

**THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT'S SPECIAL
FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
COMMISSION TO THE UNITED
STATES**

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The Imperial Japanese government's Special finance and economic commission to the United States by Tanetaro Megata

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TANETARO MEGATA

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THE UNITED STATES**

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THE IMPERIAL JAPANESE GOVERNMENT'S
SPECIAL FINANCE AND ECONOMIC
COMMISSION

TO

THE UNITED STATES

HEADED BY

BARON TANETARO MEGATA

(SEPTEMBER 1917-APRIL 1918)

V.C.

PREFACE

Two motives have led to the publication of this little volume. First, our commissioners have wished to make a permanent record of the many courtesies and attentions with which they were honored in America. It is hoped that those to whom the book will go will accept it as an expression of the spirit in which it has been compiled, which is one of continued and renewed appreciation of all the hospitality and friendliness shown us in the United States.

Our second motive is our belief that the words which America's leading men of business and finance addressed to us constitute a very strong endorsement of coöperation between America and Japan. Such words are of permanent value, and are worthy of being given permanent form.

In justice to the American speakers it should be said that it has been impossible to submit the stenographic reports of their addresses for their personal revision. We trust that they will pardon this irregularity, due to world wide distance.

As for the words themselves, we send them forth with the conviction that nothing else can so well represent, and so strongly encourage the realization of, the aims and purposes of Japan's Special Finance and Economic Commission to the United States.

Tanetaro Megata
Baron, and Chief of Commission.

Tokyo, April 30, 1918.



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1. CREATION OF A SPECIAL FINANCE AND ECONOMIC COMMISSION

Imperial Ordinance No. 144, promulgated on September 12, 1917, created temporarily a Special Finance and Economic Commission in the Cabinet. The text of the Ordinance runs as follows :—

“We give Our Sanction to the matter relating to the temporary creation of officials to be sent abroad in order to deal with financial and economic matters, and order the same to be promulgated.

[His Imperial Majesty's Sign-Manual]

The 12th day of the 9th month of the 7th year of Taisho.
(Countersigned) Count Masakata Terauchi,
Minister President of State.

ARTICLE I. With the object of dealing with financial and economic matters, the following officials may be temporarily appointed in the Cabinet in case there is a special necessity to send them abroad :—

A Chief Finance and Economic Commissioner specially sent by the Imperial Government of Japan.

Finance and Economic Commissioners specially sent by the Imperial Government of Japan.

ARTICLE II. The Chief Finance and Economic Commissioner specially sent by the Imperial Government of Japan shall be appointed by the Cabinet on petition of the Minister President of State to the Emperor.

Finance and Economic Commissioners specially sent by the Imperial Government of Japan shall, on petition of the Minister President to the Emperor, be appointed by the

Cabinet from among the high officials of the Government Offices concerned and from those having scientific knowledge and experience.

ARTICLE III. The Chief Finance and Economic Commissioners specially sent by the Imperial Government of Japan shall be accorded the treatment of the Shin-nin rank.

The Finance and Economic Commissioners having official rank shall be accorded the treatment of their respective highest ranks. Those having no official rank may be accorded the treatment of the Chokunin rank or So-nin rank.

SUPPLEMENTARY RULE

The present Imperial Ordinance shall come into force on the date of promulgation.

2. THE FIRST COMMISSION SENT TO THE UNITED STATES

It was decided that the first Commission should be sent to the United States; and the following official appointments were made on September 13, 1917.

| | | |
|---|--------|--|
| Baron Tanetaro Megata ,... .. | | Chief of the Special Finance Commission, |
| Member of the House of Peers, | | |
| Mr. Osamu Matsumoto , | | Special Finance Commissioner. |
| Secretary in the Department of Finance, | | |
| Mr. Takenosuke Sakaguchi , | | |
| Technical Inspector in the Extraordinary Investigation Bureau, Department of Finance, | | |
| Baron Bunkichi Ito , | | |
| Secretary in the Extraordinary Industrial Investigation Bureau, Department of Agriculture and Commerce, | | |
| Doctor Seiji Hishida ,... .. | | |
| Secretary Interpreter to the Government General of Cho-sen (Korea). | | |