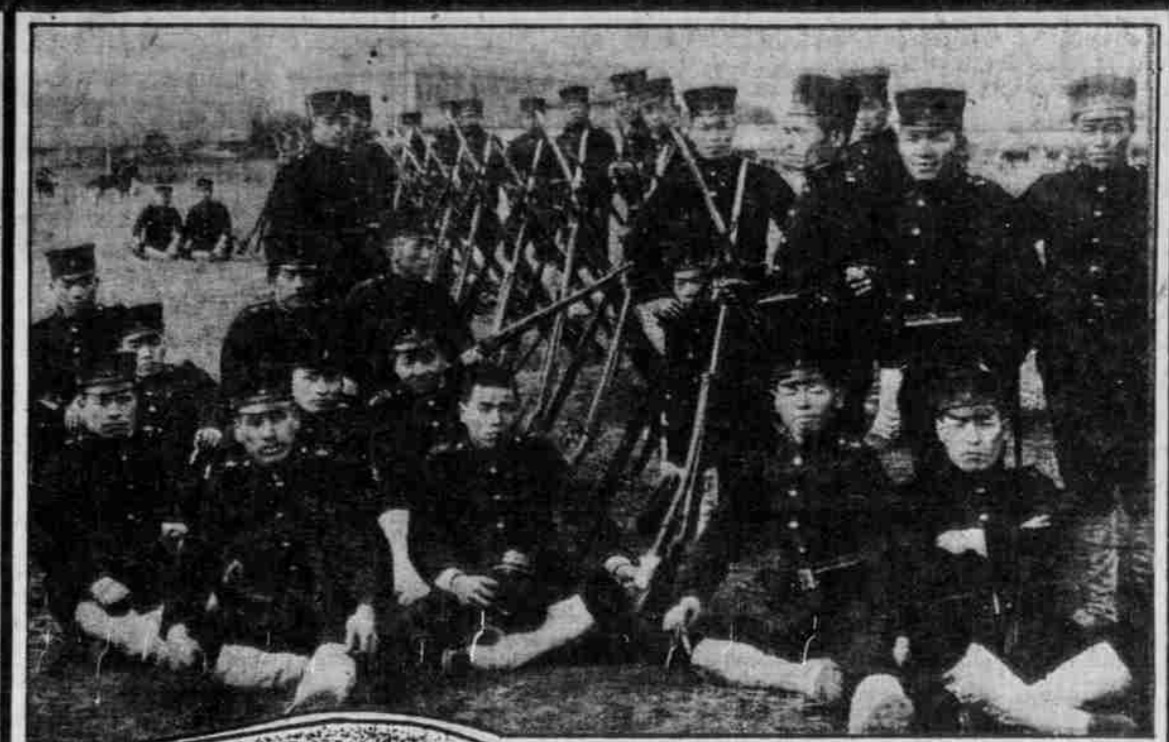


JAPANESE WANT LONGER LEGS

AND THE NATION IS NOW STRIVING TO CORRECT A CURIOUS CUSTOM THAT HAS DEFORMED ITS NETHER LIMBS



THE MOTHERS OF FUTURE SONS OF JAPAN ARE FORBIDDEN LONGER TO ENJOY AFTERNOON TEA IN THIS FASHION

MOST curious of all ambitions, Japan is engaged in a great national movement to get its leg pulled. Wise men of the Island Nation are studying the question of stature in order to find the means of taking the thought that will add stature.

The Japs want to be tall. He is tired of being spoken of as a midget. His lack of stature is a constant source of humiliation. His soldier on parade, though admittedly a great fighter, looks absurd in comparison with the warriors of other nations. The physical deficiency in height stands as the only disadvantage which Nippon has yet been unable to overcome. Now the entire nation is pledged to an effort to produce taller men and women.

The campaign is to begin at the cradle and the young Jap coming into the world is to be raised differently from the ancient form of his forefathers. By measurement it has been shown the body of the Japanese baby left alone will be not far short of the size of the body of the son of other nations. The shortage is in the legs. Once lengthen the lower limbs and the problem of how to get a taller Jap has been solved.

Some of the best authorities of Japan have been investigating the causes that have kept the nation undersized. Their researches have led to the opinion that the sedentary habits of the people are at the base of the trouble. Apart from those engaged in the more muscular forms of activity, the Japanese workman performs all his tasks while seated on the floor, his legs crossed under him.

This attitude is characteristic of the people, and is followed even in the hours of rest, for there are no chairs in a Japanese home, members of the family squat on their heels after the manner of their forefathers for centuries back. Many a prosperous merchant spends the greatest portion of his life in this position, not even arising to wait on customers. A boy is kept to hand purchases to those who buy, the merchant sticking resolutely and uninterferably to his pose of comfort and laziness.

The professional man also adheres to this position, so do the artisans and craftsmen who make up so large a part of the native population.

Perhaps the only exception to the national habit of sitting is the transaction of all work to be found among the farmers. Naturally they are exempt, for no way has yet been found by which a man with a hoe can do his work while squatted on his heels. But the kind of work performed by these farmers is so arduous that they never have a chance to get properly developed bodies. All the stature is bent out of them, so that the result is a man that converts into beams of burden men who have not the natural physical equipment to stand the work.

This is the condition with which physicians and statesmen are trying to labor. Their experts in physical development have told them that the sitting posture interrupts a proper circulation of the blood, keeps the muscles in a strained and unnatural position, and prevents the proper development of the normal height that comes to other people.



HEREAFTER THEY WON'T SIT IN THIS FASHION

been raised from the floor. The mats on which they used to sit have been abandoned. Chairs and desks are being installed, and the youngsters are subjected to a modified form of the exercises imposed on the soldiers.

Moresover the introduction of games calling for severe muscular exertion is being encouraged. Baseball has already made its way into the land of the Mikado, and it will be recalled that a college team made up exclusively of Japs toured the United States last year. Graduates of American colleges who return to their native land take back with them the games that are popular in Uncle Sam's institutions, and contribute a share toward turning out a fine body of men.

These sports are seized with activity by the younger element as an expedient to help toward the national desire to obtain height.

The mothers of the nation are being besought to abandon the old custom of carrying their babies on their backs. This, it is explained, is the direct cause of banded legs, a deformity so prominent all over the country. The soft bones of the babies naturally take the curved position, in this way is produced men who not only have ugly shapes, but who lose perhaps an inch in height by the process.

It has often been remarked that seated with Europeans the Japs do not look so small. His absence of height is not then noticeable.

When the conference was held at Portsmouth that settled the Japanese-Russian war, the representatives of the Mikado presented a very dignified appearance as they sat at the table discussing the peace. It was only when they stood erect beside the towering form of Witte, the czar's chief speaker, that they appeared insignificant.



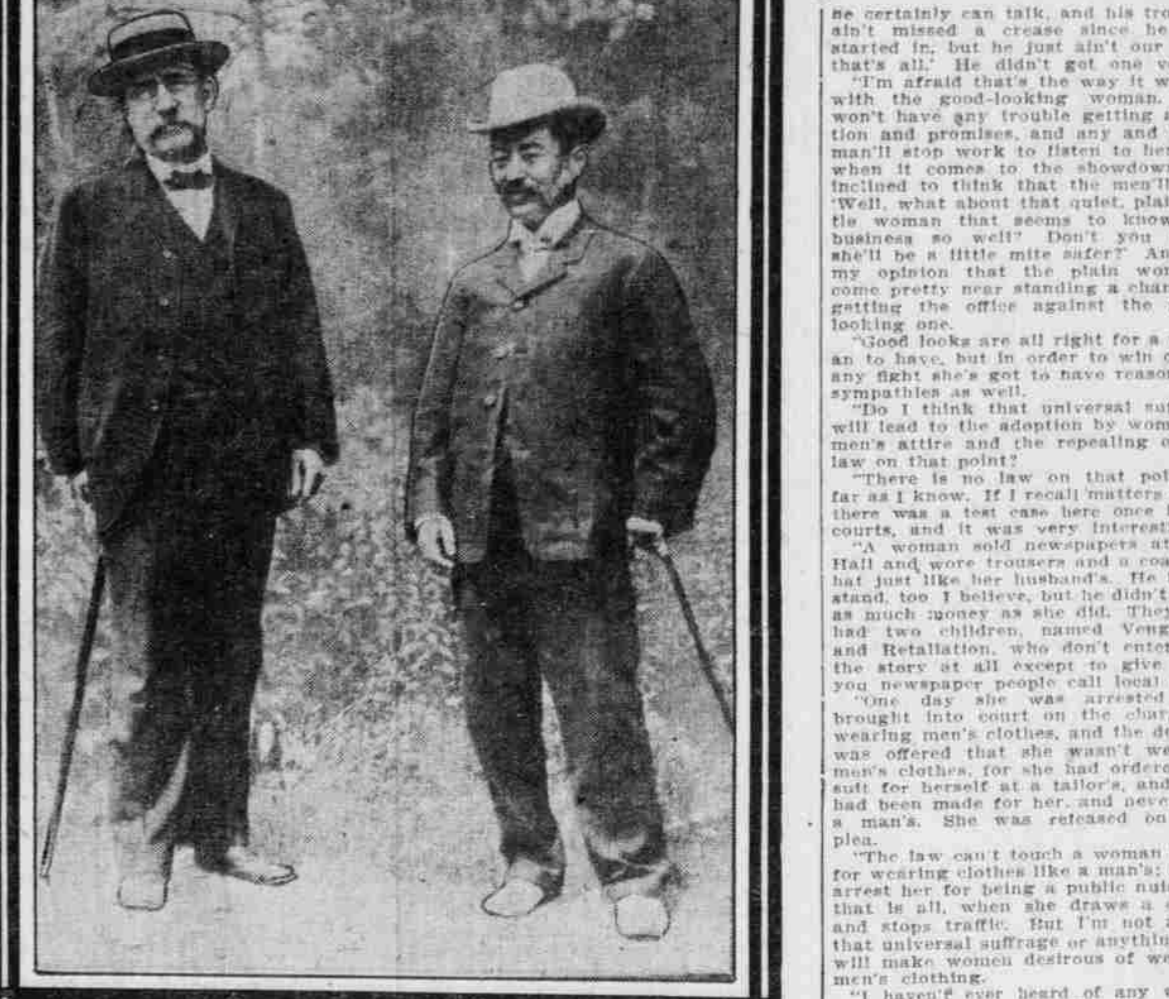
JAPANESE MOTHERS ARE FORBIDDEN NOW TO CARRY THEIR CHILDREN IN THIS FASHION

New York's East Side Czar

He Doesn't Drink or Smoke and Favors Woman's Suffrage.

THE fact that the Mayor vetoed the anti-woman-cigarrette-smoking ordinance has not cast any special gloom over the Sullivan headquarters. Little Tim Sullivan took a train for Arkansas as soon as he had started the discussion, but Big Tim expressed to a reporter the opinion that he could talk on the subject just as well.

For the uninitiated, the Sullivans are first cousins. Big Tim is six feet two and Little Tim is by no means a dwarf, standing five feet eleven in his stockings, and those who know say that he always has stockings in which he differs from some of his constituents. There is a difference of seven years in their ages and none at all in the political views, when it comes to the question of purifying New York politics.



AVERAGE SIZE JAP, ALONGSIDE AN AVERAGE SIZE AMERICAN

and the first you know it's got the best of your habits don't stand still. "But don't think I'm trying to interfere with anybody's liberty; that's the very last thing I have in mind, or Little Tim, either. We're both great on personal liberty every time."

"I'm almost an extremist. I'm a personal prohibitionist, but I ain't advocating prohibition for the masses. I believe that a man that can take a big drink and carry it so it don't show is a bigger man than one that never drank at all."

"I advocate Ingersoll's famous saying—you know it—that a man who don't chew smoke or drink ought to be shot. I'm that fellow, and I know I ought to be shot. The only thing I can say in my behalf is that I don't interfere with the other fellow's rights to do all three; neither does Little Tim."

"But I don't want women to think that I'm not their friend, for I am. I've always been, whenever I've been in politics—in the Assembly, in the State Legislature or a member of Congress."

"For 15 years I was the one Democrat that voted for woman suffrage. I have met all the women pioneers who have come up to Albany in his behalf—Miss Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mrs. Mary Ellen Lease, the silver-tongued orator, Mrs. Bayla Lockwood—and I liked them all and thought them very interesting talkers."

"Do I believe that women would be as conscientious as men? If they had the privilege of suffrage? More so, I believe that women are 40 per cent at least more determined in their convictions than men."

"Women talk such a lot and they hear such a lot of talk that it don't make nearly as much impression on them as it does on the man. You can oftentimes get a man to talk over things and convince him by your eloquence, but the woman is looking for practical results every time."

"She will listen, she even likes to hear the talk, but it don't usually change her. A man can talk for hours or days or weeks about his love for a woman, but until he begins to speak about the wedding ring and the priest, she don't get particularly moved by his flow of words; have you ever noticed that? It will be the same way with their votes."

"All the arguments that are brought up against it seem to be pretty silly from the standpoint of a man that has the privilege of suffrage? More so, I believe that women are 40 per cent at least more determined in their convictions than men."

"I'm not saying that a good-looking woman would stand any chance if she ran for office that a plain woman. I think she'd get plenty of men to listen to her arguments, but I'll tell you a little story to illustrate that."

JAPANESE SOLDIERS, WHOSE STATURE THE NATION IS ANXIOUS TO INCREASE.

he certainly can talk, and his trousers ain't missed a crease since he first started in, but he just ain't our kind, that's all. He didn't get one vote.

"I'm afraid that the way we'll get with the good-looking woman. She won't have any trouble getting attention and promises, and any and every man'll stop work to listen to her, but when it comes to the showdown I'm inclined to think that the men'll say: 'Well, what about that quiet, plain little woman that seems to know her business so well? Don't you think she'll be a little mite safer?' And it's my opinion that the plain woman'll come pretty near standing a chance of getting the office against the good-looking one."

"Good looks are all right for a woman to have, but in order to win out in any fight she's got to have reason and sympathies as well."

"Do I think that universal suffrage will lead to the adoption by women of men's attire and the repealing of the law on that point?"

"There is no law on that point so far as I know. If I recall matters right, there was a case here once in the courts, and it was very interesting."

"A woman sold newspapers at City Hall and wore trousers and a coat and hat just like her husband's. He had a stand too, but he didn't make as much money as she did. They also had two children, named Vengeance and Retaliation, who don't enter into the story at all except to give what you newspaper people call local color."

"One day she was arrested and brought into court on the charge of wearing men's clothes, and the defense was offered that she wasn't wearing men's clothes, for she had ordered the suit for herself at a tailor's, and they had been made for her, and never was a man's. She was released on that plea."

"The law can't touch a woman today for wearing clothes like a man's. It can't arrest her and bring a public nuisance, that is all, when she draws a crowd and stops traffic. But I'm not afraid that universal suffrage or anything else will make women desirous of wearing men's clothing."

"I haven't ever heard of any women who especially care of Dr. Mary Walker's ideas in dress, she's been setting a fashion for a long time."

"I was on the other side last Summer, and I came back convinced that there wasn't one point on which they were more than we are, or one point where they get the best of us, except in catching hell-raises. They're expert at that, all right."

"Take this much-talked-of affair of the municipal ownership of privileges by the City of Glasgow. That works all right over there with their form of government, for voting is compulsory."