

CLAIM AGAINST CHINA

AMOUNT OF INDEMNITY HAS BEEN FIXED AT \$273,000,000. Report of the Ministers' Committee Presented by Pichon-Larger Figure Expected.

PARIS, May 1.—The Foreign Office received a Japanese note from Peking announcing that M. Pichon, French Minister, presented today the report of the committee on indemnity. The amount China is to pay has been fixed at 2,730,000,000 francs (\$730,000,000). How it is proposed that the indemnity be distributed among the powers is not set forth, but as the dispatch does not mention The Hague it is thought the Ministers are hopeful of being able to settle the proportion to be received by each power by discussion at Peking. The indemnity figure is under what has been expected in Paris, as it was thought the total would reach one and a half billions. There is much disappointment over the fact that the United States is supporting England against an increase in the customs. This is attributed to the influence of the American community in China. It is believed that England, if alone, would yield, but fears are entertained that England's scheme is to prolong negotiations until her hands are free in South Africa, when she would show a stronger policy in Chinese affairs. Official advice received here from Peking says the Ministers are divided into two parties in the discussion. One party desires China to raise the indemnity. France, Germany, Russia and Japan agree in favor of raising the customs duties, which can be raised in order to produce a great part of the requisite sum, and the imposition of a duty on junk, which will constitute a tax on internal navigation and a hindrance to some of the duties of the Hun (provincial transit duties). On the other hand the United States and Great Britain decline to agree to an increase of the customs duties, and do not appear to have presented a counter proposition. The fact that the United States and Great Britain have joined hands on this question is cause for surprise here. It was thought that the United States would stand with France and Russia. The result will be greatly to protect the negotiations.

VON WALTERSEK'S REPLY.

Military Force Necessary at Tien Tsin District.

PEKIN, April 30.—Field Marshal Von Waldersee, in the letter which he sent to the Ministers today as the reply of the German representative to the Ministers regarding the military questions discussed yesterday by the Ministers in conference, says a garrison of 6000 men should be left at Tien Tsin and the adjoining district, Great Britain, France, Germany and Japan to contribute 1600 men each, and Italy 400 men. To Garrison Shan Hai Kwan, France, Germany, Russia and Italy one company until the forts are raised. So long as any forces occupy Chinese territory the foreign military commanders must exercise the full authority of a civil administration, according to the principles of The Hague meeting of 1864. The Chinese may remain in office as in the case of the Tsin Tsin and the Tien Tsin districts, warships which must always be in the Pei Ho will preserve communication with the international fleet as in the past.

To allow this administration to depend in any respect on the Mandarins would be an utter impossibility. Frictions would arise immediately which would lead to difficult conflicts which will be better avoided. The placing of the civil administration under the military has a further great advantage. It would be inconvenient to have a military administration which would therefore endeavor to get rid of it speedily by the settlement of peace conditions. When the troops at Tien Tsin are reduced to 2000 by the granting of possibly a quarter of the concessions, then the question of an absolute Chinese administration may be raised. The creation of a civil command is desirable for purely military reasons, as in cases of disorder or troubles of any kind military measures would be required. These measures would be rendered more difficult if the military administration were to be placed under the command of a civil authority. The French commander would commence by withdrawing 8000 in a fortnight and the remainder of the troops in six weeks, leaving only colonial troops here on account of the climatic conditions. The Italian and Austrian commanders will be instructed and General Chaffee, the American Commander, abstained from expressing an opinion. General Wopack, the Russian Commander, was not present at the meetings of the Ministers and Russia was not represented.

General Voyron, commander of the French forces, will be in Peking for Tien Tsin. He will make his headquarters there and supervise the reduction of the French troops, who will be gradually withdrawn in accordance with the wishes of the Ministers. It is desired that a partial reduction of the foreign troops should be begun immediately.

Independence of American Guards.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—The American Legion Guards at Peking will not be subjected to the order of any foreign general. Official reports of the latest phase of the negotiations at Peking have not reached Washington. The American Legion Guard will retain its independence even if it is necessary to that end to remove it from Peking and from China. The latter country is not a neutral territory in case one of the powers formally declares war upon China and exercises its right to cause the withdrawal of all neutral forces, but under existing conditions the guard remains neutral. Germany was one of the powers that subscribed heartily to the suggestion of the United States that no Nation make private arrangements with China for the engagement or acquisition of private concessions, so the officials here are surprised to learn that the Germans have taken steps to acquire concessions at Canton. It is believed here that it was without doubt the insistence by the United States upon the force of this agreement that checked Russia's designs upon Manchuria for the time being.

Fresh Fighting in Manchuria.

PEKIN, May 1.—It is persistently reported here that there has been fresh fighting between the Russians and Chinese in Manchuria. The reports are placed in such rumors, however, as it is believed they are circulated to show the necessity for an increase in the military strength of Russia.

Manchurian Privileges Abolished.

LONDON, May 1.—The Times publishes the following from its Hong Kong correspondent: "A proclamation signed by the Viceroy and Tartar General of Canton abolishes the privileges of the Manchus, who henceforth will be treated the same as the Chinese."

Writ of Mandamus Awarded.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., May 1.—Judge Ogden P. Thompson, of Jacksonville, today handed down his opinion in the suit for mandamus of the Chicago Teachers' Federation against the State Board of Equalization and awarded a peremptory writ

of mandamus. Judge Thompson holds that members of the State Board of Equalization are public officers and that it is their duty to assess the stocks of the twenty or more companies named in the petition. He says: "The exigencies of the case demand the application of the ordinary remedy. Such officers must be made to understand that both the spirit and letter of the law must be observed; that assessments must be made personally and in absolutely good faith; that no neglect or evasion will be tolerated and a mandamus is the only remedy known to law by which such duties can be compelled."

CHANCE FOR HOMESEEEKERS.

Two Million Acres to Be Open to Entry.

WASHINGTON, April 27.—Prospective homeseekers are turning their eyes anxiously in the direction of Oklahoma and patiently waiting the arrival of August on which day, in all probability, a large area of territory will be thrown open to entry. In southeastern Oklahoma is a section set apart as the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache Indian reservation. For a number of years there has been a great demand to have this reservation thrown open to settlement. Looking to this end, Congress, June 6, 1900, passed a bill providing for the opening of these lands, after making proper allotments to the Indians. In consequence of that legislation 2,150,000 acres of rich agricultural land, exceptionally well watered, is to be thrown open to the settlers. This area does not include the lands allotted or to be allotted to the Indians, nor does it include the high rocky country embraced in the Wichita mountains. The special commission which made an investigation and report on these lands stated that the land was of more value for agriculture than any other land in the country. The commission had failed to disclose the presence of any minerals whatever upon the reservation. The bill which provides for the opening of these lands is now before the Senate. Under its terms the Secretary of the Interior, after completing the allotment to the Indians, is to divide the remaining area into two new counties and select a site of 320 acres for a county seat in each county. The county seat, prior to the opening, shall be surveyed and divided into lots, and the lots are later to be sold at public auction to the highest bidder. The proceeds from the sale of the qualified lots will be divided equally between the county officials until the first tax levy is collected. The land is to be divided into 36 in each township are reserved for the use of the common schools. An unusual provision also withholds sections 13 and 33 in the interest of the state or territory normal schools, and the public buildings of the territory and future state of Oklahoma. These latter provisions are out of the ordinary. The bill also provides that the county officials shall be paid the salaries of the county officials until the first tax levy is collected. The land is to be divided into 36 in each township are reserved for the use of the common schools. An unusual provision also withholds sections 13 and 33 in the interest of the state or territory normal schools, and the public buildings of the territory and future state of Oklahoma. These latter provisions are out of the ordinary. The bill also provides that the county officials shall be paid the salaries of the county officials until the first tax levy is collected.

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Broderick's Army Scheme.

Hot Weather at St. Paul.

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FIRST OF MAY IN EUROPE

SOME SLIGHT DISTURBANCES REPORTED ON THE CONTINENT.

Police Suppressed Lisbon Meetings—Barcelona Convent Pillaged.

BERLIN, May 1.—May day passed off quietly. The demonstrators, fifty to two thousand persons attended the various socialist and trades union meetings and at all of these resolutions were adopted in favor of the restoration of the right of union. In consequence of the threats of the master builders to lock out all those workmen who celebrated May day, the meetings in the city were on, although the men were absent. Seven ty-four meetings, all told, were held in this city, the speakers all dwelling upon the "day we celebrate." No processions were allowed. Hamburg, Leipzig, Halle and other large towns celebrated the day. Nowhere were there any disorders or riots.

Police Suppressed a Meeting.

Lisbon, May 1.—Some disturbances are reported from parts of this country, and an imposing demonstration was held in this city. Violent speeches were made, and the police checked almost every meeting.

In Spanish Cities.

MADRID, May 1.—Several demonstrations occurred in Spanish cities, but there were no serious disturbances. At Barcelona, a group of strikers pillaged the chapel of a convent, and were dispersed by troops.

Trouble in a French Town.

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ready to fight on the Nile, on the Yangtze, the Orange River or the Indus. Mr. Broderick further declared that his scheme for the rearmament of the greatest living military authority, and that as a government, they would stand ready to support the rearmament of the army without any delay whatever. He would be no party, he said, with those who urge the postponement of the application of his scheme until the war in South Africa was ended and with the Commander-in-Chief of the army at his back he would not hesitate to urge Parliament for the necessary funds.

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STRIKES AND BOYCOTS

A GITTERY AND BEAUTIFUL GIRL

Threatened With Nervous Prostration PROMPTLY SAVED BY PE-RU-NA

San Francisco Cooks and Waiters are Out.

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Want Shorter Hours and More Pay—Business of Restaurants Interfered With.

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