

ALLIANCE WITH JAPAN

By John Stuart Thomson, author of "The Chinese," "China Revolutionized"

From 1909 to 1914 I propagated in two of my books and in a number of magazines of Allied countries, a defensive Anglo-American-French naval alliance. I am now propagating the addition thereto of a Nipponese alliance, one purpose of which shall be the saving of all Asia (including the Philippines) from the German fist and submarine, whether the attack is made direct or by Bolsheviki or other agent.

From 1914, with Stephen Pichon, France's foreign minister, and Baron Sakatani, ex mayor of Tokio (now adviser to China at Peking) I have urged the prompt use of Nippon's armies on all fronts, so as to confine the war and win promptly. We had little difficulty in securing the approval of the Kensaikai (Opposition) party with 118 votes in the Diet.

I am tremendously impressed both with the value and with the warmth of this sympathy, led by Baron Kato, ex-Minister of Justice Ozaki, and ex-Premier Okuma. The latter even said that to save civilization from tyranny, Nippon would be willing to spend half a million lives on the western front or elsewhere. His exact words reported by Gregory Mason in the London *Outlook* are: "We should perhaps send half a million men or more, and be given 50 miles of the French front. We are willing to lose hundreds of thousands on the western front in order to strike Germany a blow of victory."

I of course urged that the Nipponese armies should have been used in 1914-1915 to strengthen the power and promptness of Brusiloff's drives for Vienna, to meet the Italian armies.

In September, 1917, we won the *Corriere della Sera* of Milan which said: "There will come a time when the missed

opportunity of the aid of the Nipponese armies will be considered the worst error of the Allies. Not a single statesman among the Allies has had the timely insight to urge a straightforward bid for Nippon's armies." Italy's Senator Ferraril said in the *Messagero* of Rome: "We want the Nipponese also in Macedonia." The *New York Times* of February 13 and February 27, 28, 1918 said tardily (America has been the slowest to appreciate the place and importance of Nipponese aid), "Use the Nipponese armies at once in Macedonia, Palestine, Siberia and all fronts." In foreign affairs we Americans are gifted with microscopic hindsight, instead of telescopic statesmanlike foresight. Why didn't the *Times* say this in 1914-1915 when Brusiloff was making his successful drives?

Economically of course it would not be right that Nippon should be enriched by the war through munition-making, and not spend some of the blood cost. That is why I want the Nipponese ships which bring Australian wool and beef and Javanese sugar to the western front, to bring also some of Nippon's soldiers. Via Canada and via Nipponese ships, we could soon land at least fifteen divisions on the western front. Of the effective countries (I do not include Pacifist China, though Baron Sakatani can gather up several hundred thousand soldiers there too) Nippon is richest in war-like youths.

We were profoundly grateful when in the fall of 1917 the powerful Tokio newspapers *Hochi* and *Nichi* admitted the theory that Nippon's armies might be needed and used even in Europe. We rejoiced when in January, 1918, the Kensaikai party (118 votes) read this declaration in the Diet: "Nippon has not been sufficiently positive in her support of the Allies to date."

Ex-Minister of Justice Ozaki (of Opposition) stood up in the Diet on January 28, 1918, and said impassionately: "I denounce the policy of the ministry to date. Nippon should more vigorously enter the war for democracy. I demand that Nippon increase the aid extended to the Allies."

Viscount Montono, foreign minister, told the Diet: "In order to secure lasting peace, we are firmly confident that,

Nippon must not recoil from any sacrifice she may be called upon to make."

Viscount Kato, president of the Kensaikai party, declared in an interview in the Chugwai Shog-yo: "Nippon should lend more aid to the Allies, in order that she should always maintain intimate relations with Britain, France and America."

Russia is and will be as disorganized as China for years to come, partly because her masses cannot read. She is the China of the white race (part Tartar indeed). Russia was Germany's chief aim all along. Lenine, Trotsky and the Bolsheviki are virtually Teuton agents, by the Brest-Litovsk record, and by the general belief throughout Poland. Our boys are now being killed on the Ypres and Amiens fronts by divisions, guns and ammunition released by the Bolsheviki for this purpose. Some of the guns being fired upon us, are Nipponese artillery that the Russians captured in Manchuria!

Nippon, America and the Allies must redeem Siberia and Russia by conscription for civilization; not by consent to the Bolsheviki's pacifist pro-Germanism. We must and will send Nippon in to rescue Siberia, and Baron Sakatani will see that China aids with her army. China owes us such a duty, and moreover she is one of our pledged Allies. Let us therefore recognize pro tem, under Generals Horvath and Semenof of Kharbin and Vladivostok, a rehabilitated Siberia under the aegis of Nippon, as our agent and ally.

I believe Barons Ishii and Shibusawa will, when the day of arrangement comes, agree to a fair protection and division of China's franchises, between Nippon and the Allies. "No Germans need apply." For one thing, Nippon will not consent to such a repetition of militarism in the Far East. She well knows that Germany intrigued the Korean, China and Russian wars against Nippon.

On November 2, 1917 America (and Britain inferentially—many of Britain's treaties being secret) officially recognized an indefinite phrase: "Nippon's special interests in the Far East." Of course this means two things: special duty to police the Far East against Germany, and proportionate

interests in China's franchises. I believe Baron Goto's party entertains this sense of financial compromise.

It is true that Nippon under Baron Hayashi's advice, once refused Secretary of State Knox's and E. H. Harri- man's request for American participation in Manchurian railways, but Nippon explains that intriguing Germany had put China "up to" forcing on America a franchise from Kinchou on the Liao-tung Gulf, up through Mongolia and Siberia to Tsitsikar and Aigun, in competition with Nip- pon's Manchurian Railways, that were not paying over- well.

"What's the use of having cut-throat competition," said Nippon. This seems a reasonable explanation.

It is true that Professor Tsurutaro at one time was pro- Teuton academically, but almost everybody except the German is open to conversion and conviction! Editor Tokutomi has at times been anti-American in his journal the *Kokumin*, but doubtless Germany was lying to him about us!

M. Wakamiya has at times been anti-Caucasian, but so have some of us in our haste been anti-Nipponite! I pos- sess my own share of vituperative vocabulary and sins of generalization! *Tempora mutantur et nos mutamur in illis!*

The Bourbon wing of the Terauchi party once demanded twenty-one monopolies from China, but if they thus out- played German intrigue and meant to share with the Allies, it is all right; also providing that China received her due royalties, and would not waste the said receipts on pur- chases in Germany! Since the Chinese masses cannot read, China needs the supporting hand of both America and Nip- pon, America supplying the sentiment and Nippon supply- ing the police arm when necessary.

I. Nobutaro and the *Taivo* magazine at times were obsti- nate in objecting to Nippon giving maritime help to the Allies in the submarined zone, but deeds speak louder than words, and Nippon has sent many ships to help us, partially through a little economic pressure that America put upon the Obstructionists by delaying shipments of steel plates to

Nippon, till the ships were sent to do Nippon's share! This is what is known as "American shirt-sleeve diplomacy," and it has its uses with Obstructionists! I can recite three instances where ex-President Roosevelt, my esteemed friend, has used the same kind of diplomacy with Obstructionists in Germany, Nippon and even in Britain! Sometimes a son must speak "up and out," even to his father!

Baron Megata once objected to sending a Nipponese army to Europe, but other Nipponese more powerful have taken the other side,—for instance Baron Okuma! Kotaro Monchizuki once said in the Diet that "America should clear out of the Philippines," but responsible members of the Diet have told me that he is a humorist, and was only trying to force us to offer an alliance, which we now cordially do offer!

Katayama's, Nishakawa's, Kinoshita's, and Abé's Socialist party in Nippon is disorganized in war time and therefore does not come into this discussion.

Dr. Iyenaga, official spokesman in America for Nippon (East and West Advertising Bureau), at one time offered psychologic reasons why Nippon's armies should not be sent to Europe, and General Oshima, minister of war, at one time also opposed. Dr. Terao said: "Send no army." Dr. Senaga said: "Nippon's first aim should be commercial gain out of the war." Kinnosuke said practically the same thing, but then he is often facetious! Viscount Uchida thinks the Bolsheviki may infect Germany, and he waits and watches. But "watchful waiting" has been a success no where in this war; it lost Serbia and Rumania; it lost Bulgaria; it sacrificed Russia; it did all it could to lose Nippon.

But so have we all varied and fluttered in opinion, before we settled down to courageous and statesmanlike policies. Professor Ninagawa-Shin of Doshisha University, Kyoto, says in the *Nichon Nihonjin* magazine: "Nippon and the Allies should attack on the eastern front, even if Russia becomes a permanent foe, so as to prevent the Teutons withdrawing men for the western front." There speaks a real statesman of strategy and psychology, and with him I

dream a dream as follows, a dream which could have been effected in 1914-1915, if the Fiasco Cliques had acted courageously on the first diagnosis of the world war.

The final break must be made by a Nipponese army before Moscow, joining an Allied army finally at Vienna, and forcing and inducing and encouraging Bohemia, Turkey, Bulgaria, variable Ukraine, Hungary, Saxony whom Bismarck ravaged, Poland, Greece, Serbia, Rumania and Central Russia, to all work with us and choke off and ring round the mad north-German, Wodan-worshipping barbarian, thus ushering in a new type of civilization, based on the freedom and the league of race units, which (in a world-confederation) observe and fight for international law.

Like two samurai, Nippon and America face each other across the Pacific and on the other side of the Pacific (we are in the Philippines). May the crowd who look on, never shout out: "Abunaizo! Batto Shita" (look out! they are unsheathing their swords), unless those swords are unsheathed as partners against the common enemy.