

The New Deal in Japanese-American Relations



For "World Peace and Prosperity"

Left to right: Viscount Ishii, chief delegate to the World Economic Conference; Juukuro Kadono, economic adviser; President Roosevelt; Eigo Fukai, Deputy Governor of the Bank of Japan; and Japan's Ambassador to the United States, Katsuyi Debuchi.

OLD FRIENDSHIP IS RESTORED and new cooperation is promised in the dealings between Japan and the United States.

That is the feeling of some Japanese editors in discussing the meeting of President Roosevelt and Viscount Kikujiro Ishii of Japan, when the latter was on his way from Washington to the World Economic Conference at London.

Warmest praise is expressed for President Roosevelt and his Administration, because as the Japanese press put it, he has lifted relations between the two countries from the dangerous situation in which they lay and created an atmosphere of trust and confidence.

INDEED something of the cordiality resulting from the Roosevelt-Ishii talks is apparent, we are told, in Japan's official reply, "accepting in principle," the peace project which President Roosevelt addressed to the world on May 16. But Japan reserves the right to take up details concerning the President's plan "as occasion offers."

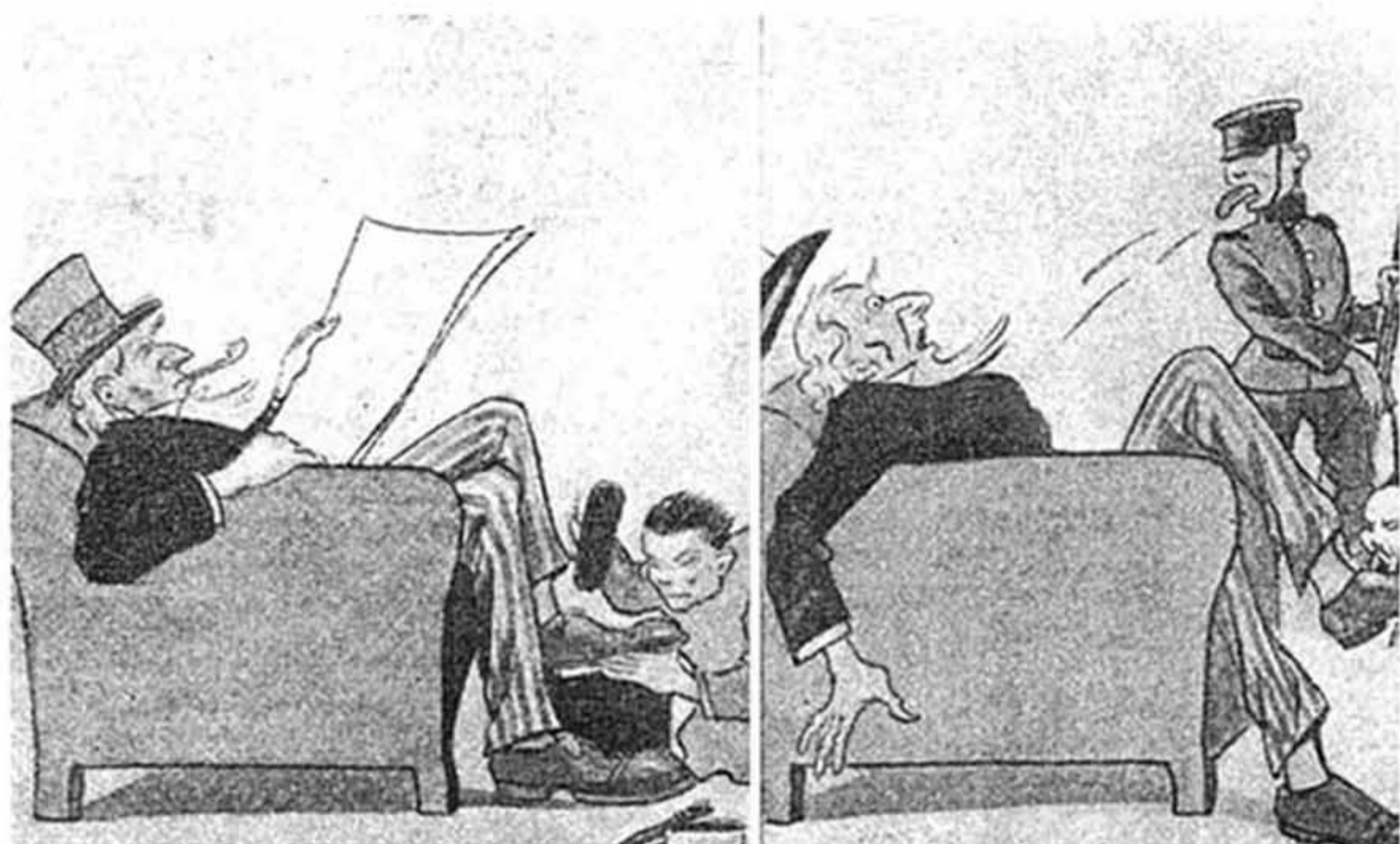
Following the talks between President Roosevelt and Viscount Ishii, they issued a joint statement. Special significance is said to attach to this passage in it:

"We hope that the countries of the Far East, along with those of the Occident, will be able to contribute substantially, in a spirit of cooperation, to the laying of solid foundations for a structure of world peace and prosperity."

President Roosevelt's stand on the Manchurian question as shown to Viscount Ishii greatly interests the Japanese press, and the Tokyo *Nichi-Nichi* describes him as recognizing Japan's



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Once upon a time—

But now—

—“Mucha” (Warsaw).

“special position in Manchuria,” but also suggesting the necessity “for explanation.” In an article purporting to give the substance of a talk on this problem, *Nichi-Nichi* quotes Mr. Roosevelt as follows:

“I trust Japan. She should surely contend that her true spirit is against violation of treaties. Could not Japan, therefore, strive to show by deeds that the Japanese are a peaceful people?”

“Altho I recognize Japan’s special position in Manchuria, Japan’s action is generally considered a violation of treaties, or unreasonable.”

“Japan must certainly have had proper reasons for acting as she did, but is it not a weakness on her part to allow her action to be regarded as violating treaties?”

IN reply to Mr. Roosevelt’s declaration, Viscount Ishii is reported to have said:

“I deeply appreciate your profound understanding of Japan. Just as you have said, the Japanese are a peace-loving people.”

“Japanese relations with Manchuria date back several decades. Japan’s military operations in Manchuria were undertaken for protection of Japan’s acquired rights there and were within the limits of treaties, and in no way violate any pact.”

“I myself have a most sincere respect for your efforts to promote peace and prosperity. It is my firm conviction that Japan, too, is doing her share in the great cause of peace.”

Japan’s need of friendship not alone with the United States but with all nations is emphasized by

the *Tokyo Jiji*, which points out that Viscount Ishii’s mission to the World Economic Conference is not limited to economic problems. They will be left largely to experts.

The task of this veteran diplomat, asserts *Jiji*, is to readjust Japan’s international relations to meet the situation created by her withdrawal from the League of Nations.