Commissions had evidently been looked forward to in official circles as promising timely help, in various directions. We were, consequently, welcome. The Provisional Government had been in office long enough to dispel the first galmour of the supreme power it had obtained to dictate the affairs of the country, and had begun to realize the colossal problem ahead, both in stabilizing the government of a vast country and in conducting a war against an extremely powerful enemy, when they lacked adequate means, financial and material for doing so. In fact the new Government had on its hands a combination of almost every imaginable difficulty, a political problem of great complexity, a disordered industrial condition, an empty treasury and a war which was not going well for them, and of which the people were heartily tired. It was no wonder, therefore, that we were welcome and that great things were expected from Americans Missions. Our coming had not been advertised, however, and our advent was accompanied by no popular demonstration; we were received informally by the officials and got down to work without a ripple of popular excitement. This was unfortunate and militated greatly against the fullest success of our Mission. A publicity campaign would, as elsewhere pointed out, have been a most valuable means of heartening the people and in combating the false statements which German agents were disseminating as to the aims of America in entering the war.

The Root Commission had a similar experience, although Mr. Root's Ambassadorial function gave his Commission a certain special standing which required the exchange of courtesies with the various Government officials. In fact, other than this the Root Commission had no routine work to perform. I believe it acquitted itself well and that its individual members did good