

ing little to fear we need not worry.

*N.Y. Times July 10/37*  
**STRENGTHENING OUR PEACE ARM**

Through a series of recent diplomatic nominations, the last of which was confirmed on Thursday, President ROOSEVELT and Secretary HULL have achieved two important purposes. The promotion of several "career" men has strengthened the morale of the entire foreign service; and the designation of two of the most experienced diplomats as Assistant Secretaries of State marks progress in the delayed job of reorganizing the Department of State.

The most important shifts affect American diplomats in several sections of the world. Ambassador HUGH S. GIBSON is transferred from Brazil to his former post, Belgium. He is succeeded in Rio de Janeiro by Ambassador JEFFERSON CAFFERY from Cuba. Mr. J. BUTLER WRIGHT, after serving as Minister in Uruguay and Hungary, goes to Havana. Mr. LELAND HARRISON leaves Rumania to go as Minister to Switzerland. Mr. HUGH R. WILSON, who has served as Minister in Switzerland and American representative at many international conferences, and Mr. GEORGE S. MESSERSMITH, who was Consul General in Berlin during the early Nazi period and has since then been Minister in Vienna, return to the department as Assistant Secretaries of State. Mr. WILBUR J. CARR, in the executive branch of the department for forty-five years, goes to Czechoslovakia as Minister.

These shifts—all but perhaps one of which are either distinct promotions or are made in accordance with individual preferences of the men concerned—are the latest proofs of President ROOSEVELT'S confidence in the capacity of "career" men to fill important posts. If he were now to go farther and declare his intention to designate only trained diplomatists even for the highest offices—save perhaps in very exceptional circumstances, when a truly outstanding man might be chosen from outside the service—he would help to overcome the demoralizing practice of using such posts as London, Paris, Berlin and Rome as rewards for political support. These would then become for our diplomats what they are for the diplomats of all the other great Powers—the highest rewards for distinguished service.

The two new Assistant Secretaries of State, Mr. WILSON and Mr. MESSERSMITH, because of their special qualifications, will complement admirably the other members of the Secretary's "cabinet." Mr. WILSON, fully conversant with European affairs, is expected to be Mr. HULL'S chief adviser concerning the Continent. Mr. MESSERSMITH, also well informed on Continental politics, has such special competence in administration that he will probably be asked to direct, under the Secretary, the department's reorganization. To this task—as important as it is likely to be thankless—he brings an intimate knowledge of the difficult questions of inter-departmental relationships as well as a close acquaintance with the work and personnel of the foreign service.

At a time when our Government, keeping pace with all the other great

Powers, is expending vast sums on the enlargement of its military establishment, there is some satisfaction in knowing that the President is also concerned with strengthening our instrumentalities of peace—the Department of State and the diplomatic and consular services.