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Governor-General of Chosen
April-October 1927 - July 1931-

Speech Excerpted from:
Thriving Chosen: a Survey of Twenty-Five years' Administration. [Keijo?]: Compiled by
Government-General of Chosen, October, 1935,
pages 79-93.

University of Oregon Knight Library call number:
DS936.C4K67 1935

SPEECH ON THE FUTURE OF CHOSEN

by

Governor-General Ugaki
Keijo, September 13, 1934

Electronic version input on August 19, 1997

Speech on the Future of Chosen by Governor-General Ugaki.

At the Conference of

Empire Middle School Principals

In Keijo, on the 11th September, 1934

Gentlemen :

It is a great honour as well as a pleasure for Chosen to have the opportunity of welcoming so many prominent men in the Japanese Educational World.

A few days ago, one of the promoters of this meeting representing the Conference, intimated to me his desire for my delivering a lecture on the " Present Day Conditions of Chosen ". As I was trained in the idea of " Showing by deeds rather than by words ", I am unaccustomed to deliver lectures especially before so many prominent educationists. However, in view of the importance of this assembly consisting of eminent authorities in the educational world of our Empire, I feel it is my duty to introduce to you the actual conditions of Chosen and her administration in order to obtain your understanding and recognition of the real picture of Chosen and the trend for the future, and to receive your sympathy and support for this peninsula.

I. Recognizing the Importance of Chosen

It is apparent that the attitude of the twenty million Korean people for or against Japan, in peace or in war, and also the rise or the fall of this peninsula, the area of which is 222,741 square kilometers (85,228 square miles), as large as Honshu with the exception of Omi province, wields the greatest influence on the future advance and prosperity of the Japanese Empire. The progress of Chosen has indeed much to do with the future development of our Empire.

Without concerning ourselves with old history, I believe that the amalgamation between Japan and Korea is the first in the history of the modern age in which one country of nearly twenty million inhabitants has been amalgamated into and governed by another country. Great Britain rules India with a population of over 200 millions, consisting of many small heterogeneous races, with diverse languages, customs, manners, and religions, so we cannot say that India is a pure and simple race. In the whole history of the world no country has ever successfully annexed and completely assimilated a pure and simple race of a population of twenty million like Chosen. I feel that Japan is now placed under a supreme test, being watched by other countries, as to whether she is capable of accomplishing the task of amalgamation with success. From this point of view, the success or failure of the Japanese administration of Chosen and the velocity with which the assimilation of Chosen takes place, is of vital concern to the honour of the Japanese Empire in the eyes of the whole world, and also viewed in the interest of the prosperity or the decline of our national destiny and of the dignity and honour of the country among other nations, I feel that it is of paramount importance to administer Chosen of today successfully and to guide her properly in the future.

II. People in Japan Proper should be better Informed concerning Chosen

It is most regrettable however that there are very few people amongst our seventy million compatriots in Japan Proper who are in a mood similar to what I express today and who think

of the welfare of Chosen and keep in close relationship with Chosen. For instance until only a few years ago there were men even among statesmen who asked me such a ridiculous question as "Do you know where is the island of Kanto?" (Chientao), [N. B. In Chinese characters Kanto is written as 間島 meaning "Between Islands"]. Even in recent times among intelligent people in Japan Proper there are many who entertain the following ideas and ask strange questions, such as: that the rice of Chosen overwhelms that of Japan; Chosen is a cotton producing country; Chosen timbers are abundantly exported to Manchuria. But they say, when they travel at a stretch from Fusan to Shingishu via Keijo by the railway which runs through the heart of the peninsula, they see only worthless pine trees on the hillsides which scarcely cover the bare slopes, and no wide expanse of arable land producing great quantities of rice, nor any cotton fields whatever along the railway line. However, as you are all aware the railway between Fusan and Keijo was built in accordance with the treaty at the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese war in places most easily constructed in the shortest time to prepare for emergency, and the Keijo Shingishu Line was laid down at the time of the Russo-Japanese War with a similar object and accordingly no special consideration was given to industrial or economic interests. Therefore the districts traversed by the railways referred to are not the most fertile sections in this country. The biggest agricultural districts where rice and cotton are abundantly grown are located along the Konan railway and along the coast of Kokai province. In the upper reaches of the Yalu and Tumen rivers there are many forests covering an area of over two million chobu which have not *been* touched by hand of man for many centuries. From these places, big forest trees are cut and exported. It seems to me that the people in Japan Proper have little knowledge concerning Chosen, and it is natural that, with the exception of a few persons who have previously had special connections with her, they have very little relationship with her. As a result, they are not in sympathy with her, and so cannot assist or enlighten her of their own accord. Heretofore the slogan, "harmonious cooperation between Japan and Chosen" was endowed with the meaning of the harmonious cooperation and friendly relations between the five hundred thousand Japanese residents in Chosen and the twenty million Koreans.

This of course is necessary, but when we are convinced that the success or failure of the administration of this peninsula and of the speed with which the assimilation of Chosen takes place vitally concerns the interest of the nation and the prosperity of the Japanese Empire, this should not be confined to such a narrow meaning. A real harmonious cooperation between the two masses can only be realized when the seventy million of Japanese and twenty million of Koreans are united into *one* mutual accord. Therefore I firmly believe that the slogan "ninety million fellow countrymen" should be realized in letter and in spirit. I am sure you will all understand fully the meaning of what I attempt to explain and will sympathize and assist us in the progress of Chosen. Moreover I sincerely hope that you will lend your help in guiding the people in general to bring about the realization of this true, harmonious combination between Japan and Chosen and of the union of our ninety million fellow countrymen, and having taken these facts into consideration thus aid toward the strengthening of the foundations of the Japanese Empire in the future and give an example to the nations of the world of a good administration provided for subjects newly added to our Empire.

III. Japan's Achievements should be unfolded to the World

Last spring a distinguished member of the British Privy Council broke his journey in Keijo on his way to Tokyo after an extended tour of inspection in China and Manchukuo. I had the pleasure of exchanging views with him one evening, on which occasion he intimated to me that Japan seemed rather far behind in propaganda. He went on to say that Japan expressed complaints that the world lacked information about Manchukuo, but that it would be more intelligent for Japan to inform the world of the condition of Korea twenty years ago, which then had fallen into a more degenerated condition mentally and physically than Manchuria and

China of today, and which had made astounding progress and rapid strides in every respect ; thanks, he said, to the Japanese administration during the past twenty or more years. If Japan could unfold these facts, the world would then readily understand that Manchukuo under the guidance and assistance of Japan will rise to become a country similarly prosperous as Chosen within twenty years, and result in bringing happiness to the thirty million Manchus as well as in adding to the welfare of the human race of the entire world. To let the world know, he concluded, the conditions now existing in Chosen is the shortest way for making them understand Japan's position toward Manchukuo, and far better than advancing arguments and explaining reasons. I cannot think that Chosen is already in such perfection as eulogized by him, but at any rate it is the touchstone and watershed, and the **success** or failure with which entirely depends **on** the dexterity or otherwise of the administration in Chosen of so vital concern for the future progress and prosperity of the Japanese Empire. What I have spoken here in all frankness is born of my desire to rouse your attention to a fuller knowledge of Chosen from the national standpoint. I further wish to speak of the possibilities and of the qualifications of the Koreans which suit them to join Japan harmoniously and be united into one with Japan Proper.

IV. Trend of Thought

Since the middle of the Yi Dynasty up to the advent of the Japanese regime, the long continued maladministration of the Korean ruling class and the apathetic acceptance of it by the people, influenced by the idea of respecting and relying upon China as the suzerain state, debased the spirit of all the Koreans, paralysed their emotions, and crippled their will to work, eliminating any idea of thrift and saving. Their hopes and ideas for improvement and progress had been shattered and thus they **were** compelled to confine themselves to the old miserable time-honoured conditions. This wretched state of affairs continued for ages, forming a habit and so came to be a national characteristic of Koreans in general, and they have not been able to escape from these miserable conditions inherited from olden times, even in recent days despite the elapse of twenty odd years since the amalgamation.

Besides, the Korean people, who were ignorant of the situation prevailing in the Orient and had no real capacity of studying it, did not understand the sublime motive and profound meaning of Japan's amalgamation of their country, but excitedly and critically disliked the Japanese and her regime, and did not welcome the sincere Japanese efforts and kindnesses, regarding them with disdain and prejudice. As the administrative system of the former Korean government was so very casual and backward or **even** embryonic, it was not unreasonable for Koreans to have had no appreciation of the good laws and high standard plans, introduced perhaps too literally into this peninsula, patterned after those in the homeland, some of which were unsuitable and irksome to the people. On the other hand again the imprudent and arrogant attitude of some Japanese residents in Chosen toward Koreans added to the existing aversion and prejudice of Koreans against Japan's regime here. Furthermore during the Great World War various radical thoughts, such as independence, self determination and communism in rapid succession completely gripped the people in this country. In spite of this Japan's position in this peninsula has remained steadfast and unwavering and her administration sound.

However, the plans so earnestly put in train by my predecessors, and the operation of those significant movements for the Invigoration of National Spirit, Self-Help, and Rehabilitation of Farm Villages throughout Chosen which, within these few years, are already showing signs of marked progress, and in addition the steadfast and unwavering attitude of our Empire against the world powers in connection with the Manchurian issue have had a great impression and influence upon the minds of the Korean people. In consequence, they have gradually yielded their obstinate prejudices and their disdainful attitude, and judged things correctly and fairly with a clear preception, and even appreciate the sincerity of the administrators in promoting their welfare. They are now also inclined to enjoy mutual existence and mutual prosperity with

us and the same time to share the ups and downs of their mother country and of the Japanese by definitely cooperating with the authorities. This is the real present condition of Chosen, and the people are fully devoting themselves to the Self Help Movement, which already shows signs of remarkable progress, within a short space of time, throughout **Chosen**. It is **true that** there are still some malcontents among Koreans but I know their intrigues can in no way vitally affect our country's position in this peninsula. Some even go the length of stating that Chosen has never since her foundation seen her people united, forging ahead toward a definite goal as at present. Though it may be doubtful whether Chosen deserves such high commendation I am firmly convinced that should the situation continue to progress as at present this peninsula would become firmly placed in all fields of human endeavour spiritually and materially in the near future, so the Koreans in mutual endeavour with their fellow Japanese countrymen will give good promise of achieving Kodo (Benevolent Administration), my long cherished ideal.

In this connection I should like to add a few words. I am sure there are very few malcontents in Chosen at present, for almost all Korean malcontents in the past carried on their schemes with the Maritime Provinces, Manchuria, China, and Shanghai in particular, as their bases of operation. Since the independence of Manchukuo has been established the situation in the Far East has undergone such a remarkable change that their raison' detre has all the more paled into insignificance. What greatly concerns me are the Korean students and labourers crossing to Japan Proper who are apt to introduce various radical thoughts into Chosen after being infected in Japan Proper, which may become the cradle or hotbed for these dangerous or destructive thoughts.

V. The Movements of Self-Help and Resuscitation of the Country Districts

I will now explain a little about the movement of Self-help and Resuscitation of the country districts which is being carried out over the whole of Chosen.

We consider that if we wish to revive this peninsula which has been facing extreme distress, it is of utmost importance to rehabilitate the farming villages which contain 80 percent of the total Korean population. Therefore it is in this work of resuscitation that the present administration is making its greatest efforts. When the problem of these agricultural villages comes to **be** keenly discussed in Japan, it will not have been in vain that I try to give you a glimpse of these movements. There is no doubt that the administration of every establishment and institution has been improved year by year since the amalgamation. But when we examine these points more closely we find many places yet for improvement and alteration. Above all, the present Korean agricultural villages forming the core of Korean economic power, 80 percent of **whose** occupants are tenant farmers, are now appealing in their poverty and distress.

They had been heavily oppressed by the continued maladministration of the ruling Korean class from the middle of the Yi Dynasty. As a consequence their hopes and their courage to use effort had been shattered and they had abandoned all attempt to raise their standard of living. Thus oppressed they accepted it as a matter of course to be indigent and were satisfied to live in miserable hovels and like drunkards to pass life as indolent drones. The **result** was, shortage of food accompanied by increasing debts year by year. In the harvest season money lenders assailed the doors of their homes seizing for debt the harvests, the fruits of a whole year's labour, in return for borrowed food and for interest on money advanced. In the poverty season of spring from lack of food they would dig out and eat roots of trees on the mountains and fields or would beg from every door to keep themselves alive. In short there are very few Korean peasants who could hope to succeed brilliantly in the future on account of their **poverty** in the past and of their suffering in the present. Generally speaking, that we could not remedy these had conditions and save the farmers from poverty easily, since the time of amalgamation, has been due to the lack of self-confidence among the Korean farmers.

Speaking more exactly, most farmers could not fully understand such questions as the varying

characteristics of agricultural villages, the nature of husbandry, and the ideals or aims for agriculturalists. However, we must not blame these failures only to the farmers' side. Long-established customs as well as the lack of power and of effort for innovations and improvements on the side of statesmen, economists, and scholars are also responsible. So the means for removing these miserable conditions must be solved by both sides, and we are now making the greatest effort to this end. What was the effect of this apathy of the Korean farmers? Neglecting the necessity of remodelling their own villages they did not attempt any innovations or to improve their own defects with the view to obtaining a better living or increased results from their husbandry. The farmers wasted their surplus time in idleness. Consequently there were shortages in their food supply and increase in their debts on which they could generally not even pay the interest.

Owing to the lack of a knowledge of economy and the inability to calculate figures, when compelled by necessity, they repeatedly borrowed money at high interest without consideration and so suffered more and more from debt. On the other hand, lured by the rising tide of modern living they lost all sense of economic self-supply, and the tendency toward a limited exchange of commodities and stringency of money penetrated the agricultural field, destroying with unnatural conditions the social system of the farming communities. Thus the miserable *conditions* of the Korean agricultural villages speedily increased to an extreme extent. As the farmers existed in such unstable and miserable conditions, when the spring season of poverty came they were forced to beg from door to door wandering from one place to another, or to search for roots of herbs and trees in the mountains and fields.

So we can think of the old Chinese poem and proverb :-

“ Wearily *on* return from town
Tears stained my mended rags
Mine eyes had seen *fine* forms in silk
Drawn from our gnarled hands.”

or :-“ The Rice Producer is not the Rice eating man ”

It is most regrettable that they have been in such a miserable and unstable condition although this state is rooted in long-established custom or old time tradition. The existence of these numerous miserable Korean farmers, His Majesty's subjects, is indeed the greatest trouble and anxiety for the administration of Chosen, so that we can not expect the development and prosperity of Chosen should their position and the upraising of their livelihood be neglected. As it was evidently of the first and greatest importance to devise measures in the administration of Chosen, to counteract their wretched condition, from the early spring of 1932, the year following my assumption of my post I made up my mind to use my utmost efforts for the renovation and improvement of their lives, and I have devoted my greatest energies to attain this end.

I think that there are two methods for counteracting these wretched conditions and for strengthening the movements. One is by relief works through the distribution of wages in public and embankment works. The other is by resuscitation and improvement of the agricultural communities and reform of farming economy. The former is, of course very necessary, and it is now being carried out, but the effect gives only temporary recovery just as camphor, given to a dying man, which requires injections two or three times every few hours.

From the point of national economy, the nature of these works is not continuous. After all, I am sure that the best policy which will enable the farmers to maintain a strong position and which may save the agricultural community, is the movement toward self-help which is now being pursued most energetically. To urge forward this movement, we must establish its policy based on the cause of the present poverty of the agricultural community. In doing so, we must first endeavour to make the farmers as well as the leaders of the agricultural communities conscious of the nature and characteristics of these communities and of the aims and ideals of farmers.

To promote this policy, since the spring of 1932, we have directed our efforts toward instruction and guidance for the improvement of old habits and customs, and for the restoration of the morale of the people. Now we are further striving for the improvement of livelihood, the reform of farming methods, and the fuller utilization of working power, thus approaching the realization of the revival of the agricultural communities. This movement for self-help is steadily bearing fruit even after such a short time, being impressed on the general consciousness, by public or private organizations, by the united efforts of educated people and carried forward by the whole population of Chosen, in spite of there being so many points to improve in the simple and plain living of the people in general, and in their primitive methods of farming.

So the prospect is promising that the agricultural communities of Chosen will be greatly improved and developed within seven or eight years from now, and the stability of farming life will be raised to such a degree that Chosen will contribute largely to the improvement and prosperity of the mother country. In order to make this movement strong and effective, the authorities of the Government General of Chosen are now making great efforts in preparing young men who will form the future backbone of the agricultural community, in offering means to eliminate debts at high interest, in lowering the rates of land tax to lighten the burden of the farming population, in circulating funds at low interest for the establishment of peasant proprietors and in assuring an improvement of agriculture by compromise between landlords and tenants or in giving stability to the life of tenants by enacting the Farmland Act.

In consequence there is less and less of that ominous tendency of farmers to flock into the cities in great numbers searching in vain for employment. This is indeed a sign of returning farm appeal, of improvement in the farming communities and of the creation of an agricultural paradise. The vigorous development of these movements in Chosen is one of the great characteristics which may well make us proud of our Mother Country. Since last spring we are making efforts to revive the cities in a way similar to the rural districts.

VI. Development of North Chosen. The Emigration to Manchuria

The next work which we are making a great effort to realize is the development of North Chosen. In the upper reaches of the Yalu and Tumen Rivers there are many forests covering an area of over two million chobu which have not been touched by hand of man for many centuries. In addition, these forest regions embrace vast tracts of land suitable for cultivation, to an area of several hundred thousand chobu. So the utilization of these great virgin forests and the cultivation of the vast tracts of land which have so far never been used, forms the work for exploiting North Chosen.

We are now constructing railways and roads in these northern districts and in some places are beginning to cut trees and to cultivate the land. The population of Chosen, as you are aware, is speedily increasing year by year at a rate which surpasses that of Japan. The Korean population, especially in the six southern provinces, has become so dense that there is now an overpopulation there in comparison with the cultivated land as is the case in Japan. As a result, a large influx of Koreans, nearly ten thousand to Japan Proper in quest of occupation menaces Japanese labouring circles and causes various social problems at the present day. Accordingly in order to effect a fundamental solution of the problem for the resuscitation of the agricultural communities, it is not sufficient viewed merely from a large standpoint to exploit the uncultivated lands on a small scale, to try to increase the yields of crops by means of intensive cultivation, to undertake self-sufficiency by many sided farming methods, to attempt to increase income by subsidiary industry or to improve industry in order to provide occupations. We are unable to obtain ample results by these means alone and it is next to impossible to thus build up a land of paradise and ease. Above all it is most important to diminish the population where congested in small areas and to give the people wider lands where they may be able to work in a more satisfactory manner. In short, we cannot solve the fundamental agricultural problems without

solving the problem of population by effecting an emigration policy. The proper adjustment of the population is the key to true happiness in removing the difficulties of the agricultural communities, and I have always entertained the idea that the turning of this key is one of the secrets in attaining the revival of the agricultural communities.

At the time of my assumption of this post the conditions for emigrants from our Empire were facing a deadlock. The doors for emigration to both North and South America, to the South Sea Islands as well as to Manchuria were closed. We could not continue to live in drudgery in such a small area, so we were driven by fate to explore our new course at an opportune time and with firm decision. It was also that fate which drove us to search an outlet for our population sooner or later toward Manchuria, with which Chosen had close relation and in which we hold rights by treaty. The advance of our fellow countrymen into that land gave no trouble but brought blessing to the natives in Manchuria. I have considered it most important to migrate the population of South Chosen where they suffered from overpopulation to the North Chosen of sparse population, as well as to exploit the virgin forests of North Chosen as fast as possible. This will give room for a happier life of the people by mitigating the density of the inhabitants in South Chosen and controlling the various social troubles of Japan Proper by limiting the number of Koreans going to Japan. This work started in 1932. Railways and roads have been gradually constructed and various enterprises in forestry, agriculture and stock raising have steadily made a beginning, so that it is apparent that in the near future there will be a great new busy world in North Chosen. Keeping in close connection with this work a plan is now under contemplation for Korean emigration to Manchuria, which will carry out consistently the spirit and aims above alluded to and make them more effective. This plan is not only to send emigrants on a grand scale in a relatively short time to diminish the superfluous population in our own country, but also to assist in the development of Manchuria, to establish an Ideal Land and to realize the union and harmony of five different races.

After all the Yalu and Tumen rivers form the national boundary between Japan and Manchukuo politically and I think they will be so for ever, but I believe that we must endeavour gradually to abandon such ideas economically and culturally.

VII. Gold Mining and other industries

It is well known that one of the economic problems in Japan is the lack of balance in the import and export trades and the efflux of specie required by the excess of imports. My idea has been that however long this excess of imports may continue, there is no anxiety for us if Japan produces a great amount of gold. If Gold can be extracted in abundance from any part of the Japanese Empire we need not be anxious whatever the balance of international loans may be. I wondered if there was any place within the Japanese Empire where gold was plentifully produced, and engaging in the research of old history and the investigation of legends I found that many presents had been made in the form of gold, presented as tribute to our country and to China by Korea, and that impressed on me the fact that Korea had *once* been a gold producing country and that there must be good deposits of gold hidden underground even today. When I came to this peninsula as Governor General, I found that there are many luxuriant articles of gold displayed in the museums of Keijo and Keishu, which recalled my impressions of the past, and I was firmly convinced that no country could use gold so extravagantly unless it be a gold producing land. Moreover all the hidden gold could not have been exhausted by the mining of past ages when the methods were still very rudimentary, and I felt that there must still be much gold buried in the ground of Chosen. This idea prompted me to consult experts who replied to my inquiry that the existence of gold in Chosen was beyond question but that the average content was so small that it did not form a promising proposition economically. The annual output was then from five to eight million yen so that Chosen, they said, was not a land of such great promise for gold mining. When I asked them whether they arrived at this

conclusion from past prospecting, I judged from their answer that very little attention had been paid to this mineral.

So from 1932 we started giving subsidies, though the amount is small, for the encouragement of gold mining. At that time my idea may have been thought rather absurd, but it was a case where the profit to be derived from Gold Mining had to be seriously discussed, for when the price of gold is **only** Five Yen per momme mines cannot be profitably operated as private undertakings unless the cost of operation is below four yen or four yen fifty sen per momme. However as a national undertaking, we can readily operate even though we have to pay Six Yen for mining **expenses** when gold is at the value of Five Yen per momme for most of the running expense is for labour and distributed among the labouring classes in the country and so we really get something for nothing, that is we get specie worth five yen. So I considered that if there is much gold buried in Chosen we should tax our efforts to the utmost to make gold mining a national industry rather than to grant subsidies in large sums of money for public relief works which are not pressing necessities. Since that time prospecting for mines has been continuously followed, resulting in the discovery of the promising outlook for gold mining. At this very time it happened that the value of gold rose **on** account of the gold embargo and the fluctuation of exchange. Under these various circumstances the operation of gold mining has been given a great impetus and is making great strides. We cannot get accurate statistics of gold production in 1933 **on** account of smuggling and private hoarding, but according to experts the amount is estimated at from sixty to seventy million yen. In any case gold mining in Chosen is at present in the stage of prospecting and development and the real production of gold lies in the future, yet more than half of the gold produced in our Empire comes from Chosen. At the end of 1931, when the price of gold was still only five yen per momme, I foretold, with conviction, that we could attain an annual output of one hundred million yen within the course of ten years. There were some who adversely criticized my statement in those days, saying that "that fellow Ugaki was bragging." But now many experts hold the view that the total gold production will, without waiting the ten years, reach this hundred million yen mark within three years. With the increase of production coupled with the rise in the price of gold, mining is now prospering very steadily, so let us hope that we may reach as fast as possible the age of golden prosperity.

Thus the search for gold is now being widely conducted, and the forces of time make it strange that in this search, other by-products and many other mineral veins, such as nickel and lithium mines, have been discovered since last spring. Besides these there are other minerals hidden under the ground of Chosen, namely Bituminous Coal, found in several places though not so abundant in quantity as in Japan Proper or in Manchuria : Anthracite and Lignite are plentiful. The anthracite fields in Heian Province around Heijo have already been exploited, though those in Kogen Province have not been however plans are now under contemplation for working both fields. In the other provinces there are numerous fields of anthracite, beds of lignite lie in several places in North Kankyo Province. Iron, also very abundant throughout the country, is found at Sainei in Kokai Province, at Kaisen in South Heian Province and at Rigen in South Kankyo Province, all of which are now being worked. The iron discovered in the vicinity of Mosan in North Kankyo Province excels both in quantity and in quality that of Anshan in Manchuria and the deposit will be worked in the near future. An expert who examined this mine expressed the view that as long as we have this mine there would be no anxiety whatsoever even during a war continuing for years. Recently there have been rumours of a great and promising iron mine in the neighbourhood of Kinkai in South Keisho Province. Further we feel reassured by the fact that there are in various places of Chosen good deposits of ores containing the raw material of light metals. As we glance over the changes of the world, we find that weapons and utensils of daily necessity have now arrived at the period of steel, after passing through the stone, bronze and iron ages. It is apparent that the next period will be that of light metals and this period will arrive in the not far distant future for we already

can perceive signs of its advent. The fact that Chosen holds abundant deposits of the ores of light metals means strength to our Empire in the future. As an example the Alumstone ore found on the coast of South Zenra Province is now being examined as a possible paying industry for the factories of Yokohama, Niinohama, Ehime Prefecture and of Omachi in Nagano Prefecture, so that on completion of the technical experiments it would provide material for Aluminium. The Magnesite vein on the boundary between North and South Kankyo Provinces is of very superior grade for the production of Magnesium. The magnesite vein at Tashihchiao in Manchuria was regarded until a few years ago as of the best quality in the Orient. However, according to recent investigation of the mine in Chosen, the latter is now admitted to be greater in quantity and superior in quality when compared with the one in Manchuria, and plans are now in progress for working this deposit by a certain company. Other minerals as Graphite, Copper, Zinc, Tungsten, Molybdenite, Kaolin and Quartz Sands are also widely deposited in Chosen. After all most of the mining industry in Chosen is in the stage of prospecting, examination and preparation at present, but its real value has now been disclosed. Due to the lack of expert knowledge and dearth of capital in the past, the true value of the deposits in Chosen were not fully revealed until recent times. As a result of the knowledge spread at home and abroad of the value of these deposits, enterprising men have flocked to Chosen to commence operations backed by expert knowledge and sufficient capital. The mining industry of Chosen several years hence will make rapid strides to keep pace with the progress of the world, as the representative of mining in Japan, and especially it affords us a feeling of security in that there are such natural resources in Chosen which would be available for making munitions to be used for national defence purposes.

VIII. General Tendency of Manufacturing Industry

Industry in Chosen still remains an infant in its cradle stage. The volume of production of spinning, filature, and hemp-mills, manufacture of steel, sugar, porcelain, cement, flour, oil, sulphate of Ammonia, and hydrogenated oil, breweries, rice cleaning, tanneries, paper mills has risen more than ten fold over the quantities at the time of amalgamation and now issues from factories on relatively a large scale. Yet these cannot be compared with similar **ones in Japan Proper. We have great hopes for the industry of Chosen** in the future, particularly as we can be proud of the fact that certain specialties of this country excel those of Japan Proper and many cannot be produced there. Whatever the present state may be, the future of industry in Chosen is worthy of notice. The factory in South Kankyo Province which extracts nitrogen from the air is not only a plant **on a gigantic scale with most modern equipment but one of the best** in the Orient and such as can compare well with the best in other parts of the world. As you **are** all aware a large force of electricity is required to extract nitrogen from the air. To attain this power the basin of the Fusen River, (a tributary of the Yalu River, which empties into the Yellow Sea Rowing south west from the border line between Manchukuo and Chosen) has been banked up to form a large lake measuring twelve or thirteen ri (48 to 52 kilometres) in circumference, the water from which is forced to flow toward the Japan Sea through a tunnel seven ri (28 kilometres) in length. A drop of 300 feet so obtained provides water power to produce electric energy of a hundred and seventy or eighty thousand kilowatts. This plant is the largest in Japan and there are few comparable to it in the world. The same company contemplates the generation of an additional hundred thousand kilowatts by utilizing the waters of the Choshin River (capable of producing more than three hundred thousand kilowatts). At present there are many factories at Konan, besides the Nitrogen Plant, **such as gold smelters and fish oil extractors, so that when the power of the Choshin River is well harnessed and ready to supply electricity, the manufacture of magnesium previously mentioned and a large plant for handling several hundred thousand tons of Manchurian beans will be constructed. The balance of the electric power will be available for the north western parts of Chosen ; and all these**

undertakings are making steady progress. Besides the above, there is a factory at Eian in North Mankyo Province for the low temperature carbonization of coal with a capacity of two hundred thousand tons of coal. The undertakings which I have alluded to, afford us pride in the fact that they surpass those of the mother country in scale and in equipment.

I shall now dwell a little on the textile production. This industry has been expanding rather slowly, hut lately a rapid stride has suddenly been made. Many factories already in existence in Chosen have expanded and several large and small projects have been started one after the other, such as those by the Kanebo and Toyo Boseki Companies which are now partly completed, and we have the best of expectations from the textile industry in Chosen within the next few years.

IX. Cotton Production in South and Sheep Raising in North as the National Policy

With reference to the textile industry of Japan I shall touch upon cotton and wool manufacturing which raises an acute problem for us from the point of view of making them self-sufficing. Chosen is highly suited for cotton cultivation and for sheep rearing, hut owing to the lack of communications and of markets these industries have remained at a standstill, with only a few farms on a small scale. Since my assumption of office here, I have greatly regretted this state of affairs, that neglecting the blessings of heaven, great loss has been caused to the Empire toward making it self sufficing and toward providing subsidiary farming employment aiding the healthy development of agricultural economics. After serious deliberation the encouragement of cotton growing started in 1933 and of sheep raising in northern and western Chosen in 1934. Cotton is now grown over an area of two hundred thousand chohu, and in spite of a wet season this year the forecast for the crop is a hundred and seventy or eighty million kin. A ten year plan beginning from 1933 has the intention of increasing the area to three hundred and fifty thousand chohu with a production of four hundred and twenty or thirty million kin of cotton. The area will in the future be increased to five hundred or six hundred thousand chohu to yield seven to eight hundred million kin. The complete realization of these plans coupled with the development of cotton production in South Manchuria, on which we also rely, will make possible for us a minimum of self sufficiency.

Chosen is also capable of affording grazing for several million head of sheep and while we encourage the extension of the native species we have brought in this year three thousand head of selected species from Australia and will continue to bring nearly an equal number each year for the purpose of improving our stock. Animals unlike plants can not be raised simply, and it will naturally require a considerable number of years to realize this project. But in the course of ten years the increase will reach a hundred thousand head and in twenty or thirty years hence the number will attain to three or four million, when we will have a certain portion for our own supply. This may appear too *long a* plan, but not so, as a far sighted national policy. Famous Australia imported from the Cape of Good Hope twenty nine head of sheep for breeding purposes at the outset, in 1788, gradually increased up to six million head in 1840, and to-day, *one* hundred forty seven years after the first sheep was introduced, has one hundred and two million head, occupying the first place in sheep grazing in the whole world. When we think of this development some *one* in the future will write in the pages of the sheep raising history in Chosen :- " What rapid strides Chosen has made in this field." These are the reasons of the slogan " Cotton in the South, Sheep in the North ". This is only an expression of the great efforts to be made toward this end. All can be done within our meagre financial limits ; hut if the Mother Country puts forth great efforts in these directions both the cotton growing and the sheep rearing can be expanded on a still greater scale and the number of years may be far reduced.

X. The Development of Manufacturing Industry

I have wandered from the main subject far into a discussion on Live-stock, but shall now return. Besides those industries of which I have spoken there are many others large and small, managed either locally or otherwise, which are paying serious attention to the future of Chosen industry. These afford many additional factors for entertaining a bright hope for the future 'of industry here. For instance, electric power may be obtained at reasonable cost. In Japan many electric companies operate side by side, competing with each other and overlapping each other's work. Their capital has increased and their expenditure multiplied so that it is difficult to protect the interests of the companies or to supply electricity cheaply to consumers. This is the principle reason why the control of electricity in Japan Proper, spoken of for so many years, cannot consistently be effected. On the other hand when I arrived here the electric power industry was still in its infancy. But it has been found by survey reports that Chosen is capable of providing water power to the extent of two million four hundred thousand kilowatts, excluding the main streams of both the Yalu and Tumen Rivers, Along these there are several places, as on the Choshin River and Fusen River, capable of developing power such as cannot be seen in Japan Proper. Coal is abundant making it possible to generate electricity by steam and to supply it at reasonable rates, and thus by utilizing this electric power Chosen hitherto regarded as an agricultural country, could, without difficulty, be industrialized. So at the outset of undertaking my duties I summoned the authorities in this work and designed the project for electric power control, doing so while the use of electricity remained in its infant stage before it was too late owing to large investment of capital and involved conditions. We have thus arranged the fundamental principles so that within a few years electricity can be supplied very cheaply to all parts of the peninsula. These conditions should surely be of some inducement to enterprising men. Moreover, wages for labour are very low in Chosen, and raw materials can be obtained from local resources hidden under the ground or products of agriculture, forestry, fisheries, live-stocks, and others. In the past few years, a special new relationship has been established between Japan and Manchukuo and factories for handling the raw materials produced in Manchuria as well as factories for making the materials required in Manchuria should be established to work at a profit in Chosen, which lies between Manchukuo and Japan. In such a way this should become a great arena for investors and men of enterprise from both at home and abroad : thus Chosen in the future will be a powerful industrial center, a development which will also be a factor in solving the problem of increasing population.

Xi. Trend of Fisheries

As you can see, Chosen is surrounded by sea on three sides. The water is deep along the coasts on the Japan Sea with warm and cold currents which intermingle at times. Along the Yellow Sea the water is shallower with warmer currents, and the difference between the ebb and flow is very large, while in the south these two characteristics are combined. Naturally, therefore, there are multitudes of aquatic products and of fish in such breeding places and throughout all seasons schools of fish may be found on some of the sea coasts. Chosen is thus favoured and her fisheries have a bright future. Methods of fishing, however, remains in a primitive stage though gradually improving. Boats engage in fishing off the coast of the maritime provinces and also in the gulf of Pechili (Bokkai Wan). The total catch increases each year and in the fiscal year 1933 it rose to fifteen times as much as that in the year of amalgamation.

Most of the fish served at table in Kei Han district and other places in the neighbourhood are from the coast of Chosen. The once famous laver of Edo has in recent years been replaced by that collected on the coasts of Chosen bearing the label "AsakusaNori" which is sold in Tokyo and to the east and to the west.

With a better relationship established politically, economically, and in communications bet-

ween Manchukuo and Chosen, new markets will naturally be found for the marine products of Chosen and so our fisheries have a very bright future if undertaken with vigour and energy.

XII. Business Dealings

From ancient times in Chosen commerce has been largely conducted at markets, even today these are held on fixed days five or six times a month in appointed towns and villages. Formerly the variety of articles was very small, outside of agricultural products. Only Rice was exported to Japan and other dealings were for the home trade. As time passed industry developed, the culture of the masses improved, and since the attitude toward Manchuria changed in recent years, demand and supply, inward and outward, both home and foreign, have increased.

As business dealings prosper so will the financial condition be fostered. Especially after the agricultural self-help movement and resuscitation work, previously alluded to, stabilize the living of the masses, which will tend to create an increase in their purchasing power, coupled with the development of various industries which will stimulate the general circulation of commodities, activity of mining and of fisheries, and the healthy economic development of Manchuria, the commercial world of Chosen should flourish. Availing of this opportunity as a means of assisting the Koreans to thrive in business, prior attention should be paid to reduce the effect of the deep-rooted ideas of the Koreans, which they have held for centuries, so that when they think of agricultural products, it is Rice ; of trees, it is the Pine; of property, it is Land. As you are aware the Koreans were obsessed with the idea of Rice and rarely ever regarded the many other sides of agricultural production, as a result of which a poor crop of Rice or a fall in the price, controlled the life or death of the agriculturalists and have been the grounds for anxiety in a policy of rice control. Swayed by the idea that trees are Pine, our painstaking efforts in reforestation for the last twenty or more years result in a very meagre forest appearance as you will have seen along the railway line. It is not that the Korean soil is unfitted for the growth of deciduous trees but that very little attention has hitherto been paid to the planting of such trees. Now however we have been trying to plant coniferous and deciduous trees together, so that in the course of ten years the appearance of the forests of this peninsula should be entirely changed.

The regarding of property as Land only has been a great stumbling block against the Koreans entering a commercial life. Thus since my assumption of this post I have attempted to get the Koreans to participate in commerce and industry and to take a share in the establishment of new companies and factories, but have not so far reached the hoped-for success. The trend of the world will not allow them to remain in this idea any longer and it is our hope that they will awake to the fact and then their position in commerce and finance will be greatly elevated and make healthy development. In fact, commerce in Chosen may not make such a great advance of itself, but with the development of all the industries of the peninsula and with the improvement of the living conditions of the people in this country and in the lands surrounding it, especially the development of Manchuria and the Far Eastern territory of Soviet Russia, a transit commerce should come into prosperity.

XIII. Education

Though I am an amateur in this field of administration, I shall attempt to draw your attention to some aspects of education in Chosen. The basic principle is the Imperial Rescript, but at the time of my assumption of office here, I found that even on national holidays, omission to hoist the national flag was common and in some places, owing to the feeling of the mass of the people and to strikes among students, even the reading of the Imperial Rescript on Education was withheld. We could not overlook such shameful omissions and I immediately called attention to them. It is the duty of a good subject of a nation to be loyal to the Throne, to honour the national constitution, and to be steadfast in maintaining virtue, qualities which are

the foundations of a good subject and form his highest duties. Regardless of how excellent one may be in studies and in capabilities, if lacking in these higher qualities, one is disqualified as a subject, and the school which trains such a person is not desired, since it is useless and even dangerous to the nation. Therefore if there be any such student let him withdraw or any such school let it be abolished. After such strict instructions were given, a few years have elapsed and all these undesirable habits have been obliterated. Yet spiritual decadence, habits of laziness and hardship of living, still remain, and it is an urgent duty to instil a love of vigour, create soundness of morality and inclination for labour, and thereby arouse the general habits of the people and stabilize their living conditions. These are the premises for aggressive general measures for the future.

New vocational guidance courses have been added to the primary and secondary schools. In short that education is life and that life is labour, are the slogans for which we are putting forth our utmost efforts, and unless there are very important reasons we are now following the policy of refusing permission for the establishment of further secondary schools and give permission only for industrial and vocational schools. The number of industrial schools has been added to largely during recent years and at these agricultural and industrial schools we have specially asked them to make articles of good quality at cheap prices, and at the commercial schools to sell such articles at reasonable prices. This seems to be the principle of ultimate success. The present tariff walls and restrictions on imports may last for three or four years but cannot last for ever, since they are contrary to human desires which search for good quality products at cheap prices. The final crown will be on the head of the one who sells articles of the more superior quality at the lowest price. This however is more easily said than done and the accomplishment will tax all human effort. In short, he who works by the sweat of his brow, taxes his brains to the full, keeps the good of the nation always in view, living a virtuous earnestly striving life, can be the head of the economical world. The nation which has such an industrious body can lead the whole world, so we earnestly hope that the students in schools are being properly guided to realize this great meaning. We take every occasion of requiring from those concerned with education that they produce not so much the man of head and theory but the youth of brawn and muscle, not restless but calm and unperturbed. At present society in general in the Japanese Empire is disturbed by voices declaring that a national crisis is at hand, and made uneasy, impatient and despondent by false rumours, wavers in deciding the direction in which to proceed. This critical time is however not peculiar to Japan but is common to all nations of the world. Each nation is facing an impasse both economically and mentally and all are striving to find a solution. In this Japan is placed in relatively slight danger as compared with others for the following reasons. The centre of the Japanese nation stands on immovable rocks. By our common attachment to cling firmly to this centre, it is absolutely safe. There is no possibility as might be the case with other nations, that our foundations can be shaken by changes of administration or of the political situation. Our country of Japan is also favoured in that the burden borne by the nation in the form of taxes, loans and other public charges is relatively light especially as compared with that of the citizens of the great European and American Powers. The principal sources causing suffering to the majority of the nations in other parts of the world arise from war debts and reparations, of which we have none in our country. Again the capitalistic method has been in force in Japan only for a short time when compared with Europe and America, and consequently the difference between rich and poor, and the concentration of capital is small when compared with these nations, while unemployment, brought about by the wave of almighty machinery, is not serious. Industry will gradually drift away from following the footsteps of Europe and America and will become independent standing on its own feet. The textile industry in particular has already formed its own stronghold and has outstripped their products, raising an outcry in the industrial world. When China effected a boycott of Japanese goods, our commerce continued with the South Sea

Islands and India, and spread to Africa and South America, where cheap articles of good quality are extensively sold.

The rapidly increasing population of Japan has become the pioneer and the foundation of the prosperity of the nation. It is said that decrease in population is caused by hardships in living and by the overstraining of people's nerves. In point of view of increase of population Japan is supreme, and thus she is placed in a relatively favourable position among the countries of the world which are now facing a time of crisis and of difficulties, so that there is no reason for disappointment, impatience or despondency.

Let us recognize our favourable position and strive with zeal so that we may go ahead of other nations in overcoming difficulties and in solving the dangers of the times and thus advance the national fortunes and be able to act freely before the world. To give more detail, now is the time of our national crisis and we should not waive the blessings nature has so generously bestowed on us by the folly of adhering to a negative policy. On the contrary we should grasp these natural blessings in an aggressive as well as progressive spirit and transform our favoured position into a truly significant one and embark on a great adventure in expansion and progress. In this *sense* I have been hoping to lead and enlighten the scholars and the general mass of the people in Chosen. Chosen has greater characteristics of her own being favoured in this way more than Japan Proper. It has been my earnest effort to guide our nationals to become pioneers in breaking up the national crisis and to be resolute in spirit in surpassing the hours of national trial by fully realising the natural blessings, and by careful investigation and examination of their merits to fully realize their great value.

Now I wish to dwell a little on the Common Education of our country. Today the percentage of school age children attending school is only twenty, and the remainder pass their time without going to school. A certain Indian patriot who visited Chosen early last summer intimated to me that it had been more than one hundred years since India became a British possession, yet the percentage of children attending school is only eighteen, and he further remarked that compared with this Chosen is in a far more favoured condition. We should not, however, satisfy ourselves with the present position, and on the contrary we are hoping to have illiteracy entirely eradicated from our peninsula at the earliest possible time. If we are to follow the existing methods of education it will require dozens of years to consistently extend common education to the people due to financial and other difficulties. It was decided at the beginning of the present fiscal year to establish hundreds of schools having short term courses of two years for children of about ten years of age with the view to instil in them the national spirit and the love of labour as well as a knowledge of reading, writing and arithmetic. Hereafter this type of school will be increased each year with the intention of removing illiteracy from our midst and the regular common school education will thus be gradually completed. This method of education is now receiving a hearty welcome from the people in general and is making good headway in the field of education in this peninsula.

XIV. Conclusion

To sum up all that I have said, the condition of this peninsula is full of light and hope. The state of mind of the people is stabilized beyond our expectation and they have gradually become serious minded, their life has developed each year and numerous deeprooted evils are now removed, and the time of industrial development is ripe, and the future promising. In other words, the true development and improvement of Chosen will begin now. The effects of its true value lie in the future. In conclusion, the point to which I wish to draw your attention is what effect the development of industry in Chosen has upon the Mother Country.

At present the export of Chosen rice and the influx of Koreans into Japan Proper have created a considerable sensation in various quarters there. To leave these diverse and contradictory tendencies to their natural courses will arouse ill-feeling between Japan Proper and Cho-

sen and may bring about unpleasant results. So it is a most serious and important question between them to decide what should be the best policy to follow. Those who have assumed posts for administering Chosen, are making endeavours for promoting the welfare of Chosen in every respect and at the same time we are paying attention to bring harmony of feeling out of the differences and opposing interests between Chosen and its Mother Country.

Gold mining, cotton cultivation, sheep raising, the light metal industry, mining of anthracite and emigration arrangements should all be accepted and welcomed by its Mother Country, yet hereafter all administrative undertakings may not have the approval of the home country. There are certain kinds of hopeful industries for which the raw materials are produced in Chosen or obtainable from close-by Manchuria, while here motive power and wages are reasonable. On account of the advantages offered, such industries may occupy even more prominent positions than those in Japan Proper. Furthermore, on account of her geographical proximity and communication facilities, the manufactures of Chosen are more easily accessible to the markets of Manchuria, Mongolia, Siberia, North and Central China as well as to her own markets than the manufactures of Japan Proper. After a careful observation of the situation stated above one may draw the conclusion that the development of certain industries in Chosen may in eight or ten years time threaten the industries in Japan Proper. Some such situation will surely come to pass in Manchuria in the future and therefore our statesmen and intellectual leaders should not only do lip service for setting up an economic bloc between Japan Proper, Chosen and Manchukuo, but also study the actual situation very seriously in order to realize the object desired before it is too late. The idea of maintaining the *status quo*, that is of maintaining an economic bloc by promoting the interests of a minority of industrialists in special districts or of special kinds, is against the great principle and against the expectation of winning victory in the world's economic war. For the maintenance of the *status quo* necessitates compelling consumers to buy their goods at high prices, whereas the final success in any economic competition requires the manufacture of goods of high quality at low prices. It may be well to maintain the *status quo* and to defend the interests of industrialists now in business to a certain extent, but in the face of the general situation it may become necessary even to uphold the policy of destroying the *status quo* in order to carry out an economic and industrial bloc throughout Japan Proper, Chosen and Manchukuo. Guidance, therefore, is needed in the future to demonstrate the spirit of mutual aid, of co-existence, and of common prosperity by developing each their own peculiar characteristics. I earnestly wish from the view point of maintaining the general situation in the Far East and of promoting the people's welfare, that the intellectual leaders as well as the leading industrialists in the Mother Country should not fall into such a mental attitude as being satisfied with the maintenance of the *status quo*, which is the cry of all the great nations possessing great wealth, abundant natural resources and vast territories.

I am all the more earnest in this wish in view of the attitude of some of the intellectual leaders in the homeland toward the Korean and Formosan Rice Problems in the past. Considering her favourable geographical position, her potentialities and her resourcefulness Chosen has an important role to play in the panoramic *scene* that is soon to appear. In other words the future of Chosen is hopeful both in the material and in the spiritual aspects. May her future be bright and prosperous !