

C O P Y  
AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE

Mukden, China, March 29, 1924

A.H. Evans, Esquire  
Assistant Commercial Attache  
American Legation  
Peking

Sir:-

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 24, 1924 enclosing, for comment, a news clipping from the China Press, Shanghai, and to inform you that an identical article appeared in the Far Eastern Times, on March 5, 1924, following a visit paid to this city by Mr. B. Lenox Simpson, who it is understood, is the editor of this paper.

The article is correct to the extent that Mukden is undoubtedly undergoing considerable commercial development, but such commercial expansion is somewhat gradual and cannot properly be referred to as a "business boom."

The statement to the effect that "practically all foreign firms of importance are transferring their head offices from such places as Newchwang and Dairen to the Manchurian capital" is misleading, inasmuch as no such action appears to be contemplated in the near future. The absence of adequate banking facilities in Mukden tends to limit the establishment of offices in this city.

Information relative to the number of motorcars, trucks, etc. in Mukden and its environs has already been forwarded from this office. The statement that "all the big foreign firms send their travellers abroad by motorcar" is exaggerated. Automobiles are not used for travel in the interior except by one of the American firms, which operates cars to a limited extent in the country during the winter season.

The construction of a military road between Mukden and Shanhaikuan is reported to be under consideration but work thereon has not commenced.

The South Manchuria Railway Company are reported to be considering the abandonment of the present Yamato Hotel and the construction of an enlarged modern hotel, facing the "circle" in the Japanese Concession and adjacent to the Miyako Hotel. It is understood that the new hotel

is to be constructed at a cost of some two million yen. Building operations, it is reported, will commence in the spring and extend over a period of three years.

The news clippings are returned herewith.

Very respectfully yours,

(Signed) R.P. Tenney  
American Consul in Charge

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Enclosure; News clipping

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