

TO MR. TAFT'S FIRST DIPLOMATIC RECEPTION, ON NEW YEAR'S DAY, UNUSUAL INTEREST ATTACHED

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BENOIST D'AZY.
French Naval Attaché.
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COUNT J. H. VON BERNSTORFF.
German Ambassador.
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MME. MARQUES DE ASEVEDO.
Wife of the Brazilian Naval Attaché.
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TO MARCH IN SPLENDOR.

Rich Garb of Diplomats and Wives at President's Reception.

Such importance attaches to the President's reception at the White House on New Year's Day that diplomats accredited to Washington hurry from all parts of the world to be present, and there are few embassies or legations which



VISCOUNTESS BENOIST D'AZY.
Wife of the French Naval Attaché.
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OSWALDO RAMIREZ.
Panaman Attaché.
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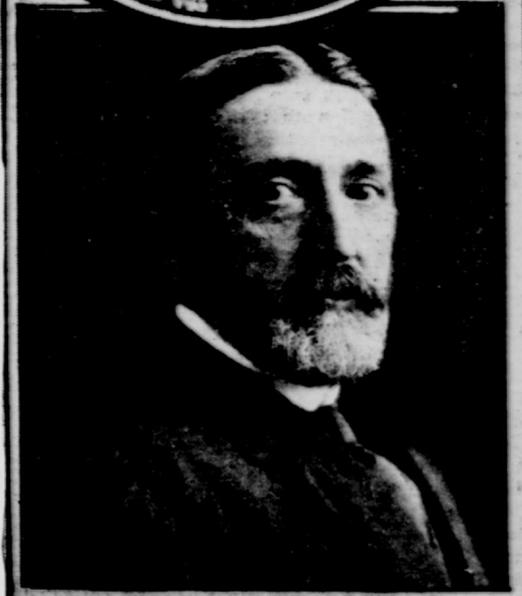
do not show a bewildering display of handsome uniforms, gold lace, medals and clanking swords and spurs on that occasion.

Unusual interest will attach to the affair this winter, both because it is President Taft's first state function and because there are so many new diplomats who will be present at a New Year's reception in Washington for the first time. Even now there are several attachés on the ocean who will arrive here just in time to pass down the line with the older diplomats.

The Italian Ambassador, dean of the diplomatic corps, will practically open the reception, as, in his splendid uniform of blue and gold, and accompanied by Baroness Mayor des Planches and the attachés of the embassy staff, he will be the first to be presented to the President.

Mexico, Turkey and Japan will each be represented by a new diplomat with the rank of ambassador. Señor Don Francisco Leon de la Barra presented his credentials as the representative of Mexico last February, and in the few months he has spent in Washington has become well known socially, though he is now in deep mourning because of the recent death of his wife. A. Rustem Bey, one of the tallest men in the diplomatic corps and as erect as a soldier should be, will rank next to the Mexican

COMMANDER TOKUTARO HIRAGA,
I. J. N.
Japanese Naval Attaché.
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GENERAL CARLOS GARCIA VELEZ.
Cuban Minister.
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MARQUESS DE ASEVEDO.
Spanish Minister.
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