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Elihu Root: Statesman and Useful Citizen

IF the ablest lawyer and diplomatic expert in this country is selected to head the delegation from the United States to the Peace Conference which will settle matters at the end of the Great War in Europe, Elihu Root will be the man. It is a foregone conclusion that America will be represented, because of her vital interests in the Far East.

Root's fame abroad depends, 1st, on his pacification of the Philippines, as Secretary of War; 2nd, on his gaining the good will of the South American Republics, as Secretary of State, and, 3rd, on his advocacy of civilized rules in each and every case of belligerency.

He refused to go before the State Primaries, when it was admitted that his reelection to the Senate would be something of a walkover. His next important service will be to preside over the Constitutional Convention at Albany which will remold the laws of New York.

As Secretary of State he gave all his time to the duties of the highest department in the Government, and never allowed private profits or personal convenience to interfere with his hard day's work.

As for Mr. Root's age—well, Joffre, and French, and von Hindenburg, have all knocked the old age theory definitely on the head.



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