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Note: Talk with Mr. Latham

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Had a talk with Mr. Latham about the possibility of expanding the McClure articles into a little book, my notion being that out of the reactions, gossip, impressions that I could patch out the articles to make a rounded something. I should want it to lead up to an argument for a League, or something of that kind. I think it could be done, and that I could probably get for it a good deal of more personal, frank opinion than would get in the newspapers.

The undercurrents are beginning to flow strong already. For instance, Miss Odell telephoned me this morning that the order has gone out from Washington to the newspapers to go slow on anything in regard to Japan. That is, behind the rather generous impulse that is observed in the press at the moment to deal fair and not to make a goat of Japan. The very point that I made in my first article is alarming somebody in power. She says that the British fleet has been quietly ordered to the Pacific and that our own ships are disappearing from their points of rendezvous, and it is believed they are going to the Pacific. It is believed that England and the U.S. are proposing to make a demonstration in the Pacific at the very outset.

The announcement from Washington that Mark Sullivan makes
The announcement from Washington that Mark Sullivan makes in the Press of last night, was a repetition in Washington of the Paris policy in regard to publicity, is chilling liberal sentiment already. I had it this morning from Boyd Fisher and Mary Gilson. I got it in letters from both Will and Scott. Scott's comment is interesting. "If I had not got the hope habit in the oil business, I don't know that I could hope for the Washington doings, but you can never tell. People go right on getting wells in many dry holes."

There is going to be a lot of fun as well as discouragement in classifying people. I began the other night at Anne Morgan's
dinner. She is terribly excited over French politics of the cheap sort, in my judgment, which, innocent as she is, she takes as being something important and permanent. Miliukof was there, and that calm solid thing gives you some of the impression of stability that you get from Trup. He argued with her. It was a good example of the opportunistic and philosophic outlook on politics. He is extremely wise and far sighted about Russia and so far from the personal that it filled me with admiration. A.M. concedes with him because of the upset of his government. "No," he said, "what has happened was necessary. We were wrong in hoping that a real revolution could be made so easily. Our revolution had not reached down into the heart of Russia. What has happened since has reached them. The heart of Russia has been revolutionized. It probably could have happened in no other way. The Bolsheviks were a necessary factor in the reconversion - an episode."

I put in my favorite remark that they were an episode, and that he too was an episode, which strikes A.M. as awful heresy, I know. But the point is the solidity of the man.

He seems greatly surprised in conversation that I should suggest that it is up to the U.S. to be tolerant with the Japanese, that I could give them Lower California, says he didn't suppose anybody had that opinion. And I told him that I didn't think many have, and also that I have never lived in California. At any rate, his solidity and patience are consoling. They show that such things are abroad.