWCHWANG.

[Signature]
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The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

I was thinking of you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?

I was thinking about you.

How was my trip to the museum?
I am well and hope you are well. The last strong impression was just such a one as we always wish our friends to have. It is very perfect, and I am through the worst of the hard times and I pray that you will be through the hard times soon. I hope that you will be well and happy and that all will go well with you.

I will see you in the spring to marry Mrs. Houghton. The wedding is perfect. It was all as you wished. It is delightful and will be a true celebration. I hope that fortune will be kind to you.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

[Handwritten letter]

Dear Henry [Schollkopf],

I have been away from home and have only been able to write this brief letter. I am writing to thank you for your assistance in my studies at Cornell University.

I have been working hard at my studies and have made significant progress. However, I have not had much time to engage in extracurricular activities. I am planning to join the university debate team in the near future.

I hope you are doing well and that you are enjoying your studies as well.

Best regards,

[Signature]

Feb. 5th 1907.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

...
TO

Mr. W. Straight

KOLUNG COMPANY

AGENTS SINGER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY

FOR MANCHURIA, CHINA.

CENTRAL OFFICE MUKDEN, MANCHURIA, CHINA.

MEMO

FROM

MUKDEN Feb. 8th 1007

Dear Sir,

I trust this note finds you well and that you have received the enclosed bill from Mr. Okawa's account. The papers here enclosed have not been delivered yet, as there was a misunderstanding, and we have been billed twice. If you wish, we will settle the account and the amount can be paid in the next bill and we will settle.

P. T. O.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Willard Straight Esq.
American Consul General
Nanking, China.

Dear Sir,

We received your favor of Feb. 7 with remittance of $17.50 for which we thank you.

It seems, however, that our accountant must have made a mistake in sending a bill to you as $17.50 has already been paid by Mr. Edwin Morgan of Shanghai, of which $17.50 was to be for your subscription as per enclosed duplicate receipt.

Kindly let us know if we are to place the $17.50 to your credit for prolonged subscription, or if we shall return it to you, or if we are to use them for any other payment you may have to make in Japan.

Yours truly,

THE JAPAN CHRONICLE.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
mother and a friend (Mrs. Harrington) arrived a fortnight ago and Hoffmann (Pechkin's son-in-law) and Raizel Pechkin will hop the last board line boat. Tomorrows comes the flinty fleet and to stop at the Palace here too and the Grand Palace and now the Royal Palace.

She is leaving the Palace in May and will not return. More goes to

She left about the same time to marry with Tischler. Raizel's sister, she is a very pretty girl. I probably wrote you in my last letter.

Pechkin's was not yet fixed through in route to Mexico and should do so soon. His new chief Thompson and his wife have been at the Palace several days. He is the younger type but more powerful! She much prettier than his wife, tall, good looking with one Paris...
Lee Higginson & Company
Boston.

Office in New York. 23 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 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.

Best luck. I wonder what else to say to you.

Very truly yours,

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

February 20, 1907.

My Dear Mr.:

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,

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
**Receipts for Goods Shipped**

**T. A. CHRISTENSEN & CO.**

**Shipping, Landing & Forwarding Agents.**

**Head Office** No. 35, Naniwa Machi, Kobe.

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<td>Freight from Dalton to Kobe</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kobe to Boston, 100 lb.</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telegraph to Boston</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Insurance for 7/1000 vo.</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commission 5%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>92.33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Received payment, with thanks, May 4, 1907

**K. P. Andersen**

---

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
or that you can pour seas to sur- 
round them if given to getting 
The Jordan Trust.

Skinny Colas was too much "hea-
red" by Mrs. Petrie to thoroughly en-
joy her freedom and her journey to 
Santiago with a 24 hour train was 
monumental encountered by the Peru- 
can and not only I that lady in Sin- 
was put on a car in the train. 

Coy showed me about but the 
want to see Spain and to singer by hand, 
with Boardman and Mrs.- 
were 
just days in Casa A and since 
weeks gone and 
coming Jan 5. 

On the 
Sunday they visited a sugar 
plantation, dined our night 
with us and had a dinner 
early at the Palace - next I count 
saw San Blair as every one does 
who come here. They not 
see what impression they
and threats of sticking up many of the Congressmen on their way from Panama. The weather continues to be charming -- somewhat less warm than at the correspondent time last year. TheExcept are still more normal than when we last saw them. Rosarnado & storm in society. Carriage costs are good. Very sincerely, 

It is said that United States elections will come in the summer as yet no 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.
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2 days bad my horned calf
and shall continue to care it
48 ½ another ten days. The
sinks came back Wednesday
and they until the 18th when
they go on to Mexico on the pipe
steamer on which my brother
and my friend Alexander Sharn
sent me, an uncle and his son
and daughter in law - the
Zabrin houses come on Saturday
but before that the freight

who have secured a house in
Harrington, take up the
sinks there. Say you have
sent me and his brother, as well
as friend Johnson and his
wife, passed last week here.
Buddy Rockwell and his
wife just as the pipes came
we also were had a month
assembly of commercial
clubs on a two days visit
on board a 7 special steam
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 and the garden is immense, and in time will be lovely, but at present it has a very run-down appearance as it has been neglected for years.
By this time I suppose the

[Signature]

BRITISH LEGATION,
GUATEMALA.

Feb 21st 1857

Dear Mr. Morgan,

Many thanks for your letter of Jan 1st. It is so nice to hear anything that is going on in Havana but it makes me long for home.

Sick as I am I am afraid that a great many of my friends

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will have left before I return, on very nice. They, however, which will not be much before will be glad to go as they have the end of June or July so my husband will be an end of it. Fancy! how I came for me in April after years in this awful place which we shall go to Mexico for a month or two.

The Carden ce giving a dinner I might in the Combs who are leaving on the 25th for China. We are all very sorry to lose them for they

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. This has
It was nice to have them near us. Don't be greedy and try to get them out of Mariana. There are so many nice people there now. Turkpan is deserted.

Will you tell Mr. Wilson that Mr. Brown is going to American 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 be better next time. This is mail day so I will write you a week. I felt I must write.

With kind regards from the Cardinal myself.

Believe me,

Yours very sincerely.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Dear Excellency:

Your assurance that you would be ready to stand by in case of need were indeed comforting. When I wrote you it all looked pretty hopeless, and I was near at my wit's end. Your eudemonistic 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 them. If you insist upon the botanical appellation 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 an aside. I started to tell you of our emancipation from His Ego's lately established limitations.

On returning from Peking 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. Arnold went to see Watanabe, the C. referred to who after some circumlocution asked Arnold if we didn't want a place to live in. Arnold allowed that we did. "Well" he said, "what about the San Francisco matter?" Arnold 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. Arnold promptly said "Yes", and though I believe myself that they intended to clear out anyway, they have assured us that
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 lama becomes affectionate
and blantly courageous — when sober he’s cold and merely insulting.

To continue the Tale of the Temple. To thereupon opened negotiations
with the Chinese. In the meantime one Nikiforos, 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 means and end attempted to inveigle the
Llamas into signing a contract for mine. He could then have wired his Minister
that all was arranged and laughed at me. I should have snubbed 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 budge 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. Hanauer the Consul is a pleasant
— rather conceited — level (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 influence by butting in, to which his national interest in
Manchuria does not entitle him. He giggles with Nagiwa and scoothes 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 assures 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.
Macao, China.
March 14, 1907.

Dear Excellency:

Your letter written on my birthday, the 31st of January, 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 Excellency
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 lamas 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 Tiensin 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. Adasuri, 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 Chinzanpo, 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
went the Emperor who has never forgotten the events of 1895 will look for his
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 Ku Shih Chang was likely to come to Macao. The
Japanese have been trying for months past to oust Chao K'之所以, who has no use
for them and Ku's appointment would mean a victory for the W. L. F. 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 Macao. For some reason the viceroy attended. None of us,
naturally, were invited. Hatagawa 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 anniversary - 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 Hatagawa's
statement - denied that China's sovereign power had ever been sacrificed, and
then followed by the entire official outfit left the place. Hatagawa 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 man 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
thereon. He issued a proclamation commanding all householders who wished to rent a house to foreigners to first report to the police and receive their sanction before signing any contract. Haglava, Fulford and myself protested. Meager 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 interfered 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 Meager boot licking I am almost constrained to be rude to the other person, by way of contrast. That is not diplomacy.

Yours,
Willard Straight.
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.

Yours faithfully,

Wilson & Co.

13th March 1907

The Standard Life Assurance Company,

W. W. Straight Esq.

12th March 1907

SIR,

I am to inform you that the Board of Directors having considered your proposal dated 23rd March for an Assurance of £1000 under the

Whole Life Insurance Society Limited.

Policies, without Premiums have agreed to undertake the risk, and that a Policy in the usual form will be prepared upon your paying the Premium, as underwritten, to Messrs. Wilson & Co., Shanghai.

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 the date a new Certificate of Health will be required. In the meanwhile, until the Premium is paid, the Directors retain the power of declining to complete the transaction.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

[Signature]

Secretary


The above premium includes an extra of 10%. No.

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.
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.

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 respectable. They made the most agreeable excursion (which I now include in my program) and I should love accom- panying them when it is cool and not working. In fact, and your senators among whom were Hale and Fairbanks—arrived and I had to give the Sunday service and luncheon there to menu and luncheons. There will be a "Luncheon" where things are now a good deal & I think at 8:15 a head. Next Sunday we have more people among them is the Speaker, arriving on the 15th, 18th, a Thursday (which is making a West Side trip) and they are fortunately to be in your city 24 hours. We have had also in state (besides the politicians) as are suitable to them) a few agreeable
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
on my hunch, my mother asked to return some oranges and they
are now ready longer. Tonight
the 15th Barnes are coming
with us as well as Mac-
donald. I shopped so a very
nice yellow. The Barnes are
here only for three days this
time. She inquired particularly
for you. I knows nothing
of the Harriman movements.
Last week stocks went very
badly down and Macdonald
tells me he was suffered
to be liquidating. The Fair
island is especially dear
(or mine, and is thought
of wantage to "break" them.
We shal" see who wins
in that fight.
Steinhard goes to Seattle
in the summer.
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. Nagtwama, 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-

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, Kuangohangtsue (Changchun) road and the extension of the Imperial Railways of North China from Heinminton to Fukumen has practically been decided upon. The line from the latter place to Taiteihar and Kuanghengtsue as well as another road from Kaiywan, a point of the Japanese Railway south of Kuanghengtsue, ninety miles eastward to the coal fields at Hailungcheng, 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
such as to attract American investors.

The Chinese are anxious to secure loans but they wish to do it "sub rosa". 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 strong and 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 Nanking 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 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 S Bundy 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,
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 re-
cipts, 10.58 smaller daily receipts per mile.
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
anxious to secure a concession of the Maershan 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 Maershan 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.

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 been 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.
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

"Mexico monthly. Necessary repairs 3450 yen. Re-

"spectfully request reply by telegraph.

"Strait".

(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
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 500 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 occupy a neighboring temple.

Although the members of the family of the late Vicerey 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
Dear Mr. Straight,

I am enclosing a copy of a letter written by the American Legation in Peking. The letter contains information about the situation in Manchuria and the involvement of Japanese in the area. I hope this information is useful.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

American Legation, Peking
25 March 1907
improvements to such an arrangement as unjust.

little used as in the national

protectionist movement to

Egypt.

 british

would like to

know more about what is

going on in the

I am afraid if things

are progressing as

that we can settle the

question of the international

settlement.

He answered

in a word.

away

Shaw of the people to

the 30% of tariff duty on

Arming. I have also asked
I am not as yet able to answer your note of Feb. 5. In any case, I am unable to comply with your request. The firm's position is that it cannot operate under the circumstances. The demand for the settlement is not satisfied by the British and the firm maintains that both the settlement and the firm's position are invalid under the circumstances.

Please keep an eye on things and let me know how things are going there.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 enconded 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 threadbare 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
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 grata 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

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 Hau Shih Chang was all but ordered to take over the seals. Hau 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 Tao-tai 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
Chinese. Most of the Japanese present were highly incensed at my appearance on the scene, and Hayashi rather seemed to enjoy their discomfort, 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 drew 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 approaching. 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 "hundred" of commerce. The selection of Hsu Shih Chang, Yuan's protege, for the Vicerealty 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 reserved to foreigners, but poor Sir Robert is having troubles of a more intimate nature. He has been unhappy in the
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 Hippiley 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 twelfth month.

Hentszeman 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
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
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
...the game today was a real battle, with both teams playing well. The Cornell defense was strong, and the offense produced several opportunities. The score at halftime was 1-0 in favor of the Big Red. The second half saw both teams continue to battle, but the game remained close. Cornell ultimately held on for a 2-1 win, thanks to a goal in the final minutes. The fans were thrilled with the performance, and the team is looking forward to their next game.
April 3, 1907.

Business Manager,


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 Chronico1 addressed to W. D. Straight, Esq., and credit to the account of the American Legation, Havana, any monies remaining from the subscription between the date of receiving this letter and September 8, 1907, when Mr. Straight’s subscription ends.

The subscription to the American Legation of the Weekly Chronico1 expires July 31, 1907. Please extend it beyond that date as far as the money transferred from Mr. Straight’s subscription will permit.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]

[Address]

[City, State]

April 3, 1907.

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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 turbulent 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.
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. Hsu, 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.

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."
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 "Neighboring 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
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.
W. D. Straight, Esqre.
U. S. Consul General,

Dear Sir,

In reply to your favour of the 22nd ulto., we would state that we have submitted your queries to the Standard 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 allowed to the premium applicable to Europe etc.

"Should the parties leave China at any time."

Hoping to hear that you are prepared to take up your policy,

We are, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

W. Wilson,

F. Doughty, Sec.

Fisc.
wars the Field and was there on the 25th. with my brother and we are running of our entire armies. Last evening the Union came to business with them, and some key people. Tonight we came to business at the Union with all the "hears" and council. Luck is not both forward in the cards. They have been left in for a Protectorate. The U.S. Sun is now represented by a group of men. The Union has been one of their men in Washington. He is a brother of Potthoff who used to represent the "true" of the regiment. Bailey has returned home from England to his own account. He, too, has learned the situation a good deal. He is satisfied that we shall be here. I don't at least to be here. But the army with experienced officers may remain even longer. All parties will be keen. The troops believe that the Liberals will not lose the battle to hide their time and will overthrow the apple cart. It would be a pleasure for us to make more work on the station.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

In the next year and a half (that is 1908) and for the remaining two years until the next American Presidential campaign, I am sure the influence of the Republican party will be felt. We are in a critical situation, and unless the President is re-elected, we will suffer as we have in the past. It is time to take action again.

The previous Tennant and Lodge candidacy was unsuccessful. I am now convinced that the Tapp candidacy will be more successful. It is time to act now, before it is too late.
Your work is interesting and sufficiently beautiful to grace a long time to spare. I have heard from you since we met up the way. I am writing the first from the hotel you ordered for her. You are to give in your respects. My dear, always affectionately,

Sincerely,

[Signature]
April 23

My dear Willard

You have had headaches and ills

and daily amid the con-

greenhouses surroundings, and

from your health, you

He asked me to help you

the German and

and our wishes were full-

this morning. Though

was glad to hear that

winter friends were visiting

and the sale of spring

was making us anxious
for I was alarmed to perceive that you were in such a state of irritation. I hoped this sensation would prove a valuable touchstone, which might all escape, and that the rest of the world, you might regard with complacency. M. S., and yourself. It would be too much of China to think that either of you knew as much as the other knows. I have learned that it is the custom of Englishmen to make their own newspaper, to which information other Englishmen are bound. For instance, if you take him at his word, it is a perfectly nice person. If you take him honestly, I grant you and not always of the saucy manner, but a man not to fight, and humble, unpretentious, a gentleman.

tribute! All your political news much interests me. I read faithfully my par eastern newspapers in their weekly editions.

Russia's 'Indiscretions' Letters from Peking. I can now say, with some satisfaction. Very unfortunate with a man born after the event.

[Signature]

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Dear Sirs:

Enclosed here find my draft for the balance of Yen one hundred and ninety and twenty yen in the amount of Yen two thousand forty-four and the other for the balance for two shipments per "Coptic" were both the latter endorsed on my account with you. Kindly send me two receipts on Yen 27.44 and the other for the sum of Yen one hundred and nineteen and twenty yen in pay.

Yours truly,

Kobe, Japan.

3. A. Christianen and Co.

Kobe, April 25, 1903.
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 bills 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", totaling $18.90. I wish to that you would give $50.00 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,
Kukden, 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 will prove satisfactory and enclose herewith my draft for £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,

The Willard Straight

Mukden, China.

April 25, 1907.

John Byrns and Co.,

1322 F Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:-

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,
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 state of amity and good-will with the spirit of the Victory Chino-Japanese War with whom we shall have (few words in letter omitted when copying).

Mr. Cheare 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.

Mukden, April 27, 1907.

Dear Mr. Rockhill:

I have just returned from Antung via Dalny, where I saw Mr. Kishiwada, who, as you know, has been charged with the task of negotiating for the establishment of a Chino custom 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 Custom 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 of His Excellency.

W. W. Rockhill,

etc. etc. etc.

American Minister, Peking.
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. Anchung
I have seen it announced in the newspaper, that the Cus-
toms House was to be opened by the first of May. I am
very much of the opinion that at the rate at which nego-
tiations 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 re-
turned 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 follow-
ing 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 achieve all that they had hoped 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
Tientsin, 29th. Apr. 1907.

W. S. Straight, Esq.,
U. S. A. Consul General,
Macao.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 25th. inst., enclosing draft for $1,277.40, in payment of first premium on your policy no. 518.

We note your request that your present policy be exchanged for two of $500 & one of $250, and we are accordingly returning the document in question to Shanghai in order that the required exchange may be effected.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

Wilson & Co.

for T. Sharp.

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Havana, April 30th, 1907.

Dear Mr. Straight,

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Dear Mr. Straight,

Dear Mr. Straight,

Dear Mr. Straight,

Dear Mr. Straight,

Dear Mr. Straight,
There is nothing I can send you.
I have never heard from you since my return to the States. The gift was a token of affection and we do not look for repayment.

It seems I have come to the end of our time here and I am beginning to depart, partly because the existence of the first few days with the wings of the suggestion that responsibility and activity are possible, our world seems to be just the end of a line and non-trivial matters which may lead us to think us non-effective. I don't see any other way...
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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 Nwohwang after the closing of that port to navigation last year, and the increased demand in Japan for that product as a fertiliser 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 about 50,000 yen. More than half were exported during January. From February onwards there was a decrease.
in the supply and an increase in prices, with a corresponding falling off in the shipments.

Cereals.—The exportations of kao-liang 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 Kinschou 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.
Mundon, 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 16th of April and they all must be reported and commented upon with a certain degree of intelligence.

Your news of Dearing's probable appointment was an agreeable surprise. Ours to the foresi 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 Garr 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 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 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 Wijs 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.
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 $435.63, 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 fascinating 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,

[Signature]
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 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 Dairen. 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 those 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
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 enabling 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 have 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 could spare me. Laughlin has a sketch of an old Korean by you which I think is admirable.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Willard B. Straight, Esq.,
American Consul General,
Harbin.
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 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.
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, Kwan-chan; I am just getting ready to start for Kweilin so it is possible Dr. Collbran may address me care of you.

There is great excitement in Kwan-chan - just now in official Chinese circles it appears that the Chief of Constabulary has been setting rifles from a Japanese firm for some time past - it seems that more rifles have been coming into the city, than seemed quite necessary for the safety of the native defenders of the city, so suspicion being aroused, the Japanese official's books were examined and stricter inquiries made. About 2,000 rifles appear on the books officially, but as a matter of fact something like 10,000 rifles have actually passed through the Chief of Constabulary's hands - there is an unofficial list of rifles that have been sold to the Jap Government. These figures given are on Chinese authority by official Jap Government officers.

The Japanese authorities have refused to do anything to stop this firm doing this fine trade in contraband.

Have you heard from Dr. Collbran yet - things don't seem much more promising here than they did at headquarters.

My compliments to Mr. Howard.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
Wuben, May 12, 1907

Dear Bradford -

Now that is temerity indeed. I wonder if you know the feeling that one has when one wonders about tackling on the tail to a name, or letting it drop in a desire not to be thought too formal—yet regretting the assumption 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 foresee 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 prefer 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. Don't you? Don't 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 animal species must be exhibited in physical strife, more or less) is suppressed and discouraged, isn't the result more apt to be a weakling? And isn't it easier to control strength than to vivrify 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 should have to win! Isn't that Christian, or not?

I have just re-read your letter in which you speak of Van Selder'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 rural decoration people, and not really of red flesh and blood. Yet after all is it not possible that as decoration they are more honest and frank admissions that they are decorations—color schemes embodying natural and human forms as the patterns?

I should like very much to see your designs for the leaded windows. Have 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 Treatises, 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 readjustments—I mean of course from a broad point of view.

In Italy the Renaissance came, didn't it, at a time when there was a great commercial prosperity, while the trade 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. As I correct? They couldn't 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 Munchuria, 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 nearer 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 Mikun 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 sens and team. I make no comments.
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 stead 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.
Hukden, 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.
a speedy solution - 

As to the Russian contention that goods imported into Manchuria by the railway after payment of 2/3 of the tariff import duty are free from all duty on landing in the sea port or lift the railway line - i.e. stations along the railway, I think that this point is well taken, and in this, I 

understand Jordan, the U.S. and the German alliance, but what would be the value of a mixed tariff - minded on account of the length of the land to get the goods to market, if it only brought them to the Chinese garrisons and that to make the market they had to pay transit fees? All the important centers along the railway in Manchuria, Russian as well as Japanese, are now
Dear Mr. Straight,

The check being over to me neither very kindly nor like to me, the receipt being necessary, yours, holding it over to the treasurer.

To do our work the punctual of the thing, also the latter, which comes, paying, these payments, the company.

Wilson & Co.,

Tientsin, 18th May 1907

Mr. D. Straight Esquire,
R. S. Consul General
Mudder.

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your telegram of the 14th inst., instructing us to forward your check for $1,400 to Mr. Gardner, of the Shih Ho Bank, Peking.

We yesterday received a letter from Shih, enclosing three proposals for which your signature is required, and which we now forward herewith. In order that time may be economized, we would suggest that you return these papers duly signed direct to Shih.

On receipt of your further, we will forward the $1,400 to you direct, and one for $700 to Mr. Gardner.

The unavoidable delay in completing this transaction, we must regret, but hope that the matter will shortly be successfully completed.

Yours faithfully,

Wilson & Co.
Mukden, May 19, 1907.

Dear Excellence:

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 "taff college, 20 of whom come in tomorrow night for a smoking concert given by the "Goat" [non-missionary] residents of Mukden - Leonard and Rubido - Zicky 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 a clever and astute politician - an education really in itself and that is what I am looking for.

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.
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
Peking, May 12, 1909.

William Straight Esq.
Resident General
Hongkong

May 15th, 1909.

My dear Sir,

In continuation of our letter of May 15th, we have carefully considered our previous note for $2000 per month, which has been granted to you in accordance with your previous instructions. The Standard Life Policy is in hand, and we are now able to accept the arrangement which you have proposed. What will the 1st July bring to this arrangement? We are glad to hear by a letter from your American Consul that you are so comfortably settled.

Sincerely yours,

W. M. M.

Missouri

Peking, May 15th, 1909.

My dear Straight,

I was much pleased to hear by your telegram of Monday that you had made your preparations for your return. I await with impatience a copy of your prepared speech and I expect to ascertain by the Chinese. I think we caught at Paris.
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

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-
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 Chas-
shire here and the regular routine has been badly inter-
rupted, while the transfer from our old quarters into the
Temple required time and naturally caused considerable
confusion in our happy family. In decent surrounding
life has a new charm, one that I had almost come to be-
lieve 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, be-
lieve 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.

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 ar-
rangements 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.
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.

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Willard D. Straight
American Consulate General
Nukden

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 26th and 27th the former enclosing Messrs Wilson & Co's letter which I return herewith and the latter enclosing you note for $2500.

In reply to your enquiry the interest is worked on the existing balance, i.e., if you pay off say $500 a month you are only charged interest on the actual balance from day to day.

Enclosed please find draft on Nukden for the equivalent of your cheque for Peking $1000. The Yokohama Bank have given us a draft on Fengtien for Silver Yen 1050.95 as per same enclosed.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

Acting Agent

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
Sunday, June 2nd, 1907.

Dear Excellency,

[In Latin]

Your letter reproving me for 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 babbles 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 reason 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 martes, 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.

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 vicerey here. During Hagiwara’s absence I am senior consul and we had the first white performance given since the 10th of March 1906. Not a single J. officer! The new people when they came didn’t call on the consul so we told his aides 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 his aides 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 horseback 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 vicerey came again. this time quite privately, with the No. 2 Banner general. The Germans and Oliver were here and the vicerey told us a good deal about the rushis mines, about ruthulm and the mines there, the handing over of the Hai-min-tun railroad, etc. The latter has really been a farce - 3 engines - 1 second class car, 3 third class, 20 closed and 20 open trucks together with 27 miles of pretty bad track for 366,000. It’s a shame really. However, this is tiring and the pen’s bad.

These days I often think of you on the Malacca, 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 Havana much longer. Mr. Rockhill goes on leave in August or September, I believe. How about racing?

Always yours,

Willard Straight.
Dear Sir,

In accordance with the instructions contained in your letter 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 a receipt for the packages and Invoice amounting to $110.25 awaiting your further orders, which shall receive our prompt care and attention.

We are, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

MURDEN

W. D. Straight, Esq.

Shanghai, 27th March, 1907.

Received of Willard P. Straight $85.00

MURDEN

March 4, 1907

The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University
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.
who are reliable. There would have been a much larger profit had not the investments some of them turned out poorly; some of them were in Germany. But if you see the latest news, we make a number of them, and in any case there's no one here who would sell them in the open because there's no way of making them pay. Mr. Putnam asks me to be the buying agent to secure us back the sterling, and when I've started the Sterling, and when I've started them into a new company I need more within a few months. In thought of writing Mr. Schlesinger, but it seemed so many. Mr. Putnam & the content...
Dear Mr. Gardner:

I have received your favor of the 31st ultimo enclosing Messrs. Wislen and Goye letter to me and a draft for Silver Yen 1,030.93 the equivalent of $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.
The Willard Straight Papers at Cornell University

To Sir.

My dear Sir,

I should like to say that I am surprised at your letter of the 7th instant. It is quite true that I am returning to China, but I was not at all prepared for it. I trust that you will not be out of patience with me. I have been very ill for some time and have been in bed for the last week or so. I have been very anxious to return to China and I am sure that you will understand that I am not in a position to discuss the matter at present.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[Signature]

Peking, China

June 8, 1909
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.
Dear S.,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated the 1st of October, and the remittance of $65.65 as per your order.

We are, Dear Sir,

Your faithfully,

Robert Walsh

THE WILLARD STRAIGHT PAPER CO.
60, Taik Road.
Tientsin, 1st June 1907

To Tientsin Tobacco Co.
General Tobaccoists.
Manufacturers of High-Class Egyptian Cigarettes.

Accounts Payable Monthly Terms Net Cash.

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Shanghai, 13th June 1907

W.D. Straight Esq.

Bought of Framjee Sorabjee & Co.

General Store-Keepers.
364-5, P. Nanking Road.

To memo of one case above for:

S.S. Hekhow.

1 box tea coffee 9.70
1 box chocolate 3.60

Total 13.30

Less 10% Discount 1.35

Freight 1.15

Total 13.85

E & O E.

Shanghai, 13th June 1907

W.D. Straight Esq.

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General Store-Keepers.
364-5, P. Nanking Road.

To memo of one case above for:

S.S. Hekhow.

1 box tea coffee 9.70
1 box chocolate 3.60

Total 13.30

Less 10% Discount 1.35

Freight 1.15

Total 13.85

E & O E.
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 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 foolsack 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
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 thereon.

The New Administration is at 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
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 concour in a very liberal interpretation of the Agreement of 1905. The same afternoon I saw Tang, Hau, 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 Hau 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 Ports" and that all negotiations regarding customs regulations and settlement arrangements will be carried on with him. In Manchuria at present everything is being centralised. 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
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 on 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 difficult 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.
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."

Mukden, China.
June 21, 1907.

M.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,
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. Hau 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 alpaca skirt and foreign shoes to bid farewell to the inaugurat of feminine education in Manchuria.

Hayashi, Hagiquara, 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
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 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.
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,

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MUNDEN, CHINA,
June 27, 1907.

T. A. Christensen and Co.
Kobe, Japan.

Dear Mrs.:

Several days ago I forwarded you via Dalny two wooden cases, containing books belonging to and the effects of the late Mrs. Nelson Fairchild, Vice Consul General at Mukden. I should like to have these 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.