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WAR DEVIL GRINS OVER THE CHINESE EMPIRE

Powers No Longer Attempt to Deny That a Great Crisis Is at Hand and the World Trembles for Fear of Possible Results.

RUSSIA, ENGLAND AND JAPAN WILL TAKE THE INITIATIVE

Astrocious Acts of Boxers Calls for Firm and Decisive Action by European Powers—England May Be Behind Japan—Germany Will Co-Operate With Other Nations to Secure Speedy and Equitable Settlement.

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PARIS, June 9.—The grave situation in China which has developed this week, monopolizes the attention of the political world and has thrown a shadow over questions of minor interests, even including the Transvaal.

Paris and its politicians admit the seriousness of the condition of affairs around Peking and apprehensions are expressed lest it lead to international complications.

The greatest element of danger in the situation is generally felt to double the duel for supremacy between Russia and England and Japan.

The sympathies of the Frenchmen are naturally with their ally, Russia. England is believed here to be behind Japan, and her support may encourage the latter to adopt such a policy as will eventuate in hostilities with Russia for which they apparently are aching.

The action of the United States is acknowledged to be an important factor and advice from Washington are closely followed here.

At the foreign office no attempt is made to conceal the anxiety that prevails.

China tonight appears distinctly graver. The destruction of the Russian chapel at Tung Tingan has provided Russia with the desired pretext to hand more troops.

A dispatch from St. Petersburg this afternoon that the government is resolved, if the dangerous situation in China continues, to take military action to repress the anti-foreign movement, at the same time declaring that it has no intention of disassociating itself from the joint action of the powers, may be regarded as a semi-official utterance, meaning that if there is any hesitancy on the part of the powers Russia will act alone.

All the reports agree that the Boxers' movement is spreading. The report is confirmed that the French agents at Mong Tse and Yun Nan Fu have been compelled to retire, and this shows that the foment has reached southwestern China and has provoked France into taking active steps.

The latest Tien Tsin dispatch, saying that the Dowager Empress has appointed anti-foreign generals with the pretended mission to suppress the Boxers, makes it impossible to doubt that the time has arrived for energetic action.

A special dispatch from Shanghai, says: "Tsung Li Yamen has protested to the minister against the presence of such a large number of foreign forces, asserting that it cannot be only for the protection of legation, but for the establishment of a garrison in the capital of an independent friendly state."

"The American mission at Pei Tan Chow was destroyed yesterday but the missionaries fled to a place of safety."

The Chinese situation, which, at the beginning of the week was merely a small cloud on the international horizon, now overshadows every other topic, England, according to most authorities save those who control her foreign policy, is face to face with a crisis in

far eastern affairs, which, though it may not result in any immediate partitioning of China, must determine the part that England shall play when the partition eventually occurs.

That such an emergency should have arisen at a moment when England is least able to utilize it, when almost all her land forces are 600 miles from home, and when there is a paramount necessity for keeping an extra-strong fleet in European waters, is deplored by all shades of statesmen and politicians. Lord Salisbury stands almost alone amidst his own party in believing that the results of the Boxer outbreak will be neither serious nor permanent. Members of every embassy in London and every club, to say nothing of the stock market, are discussing eagerly the prospects of war between the two powers arising from the Peking troubles. It is the old cry of "wolf" and this time many well-informed people are greatly inclined to believe the wolf will materialize in the shape of Russia, with Japan as her opponent.

Admiral Freeman's reported statement that war between these countries is inevitable, creates no surprise, though such plain speaking is severely discontinued officially.

The financial situation arising from the Chinese disturbances is by no means satisfactory to those who have any large holdings. One curious feature, in the opinion held by many financiers, is that if the present disturbances portends to open up China it also portends an inevitable increase in circulation of silver with an accompanying tendency to put that metal on a parity with gold.

A dispatch from Berlin says: "The situation in China is here regarded as of the utmost importance. The emperor and the minister of foreign affairs, Count Von Buelow, consider the suppression of the anti-foreign movement in China as prerequisite for the possible rejuvenation of China, and certainly for the establishment of healthy commercial conditions, and Germany is, therefore, in favor of harmonious joint action by all the powers. Interested in China, without permitting any single power to reap selfish advantages from the situation, nor a group of powers doing so."

"His majesty's instructions are that while Germany will in no way put herself unduly forward, and is willing to loyally co-operate with the rest of the powers, she will under no circumstances permit the present condition to go on, even if by so doing the suspicion should be aroused that Germany is seeking separate aims, which, of course, is absurd."

NEW YORK, June 9.—A dispatch to the World from London, says: "The Chinese situation is exciting the profoundest alarm here. It is fully believed that the Boxers movement was instigated in Russia's interest, so that she may reap long desired advantages in China before the subjugation of the Boers relieves Great Britain of her South African trouble."

In this predicament the British press and politicians are looking anxiously to President McKinley to interpose some effectual check to the fruition of Russia's alleged designs.

The British army is so locked up in South Africa that there is no reasonable prospect of being able to safely withdraw any part of it for at least two months.

The British army in India is already 11,000 below the lowest reach of the establishment, and it seems certain that another expedition of 15,000 men will be necessary to restore British authority in Ashanti.

Therefore England is in a sore plight

as far as concerns any effectual defense of her interests in the far East.

It is known in diplomatic circles that Lord Salisbury is using every effort to arrive at an understanding with Russia, but, while Russia negotiates, she also steadily pushes her advantage in China.

It is recognized that, if Russia gets a foothold in China under a plan of preserving order, she will never withdraw. The British occupation of Egypt has set a precedent which will just suit Russia's purposes.

Communications have been actively passing during the week between Ambassador Choate and Lord Salisbury. It is understood that, while the British prime minister is seeking an agreement with Russia, he is working at the same time for joint action with the United States as the second string to his bow. Such action would certainly be accepted here as demonstrating that an Anglo-American alliance is morally, if not formally, accomplished.

NEW YORK, June 9.—A special to the Herald from Washington, says: A dispatch from Minister Conger, which the authorities declined to make public, is said to have referred to a meeting of diplomats in Peking, at which an agreement was reached to make a joint demand on the empress dowager for the suppression of the Boxers under pain of action by the powers.

According to officials here, Minister Conger is making some plain statements to the Tsung Li Yamen, threatening them with the "emmy" of the United States and heavy claims for indemnity should the life of an American citizen be taken. It is hoped as a result of these representations that the Chinese government has put guards around the American mission. It is plainly impossible for missionaries now to reach the coast as communication between Peking and Tien Tsin is cut, other roads are interrupted, and a journey on foot or horseback to the sea would involve greater danger than there will be if they remain where they are.

NEW YORK, June 9.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London, says:

The Chinese puzzle is the most inscrutable mystery in Pandora's box. A crisis has arisen which affects England more deeply than any other power, since she has about three-fourths of the foreign trade in China, yet there are no signs that the emergency has been foreseen, or that there is any understanding with Russia, or that the foreign office has any definite policy. A large force of British marines has been landed, and there is vague talk about co-operation of European powers, but there is no evidence that the foreign office is well served in Peking, where Sir Claude MacDonald is in ill health and no match for the Russian ambassador, whose secret allies are the dowager empress and Li Hung Chang; nor is there any proof that it is prepared to take a line of its own which will prevent Russian intervention on a large scale.

The Boxers are certainly paying into Russia's hands, whatever may be the origin of their intrigues, and the dowager empress in extremity will be forced to call in the Cossacks, who are not likely to go out again. The Salisbury government is clearly adrift on the China question.

WASHINGTON, June 9.—Admiral Remy informs the navy department that the gunboat Nashville, with a force of marines aboard, left Cavite yesterday for Taku. She is a light-draft gunboat of the same type as the Helena, and it is presumed she is sent in place of the latter. The Monacacy, at Shanghai, has been ordered to join Admiral Kempff's fleet at Taku.

At the legation today, Chinese diplomats were extremely reticent concerning the situation in their native land. They eagerly inquire for all dispatches to the press, but have nothing to offer in return.

To set at naught the published statements to the effect that Germany is to adopt more heroic methods than the other powers in the present crisis in China, Baron von Holleben, the German ambassador, said today that Germany would, as heretofore, participate in any joint action of the powers to protect the interests of foreigners in the Far East, but she would go no further than other nations in any action taken.

SHANGHAI, June 9.—A dispatch from Tien Tsin, dated June 8, says 500 Russians are about to land there. The dispatch adds that Fung Chow has been burned, but the missionaries are safe.

HAY WILL NOT INTERFERE.

The State Department Thinks That the Navy Has the Chinese Question Well in Hand.

WASHINGTON, June 9.—The state department officials feel that the action made by the navy department in the despatch of vessels to the scene of trouble in China, and the landing of naval forces, represents all that can be done or at least all that should be done by the United States at this moment. The department remains unshaken in its attitude, and while willing to work on parallel lines with other powers to restore peace in China,

insists on retaining its independence of action.

Foreign embassies and legations in Washington are intensely interested in developments in China, and applications are frequent at the state department from them for the latest news as to what is going on. It appears that the state department has dealt frankly with such inquiries and has made no concealment of its policy of non-interference beyond the point necessary to protect American life and property.

BOERS MAKE CURT REPLY.

Return Hot Lead for Proposals Concerning Surrender.

INGOGO, June 9.—The Boers have replied in rather curt terms to General Buller's proposal that, if they wish to surrender, it must be unconditionally, and an artillery duel is now proceeding.

OMAHA, Neb., June 9.—G. W. Westels, one of the Boer envoys, was given a public reception in the city hall this afternoon. Later, a largely-attended mass meeting was held in the theater. Hon. William J. Bryan made an address in which he urged that it was the duty of every man whose sympathy was with the Boers to express it, and gave it as his opinion that the pro-Boer sentiment in this country was largely in the ascendant. He thought that if that was backed up by the official moral support of the government it would be sufficient to prevent the extinction of the South African republics.

LONDON, June 9.—London is somewhat disgusted at the "disagreeable activity" manifested by the Boers in the Orange River colony in cutting Roberts' telegraphic communication at Rooodeval, north of Kroonstad. As yet there are no indications whence came the strong body of 2,000 Boers that has arrived at Rooodeval, unless it is the force mentioned in a recent Boer dispatch as having started from Standerton with this very object in view. Apparently authorities on the spot regard the situation at least as temporarily serious, as they are not only reinforcing the garrison at Kroonstad, but are sending up troops from the lines of communication in Cape Colony.

Rooodeval is a fairly strong position, 35 miles north of Kroonstad, capable of giving General Kelly-Kenny trouble should the federals elect to dispute its possession, as General Kelly-Kenny cannot be overburdened with cavalry, with which to threaten the Boers' line of retreat. The news somewhat discounts the flattering deductions from Roberts' silence, as it indicates that the menace of the Boers to carry on a prolonged guerilla warfare is no empty threat and President Steyn is still capable of creating serious if only temporary trouble.

A parliamentary return issued this morning shows 36 members of the house of lords and 28 members of the house of commons are serving with the British troops in South Africa.

CLAYSON'S BODY FOUND.

Dawson City Murder Comes to Light—O'Brien Held for the Crime.

VICTORIA, B. C., June 9.—The body of Fred Clayton, one of the victims of last winter's trail murder, has been found. The body was brought by Mrs. Russell, whose husband keeps the road house at Minto, eight miles above where the murders occurred. She served the last meal the murdered man ate, and is acquainted with every particular in the case. She believes that O'Brien, now held at Dawson City, is guilty.

The body was found by mounted police on a sand bank just north of Selkirk. There were two bullet holes in the chest and head. His felt shoes had marks of bicycle pedals and the clothes corresponded with those Clayton was known to have been wearing.

The body has been shipped to Dawson, where the trial of the alleged murderer will be held. The fact that Clayton was last seen at Minto, which is 32 miles this side of where the body was found, is a logical enough indication that the body drifted from the direction of Minto. The finding of the body proves murder conclusively. Before there was no positive evidence, although circumstantial evidence pointed plainly to a crime.

The fact that there are two wounds goes to substantiate the statement of the police and detectives that Clayton and his companions, Oleson and Relfe, made a desperate fight for their lives.

FALL IN WHEAT.

Bad Weather Causes a Drop in the Market.

CHICAGO, June 9.—The wheat pit was crowded today but the market was weak and closed at 1 1/2 cents below yesterday. At 7 1/4 cents. The slump was due to the weather bureau prediction of rain in the Northwest, combined with a report from Minneapolis that rain had been falling there. These items caught the market at its opening, and the value of wheat gave a lightning change exhibition in declining. The Northwest quotations yesterday were as follows: Walla Walla, 54; Valley, 53 and 54; blue stem, 56.

GREAT BRITAIN IS KEPT BUSY

Succeeds in One War Only to Enter Into Another.

CHINESE NOW, NOT BOERS

Britishers in Official London Satisfied That Boers Have Been Subjugated, and Now Watch Chinese Situation.

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LONDON, June 9.—To all intents and purposes the South African war, so far as the average Britisher is concerned, is over. With the exception of the possible capture of President Kruger and the home coming of Lord Roberts, his calendar of probabilities contains nothing of vital interest. Already China is becoming a keen rival of South Africa as the burning question of the day.

The capture of 500 members of the imperial yeomanry, which a few months ago would have thrown the nation into a fit of despondency, self-analysis and furious abuse of its own officers, has passed comparatively unnoticed. The work of stamping out the rebellion, for such, according to the British point of view, is the nature of the opposition now encountered, is too prosaic and too common in the annals of the British army to merit the absorbing attention hitherto bestowed on each detail of the sanguinary struggle.

"What shall we do with it?" is far more the topic of the hour than speculation regarding the expenditure in lives and money that seem likely to ensue before the pacification of the Boers is accomplished. Large numbers of inquiries are daily made in London about the prospects of the undeveloped crown lands of Natal, while the rich resources of the Transvaal and Orange river colony form the basis of frequent articles. Before many months have passed the steamship companies plying to and from South Africa, the companies connected with the development of that portion of the globe, and others equally interested and well informed look for a large and steady immigration of trained British agriculturists and others to fields on which the blood of Briton and Boer is scarcely dry. All the letters from the front indicate an increasing desire on the part of the irregular and colonial forces to settle down in this fertile land won with such cost to themselves.

The British high commissioner, Sir Alfred Milner, it is learned, is devoting his whole attention to evolving a scheme of civil government applicable to the Orange river colony and the Transvaal, and is relying to no little extent upon the influence of the British settlers to exercise it. The commissioner is in constant communication with the secretary of state for the colonies, Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, who has also got the forces of the colonial office hard at work on the problem, though the keen-sighted officials believe the day is still far distant when the military administrators will be able to hand over the reins of government in safety to the civil authorities, providing the progress of the victorious army in the Transvaal is tolerably similar to its operations in the Orange river colony.

Subsequent to the capture of Bloemfontein this apathy towards military happenings and interest in civil and commercial possibilities is likely to gain such a quick hold that soon the war will be almost forgotten. The contingency of President Kruger's still undefeated forces scoring any victory of consequence over Lord Roberts is generally regarded as so remote as to be scarcely worth mention. The occupation of Pretoria, according to the Man-in-the-Street, settled the whole matter.

In view of the premature rejoicings which Lord Rosebery's dispatch caused last week, it is interesting to note that the aristocratic young journalist is chiefly remembered in London for his diverting appearances in Hyde Park at the period when he had given up the stage to edit "Scottish Life." At the height of the season at the most fashionable hour of the day, he was always to be seen, immaculately dressed and bejeweled, seated under a tree, ostentatiously correcting a mass of proof sheets. As each one was finished he covered it with four pebbles and laid it out beside him until he was surrounded for yards around with white slips, which never ceased to be a source of huge amusement to the passers-by, and, apparently, of intense satisfaction

(Continued on Fourth Page.)