

INDEX BUREAU
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THE PROGRESSISTS AND THE DAIDO
CLUB. 6/25

Although these two parties failed to join hands against the Cabinet in the last session of the Diet, and although a similar failure attended the recent attempt of the Progressists to manufacture a bond of union out of the San Francisco incident, there is still an agitation in favour of co-operation. On the 25th inst. the representatives of the two parties now in Tokyo are to hold a friendly gathering for the purpose of establishing closer relations if possible. They could not agree that the San Francisco affair should be treated as an interstate problem, but they did agree in condemning the Government's management of it, and upon that common ground they think they can plant their feet. It is beyond the range of ordinary intelligence to understand what reason can be found for condemning the Government if it be admitted that no international issue is at stake. The truth seems to be that the hands of the two parties are forced by circumstances. In view of the now closely pending elections for city and prefectural assemblies, it is absolutely necessary that the Progressists and the Daido Club should find some striking platform. For the *Seiyukai* are now in virtual possession of the electorates, and unless something be done to disturb their tenure, the new assemblies will be more than ever pro-Government, a serious outlook when it is remembered that the general elections for the Diet take place next year. If then the Progressists and the Daido Club show a disposition to join hands, the significance of the fact should not be overestimated.