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## TOGA HERO OF JAPAN, COMING

WILL BE SPECIAL GUEST AT WASHINGTON 17 DAYS.

Will Come to Pacific Northwest While in the United States.

Washington, July 18.—Admiral Togo, of Japan, who will be the guest of the United States for 17 days next month, is regarded as the greatest living sea-fighter in the world today.

He bears the distinction of having won a brilliant, unqualified victory in the greatest naval engagement of modern times. He is the only commander in chief in any navy who has successfully directed a Titanic conflict between great fleets of warships of the 20th century. The series of victories of Admiral Togo, in the war between Russia and Japan, in 1904-05, culminating in the battle of the Japan sea, were the justification of the present type of sea-fighting craft which has revolutionized naval warfare.

Since the war with Russia, Admiral Togo has held the position of Chief of the naval staff of Japan, a position corresponding to that conferred upon George Dewey, who is the admiral of the United States navy and president of the general board. Togo is the popular idol of his nation.

He comes to the United States from England, where he represented the mikado at the coronation of King George V last month. When the Japanese foreign office broached the plan for the Nipponese hero to visit the United States on his way home from England, the suggestion was most cordially received by President Taft and Secretary Knox. Through the department of state, all arrangements for his visit are being made, and the plans thus far decided upon assure the distinguished admiral of one of the most cordial and elaborate receptions ever accorded a foreigner by the American nation.

The tentative program for his visit includes entertainments at New York, Boston, Philadelphia and Washington. The official functions will culminate at Washington, where elaborate preparations are being made. Dinners and lunches at the white house, the home of the secretary of state, and the Japanese embassy are already decided upon and other entertainments of a semi-public nature are being arranged. Admiral Togo will also go to Niagara Falls, thence into Canada and to Vancouver, where he will take the steamer for home.

American naval officers and diplomats who are acquainted with Admiral Togo declare that modesty and reserve are his most striking characteristics. He is described as a man of few words almost never mentioning his own deeds. He is small in stature, even for a Japanese, though stockily built. He wears a beard, which, though trimmed close, almost wholly conceals his features. He is said to be exceedingly simple in his tastes, and a man delighting in his family, which consists of two sons and a daughter. Hunting is said to be one of his favorite pastimes when on shore. Hunting and times when on shore. Togo is a member of the nobility, with the rank of count, and bears the decorations of the Japanese orders of the Golden Kite, First Class, and the Grand Gordon of the Chrysanthemum. He was decorated with the order of Merit by King Edward.

Togo Heihachiro—it being the custom in Japan to place the given name second—was born in 1847, the son of a petty retainer of the Lord of Kagoshima, one of the famous nobles of the Satsuma. In Togo's youth, the Satsuma contested with the Shogun, or council, which surrounded the emperor, the supreme power in Japan. The Satsuma were famous for the military prowess of their young men, and it was in the Satsuma navy that Togo began his career. It was from the navy of the Satsuma, victorious over the Shogun forces, that the imperial navy of Japan was created. The story of Togo's career is coincident with the birth and growth of the imperial Japanese navy.

The young cadet had hardly entered the Satsuma navy when he got his first taste of sea fighting. Strangely enough, his first engagement was directed against ships of the English navy, which bombarded the town of

Kagoshima, because of the attack upon some British merchants by the Satsuma. The Satsuma fleet returned the bombardment and young Togo, stripped to the waist, passed ammunition up to the gunners.

In the civil wars of the next few years, in which the Shogunate was overthrown, Togo fought in many of the naval battles, but without especial distinction. With the triumph of the emperor, and the forming of an imperial navy out of the victorious Satsuma warships, Togo saw his opportunity. He applied for and received a commission to go to England to study for a naval career.

He went to London in 1871, and soon after to Plymouth, where he began a course in naval apprenticeship on board N. M. training ship Worcester. While there, he received his commission as second lieutenant in the new imperial navy.

In 1876 his course was finished, but Togo remained in England to supervise the construction of the new Japanese ship Hiei, on which he returned to Japan in 1878.

While in England he spent some months at Cambridge. His tutors have since said that he learned English with difficulty and was considered a poor student, except in mathematics.

In 1882 Togo, then a vice captain, won a present from his government for his services and gallantry in leading a landing party to quell disturbances in Seoul, where the Korean king had permitted insults to the Japanese. In 1884 he was sent to observe the progress of the Franco-Chinese war, after which he made a special report to his imperial majesty.

In 1891 he was placed in command of the Naniwa, the warship from which three years later Togo struck the first blow of the Chinese-Japanese war. An incident during his first command nearly closed his career.

At a time when war was expected but not yet declared, the Naniwa fell in with a British steamer, loaded with Chinese troops. Togo ordered the British captain to follow him. The Chinese officers on board the transport prevented the captain from doing so, whereupon Togo sunk the vessel with a single shot. Togo's action caused a controversy among the authorities on international law, it being charged that his act was nothing short of murder. Threats of reprisals by England were made, and Togo's situation was critical.

Fearful lest his government be unable to support his action, Togo made this public announcement:

"If my action should prove fatal to the imperial policy, and bring my country into difficulties, I will at once commit harikari (suicide)."

However, it was finally held that he was justified by the rules of war.

Togo came out of the war a rear admiral, and received many honors from his sovereign. When Russia interfered in the peace negotiations and Japan became convinced that she was being robbed of the fruits of her splendid victory, her rulers foresaw that their nation must inevitably clash with the czar in the orient. To Admiral Togo was entrusted the task of preparing the Japanese navy for the struggle which was to come at the end of a decade. The Japanese statesmen were convinced that Japan must fight for her life on the sea.

Most of the next ten years Togo spent on shore, preparing for the war. A good part of this time he commanded the Matsuru naval station, which became the cradle of the Japanese navy. He devoted himself to building an organization, and studying naval tactics. When the war clouds appeared, he was appointed commander in chief of the united squadron, comprising practically all of Japan's naval strength. As he left for his command, and was asked if he had any messages for his family he replied:

"Nothing in particular; tell them I am well and happy and not to distract me by sending me letters."

He proceeded to Port Arthur, and two days after the delivery of the Japanese ultimatum to the Russian minister he had successfully attacked, with great damage, the Russian squadron lying under the shelter of the fortification at that place. Then followed the nerve-racking watch of month before the mouth of the harbor in which he had the Russian fleet bottled up.

It was there that the commander in chief won the name of "Father Togo" from the sailors, and it was there, too, that he showed the naval officers of the world how to use torpedo boat destroyers. Though victorious in repeated engagements with the Russians, Togo suffered severe losses in

his own command. Most of these, however, he concealed from the entire world, and not even Tokyo knew that their naval hero was fighting with a crippled force.

When the ruin of the Russian fleet in the Pacific was complete, Togo appeared at Tokyo for a few days to report to the emperor. One day he disappeared. He remained hidden from the world for four months. Then he reappeared with his fleet and annihilated the Russian armada sent around from the Baltic. The exact hiding place of Togo and his fleet during those months is not yet generally known. With infinite patience he waited, and prepared to meet the great fleet he knew was coming.

Admiral Togo chose that the battle should be fought on his terms, and not those of the enemy. He deliberately staked everything on the chance that the Russians would pass through the straits of Tsushima on their way to Vladivostok. Just without this passage he awaited the arrival of Admiral Jostensky. So accurately was he informed by wireless messages from his scout ships of the Russian advance, that 24 hours before the bat-

tle, he estimated that the battle would begin at 2 o'clock the following afternoon.

It was 1:55 when he signalled to his fleet, just as the firing was about to begin:

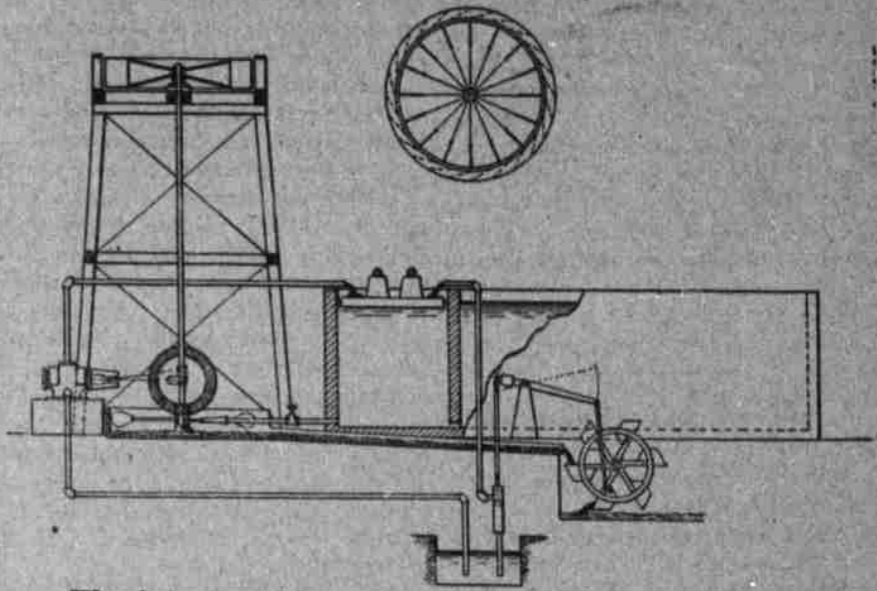
"The rise or fall of the empire depends upon the result of this engagement; do your utmost, every one of you."

For two days, during May 27 and May 28, the battle continued. At its conclusion, Togo sent the following message, marked by the religious spirit which is characteristic of the man:

"By the grace of heaven and the help of God our combined squadron succeeded in nearly annihilating the first, second and third squadrons of the enemy."

From this battle he returned, to receive unprecedented honors from the emperor and the nation. Rewarded with the post of chief of staff of the Japanese navy, his mind and genius have been the controlling spirit of the advance of the Japanese navy ever since. His popularity has never waned, and he is today a greater hero in Japan than when he returned to Tokyo fresh from the greatest naval victory of modern times.

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