

BRITISH AND JAPS MAY ACT IN CHINA

Propose Dual Mediation, Although Powers Had Another Plan.

London—Considerable curiosity has been aroused in diplomatic circles here regarding the reasons for the proposal of Great Britain and Japan to undertake a dual mediation in China, after the powers, including the United States, had decided to present an identical note to the conference now meeting at Shanghai.

There was a tendency to believe that the Japanese government had made the proposal and that Japan was anxious to intervene. It turns out now, however, that the proposal really came from the British government, acting on the belief that the British consul at Hankow, who had induced the combatants to agree to an armistice, might again succeed as a mediator in the larger question.

It is understood that the state department is making inquiries both in Japan and Great Britain in regard to the proposed British-Japanese mediation.

The reiterated report that the British-Japanese mediation contemplated insistence upon the monarchical government is officially denied. It was said at the foreign office that the efforts of the British government, in conjunction with the other powers, were directed to assisting China to secure an efficient form of government based on popular approval.

Italy is Willing to Pay.

Rome.—The limitation of the war to Tripolitan territory and the absence of any naval action on the part of Italy makes the conclusion of peace less urgent, as the interests of the other powers are not so severely affected as at the beginning of hostilities. As peace with Turkey would facilitate matters and curtail expenses, Italy, it is understood, still is ready to pay the Porte a considerable amount on account of Tripoli.

NEW ARMISTICE EXPECTED

Yuan Can Continue Government for Months Without Loan.

Peking.—Fighting apparently has ceased, at least temporarily, in China. No reports have been received recently of activities between the imperialists and the revolutionists, but minor engagements have occurred with robber bands, which continue to increase.

Officials here expect that the armistice will be renewed after December 31.

That Yuan also will refuse to accept the proffered presidency of the proposed republic is considered certain, even by those who believe he is a self-seeker. It is said on reliable authority that the premier is able to continue the government for several weeks, perhaps months, without a foreign loan.

Wife of "Cut-Rate" Mayor Helps.

Indianapolis.—Mrs. Lewis Shank is actively reinforcing her husband, the mayor of Indianapolis, in his campaign against the high cost of living.

Saturday she stood in the public market, selling dressed turkeys and chickens, walnuts and mince-meat, purchased by the mayor directly from the producers and offered to the consumers at prices under those asked by the regular dealers.

DRASTIC LAWS ADOPTED

California Legislature Regulates Public Service Corporations.

Sacramento.—In a four weeks' special session the California legislature adopted the most comprehensive and drastic law for the regulation of public service corporations yet devised by any state. It adopted another bill designed to regulate the appropriation of water for power purposes that will lay a basis for stringent regulation of all power and irrigation enterprises a year hence.

A presidential preference primary law advocated by Governor Johnson gives to the majority of voters in each party the choice of delegates to the national conventions and the instruction of such delegates as to the presidential nomination.

France Boycotts German-Made Toys.

Paris.—Shopkeepers who failed to take into consideration the bitterness between France and Germany found themselves with large supplies of toys and trinkets, marked "made in Germany," which they could not dispose of at any price. The Christmas shoppers boycotted everything of German make.

Standard Hash Proposed.

Topeka.—With the ultimate object of standardizing all hash served in public places in Kansas, the state board of health has instituted an investigation as to the ingredients commonly used by restaurants and hotels in the concoction of the d'ha.

HENRY C. YOUTSEY



Henry C. Youtsey, serving a life term for the murder of Governor Goebel of Kentucky, who was refused a pardon.

EXCLUDE AMERICAN GOODS

Russia and Japan in League Against United States.

St. Petersburg.—Intimation that the commercial treaty which is being negotiated between Russia and Japan is to exclude all goods of American manufacture from Manchuria was made semi-officially here. It is said to be part of the tariff war which Russia is preparing to wage against the United States in retaliation for the abrogation of the Russo-American treaty of 1832.

The unwonted speed with which the negotiations are being carried on here and at Tokio in order to have the convention ratified within the next fortnight if possible, indicates that both nations are acting from a more important impetus than originally mutual consideration.

Turks Lose 75 Men at Derna.

Tripoli.—General Trombi reports that in an engagement at Derna the Turks had 75 men killed. At Tobruk an Italian detachment, protecting the construction of a fortification, was fiercely attacked. The fighting continued six hours with the Italian loss seven killed and fifteen wounded.

Britons Say Treaty Bars Rebates

London.—The Hay-Pauncefote treaty of 1902 between Great Britain and Ireland and the United States is quoted as against President Taft's suggestion in his message to congress on December 21, that preferential treatment should be accorded to American ships passing through the Panama Canal.

TABRIZ ATTACKED BY RUSSIAN SOLDIERS

London.—Fifty persons were killed and many wounded in street fighting between Russian troops and Persians at Tabriz, according to dispatches from the Persian government. The Russians have practically taken possession of the city, as all government buildings and the telegraph office are in their possession. The dead include a number of Persian officials.

Many private dwellings were destroyed by the Russians, who bombarded the city. There were collisions between the Russians and Persians at Reht and one or two other smaller places. The Russian clashes have caused considerable apprehension and complicated an already tense situation. It is thought the Persian troops will now remain in Persian territory for an indefinite period.

The news of the fighting at Tabriz and Reht created great excitement in Teheran.

THE MARKETS.

Portland.

Wheat—Track prices: Club, 79c; bluestem, 82c; red Russian, 78c.

Barley—Feed, \$37 per ton.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$31 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, valley, \$16; alfalfa, \$14.

Butter—Creamery, 36c.

Eggs—Ranch, 37c.

Hops—1911 crop, 44c; 1910, nominal; contracts, 25c.

Wool—Eastern Oregon, 9@16c; Willamette Valley, 15@17c.

Mohair—37c.

Seattle.

Wheat—Bluestem, 81c; club, 78c; red Russian, 77c.

Barley—\$25 per ton.

Oats—\$30 per ton.

Eggs—Ranch, 50c.

Butter—Creamery, 38c.

Hay—Timothy, \$14 per ton.



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