

# JAPAN CELEBRATING CORONATION OF EMPEROR

**Mikado Takes Throne of Fathers, Giving No Oath, Wearing No Crown — Many Guests Present.**

KYOTO, Japan, Wednesday, Nov. 10. —In Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, Yoshihito was consecrated emperor today.

For days the weather has been wet and gloomy. At the moment Yoshihito bowed down before the ancestral sun goddess today the rays of the sun flashed over the mountain, dissipating the clouds. According to legend the sun goddess in prehistoric ages emerged from her rocky cave and filled the whole universe with glory. The appearance of the sun today is interpreted by the people of Japan as a good omen of an auspicious reign of Yoshihito and of the destiny of the empire.

The first part of the principal ceremonies held this morning consisted of a ritual service of ancestor worship, which struck a note of religious mysticism. This afternoon Yoshihito was enthroned. The morning ceremony was addressed to the gods, it seemed, and the other to the people.

Foreigners who witnessed the coronation were deeply impressed. The American women were particularly interested in the sight of the Japanese noblewomen in ancient court robes. The American ambassador, George W. Guthrie, expressed himself as moved by the solemnity of the occasion. Post Wheeler, first secretary of the American embassy, who is studying the mythology of Japan, spoke of the immobility and silence of the people until Premier Okuma cried, "Banzai!" when the onlooking throng took up the cry and acclaimed the monarchy.

## **Kyoto Crowded.**

Kyoto is crowded with persons from all parts of the empire and from many foreign lands. The streets are filled with countless promenaders, bearing lanterns.

The foreign women who attended the coronation were confronted with the problem of averting the risk of illness occasioned by sitting in open pavilions while clad in décolleté gowns. They solved the problem by carrying miniature charcoal heaters with them.

Premier Okuma, who is old and infirm, was assisted by three retainers, who resembled ancient Samurai, as he mounted to his place before the throne to respond to the emperor's address.

The new sovereign neither subscribed to oaths nor took a hereditary crown upon his head. No clergyman, priest or archbishop officiated as the intermediary between heaven and earth.

Here the emperor himself is supreme. Here the coronation takes the form of announcing to the spirits of the imperial ancestors that he has formally succeeded to the emperorship, that he has come into possession of the three divine treasures, and that he has actually ascended the "Takamikura" or imperial throne, and from the throne he announces to his subjects that he has been consecrated as emperor.