

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, JUNE 21, 1908

TAFT, STATESMAN AND PEACEMAKER



Secretary Taft's body after he entered the Cabinet

His Public Career of Big Tasks and Successful Administration

IT ISN'T OFTEN that a soldier becomes the biographer of a statesman. In this instance, Brigadier General Clarence R. Edwards is unusually well qualified to tell of the work of Secretary William H. Taft as a statesman and peacemaker.



BRIGADIER GENERAL CLARENCE R. EDWARDS

General Edwards has rendered distinguished and invaluable aid to Secretary Taft in bringing order out of chaos in the Philippines and our other insular interests. He has striven, both with his sword and his brain, for the welfare of the Philippines.

He was in all of General Lawton's campaigns in the Philippines, and was recommended by him for four brevets, up to and including that of brigadier general, for "distinguished gallantry in the presence of the enemy." He was with Lawton when he fell, and brought his body home for burial.

It was General Edwards who organized the Bureau of Insular Affairs, and he has been its head from 1900 until the present. He is native of Cleveland, Ohio, and was graduated from West Point in 1883. His army experience covers as wide a range of service in the field and on special details involving work of moment and importance as that of any other officer on the army list. He is still in the 40's. His popularity in the army is universal. He was with Secretary Taft on his recent tour of the globe, and acted as master of ceremonies at all of the official functions that took place en route.

By Clarence R. Edwards,

Brigadier General, United States Army, Chief of the Bureau of Insular Affairs, War Department.

IF THERE IS one order of mind which the world needs, and urgently needs, in the era that began with the beginning of this young century, it is the mind of the statesman; and if there is one people among the nations whose interests so diversely clash and harmonize that needs now the ability of the statesman, it is the people of this country.

For it is a new era and a new world that seem to have arisen with the coming of the new century. We of the West, with no conscious desire or ambition to impel us, have been, nevertheless, impelled toward the East; and the East, amid the recurring balancing of races, is achieving a revival which is destined to entail consequences of epochal magnitude.

Upon the statesmanship which is to intervene and modify the inevitable pressures and strains will depend not merely the immediate welfare of the nations, but the ultimate adjustment of their relations for long ages to come.

No statesmen of the old school, bred in the unadulterated selfishness of national aggrandizement, trained in the insistent brutality of national power, and versed in the futile evasions of national chicanery, can prove adequate to such an epoch—least of all, amid the exigencies of such a nation as this of ours.

The men who shall wisely shape our course must know the rights of others as they know our own; must understand racial temperaments and national traits so well that the gratuitous affront abroad shall be as rare as the offense given at home—indeed, more rare, for the household smiles where the stranger grows wroth; and they must be statesmen who shall appreciate the permanent value of the nation's fair repute for straightforward honesty as the out-



A Friend of Education—Laying the Cornerstone of Toledo Public School, Manila



Making Friends in Japan—in the Souvenir of Japanese Statesman



Russian Notables Gathered to say Farewell at Vladivostok



Visiting the Naval Station at San Juan, Puerto Rico. Others in picture Gov. Whitthrop and Col. Bailey



At Work on his Philippines Report on Shipboard

ward and visible sign of its innate uprightness of motive.

Americans imagined that with the responsibilities they confronted as the sequences of the Spanish war they were engaged with world affairs of a difficulty which would not be surpassed in the future, and were capable of an adjustment completely possible in the present. Never was there a larger error or, perhaps, a more fortunate one.

A long generation has passed since the fathers of the Americans of today were tried in the world tests of the Civil War; only those who lived and fought through those anxious years know how truly the campaigns were waged in the courts of Europe as well as in the wasted fields at home.

New, wholly untried, under conditions unparalleled, we came recently into world politics with a sudden, daunting realization of our ignorance, which might have more than dismayed any nation that could have foreseen the far adventures of the future.

The few years that have passed since then have been crowded with the achievements of our statesmanship, fortunate in themselves, and fortunate for us; but more, much more fortunate in that they have sufficed—peacefully, harmlessly and effectively—to reveal and develop the statesmanship which, urgently requisite in the past, is imperiously necessary for the future.

Both the present and the future demand, in the men who are to influence the aims and mould the conduct of this nation, a rare and delicate combination of qualities not always, and not often, found in him who is the statesman only. The world policies which, eager as we may be to avoid them, are more and more mightily impinging upon our destiny, call for the diplomatist as well as the statesman. These brief, fortunate years, which have been the teachers of our inexperience, have given this nation the man.

It has been my pleasant fortune to be associated with Secretary of War William H. Taft for several years past, and to take with him two world journeys. I have seen what he has accomplished, and how he has accomplished it; and I have seen that Destiny which prepares for every great nation the instruments of its greatness at work in the common hours of many prosaic days fashioning him into the diplomatic statesman we must have if, omitting all expectations of a broader future, we would hope to maintain the advantages we possess in the family of nations now.

It is one essential of the statesman that he shall have the mind to discern what the national welfare requires; it is another that he shall have the courage to seek it despite all opposition and difficulties.

It is only part of his equipment that he shall be inspired by a spirit of fairness and honesty in his dealings with peoples abroad; it is of equal moment that he shall inspire them with confidence in his sincerity. And that man is altogether exceptional who, holding unequivocally to the policies he must promote, can leave those

(CONTINUED ON INSIDE PAGE)