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CHINESE STRONGHOLD CAPTURED WITH A LOSS OF 200 TO THE ALLIED FORCES

City of Yang Tsun, Objective Point of Present Expedition and Will Be Held as a Base of Supplies.

MAIN ARMY OF ALLIES STARTS FOR PEKIN AUGUST 15TH

There Will Be 50,000 of the Allies in the Second Expedition—Sixty American Casualties—General Disapproval at Landing of British Troops at Shanghai—Li Hung Chang States He Is Now Satisfied That His Party Has No Longer Any Influence at Peking—European Diplomacy No Match for Chinese.

LONDON, Aug. 10, 4 a. m.—In the capture of Yang Tsun the allies' losses, according to a dispatch to the Daily Express, from Che Foo, August 8, were 200, the majority of these being killed. "The allies marched on Yang Tsun," says this report, "at dawn Monday. The position held by 1,500 Chinese was well entrenched to the east of the river. After four hours of heavy fighting the Chinese were driven from their defensive works."

The collector of customs at Shanghai has received a routine message from Sir Robert Hart, director general of imperial customs, showing that the latter is still conducting the business of the imperial customs—a rather curious change of affairs when taken in conjunction with the words "happily, still alive," which he included in the dispatch, which was dated Peking, July 27th.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—Acting Secretary of State Adee tonight made public the following cablegram from Consul Fowler at Che Foo, which reached the department at 11 o'clock tonight:

"From Che Foo, August 9. Morning of the 8th.—I telegraphed the governor yesterday protesting against limiting our correspondence with Conger and requesting the governor to forward to Peking. The governor telegraphs the following: 'Received a note from the Tsung Li Yamen, dated the 5th. The Yamen just received an edict permitting the ministers to have peaceful secret telegraphic communication with their countries. All the ministers at Peking have telegrams for transmission to their governments. It is proposed after despatching same to send the originals to the consuls for verification.'"

The subject of the appointment of Count Von Waldersee to command the international forces in China has been presented to the United States government, but no answer has yet been returned.

Count Von Waldersee is regarded as an eminent soldier and it is believed that he will be satisfactory.

It is stated that his selection would be for a campaign of much broader scope than that in which our forces are engaged.

The capture of Yang Tsun, the first objective point of the international forces, was the supreme news of importance received today on the Chinese situation. The first word of this capture, effected last Monday, came to the signal office at the war department from Colonel Scriven, general officer at Che Foo.

Half an hour after this message a cablegram came from General Chaffee, giving additional details of the capture and showing that it had been at the cost of about sixty casualties among the American troops.

Hardly less important was the dispatch from General Terauchi, second in command of the Japanese staff, sent to the war office of Japan and transmitted to the legation here, stating that the international army would total 50,000 men on August 15, to advance on Peking.

This dispatch stated that on the fourth, when it was forwarded, the advance had not begun. This was at first incomprehensible, in view of the fact that fighting had actually occurred. But the latter statement that the international force would total 50,000 men on the 15th, appears to make clear General Terauchi's meaning and to reconcile it with General Chaffee's dispatches.

The present movement of some 16,000 men doubtless is viewed in the light of a reconnaissance in force, the main movement of the army of 50,000 to follow on the 15th. This makes clear the meaning of General Chaffee's dispatch that

VIENNA, Aug. 9.—The foreign office has received the following from Dr. A. Von Rothorn, secretary of the Austro-Hungarian legation at Peking, dated August 4:

"Austro-Hungarian legation with archives was burned June 20. Since June 20 we, with the French detachment, have been defending the French legation which has been bombarded by cannon and rifle fire. Part of their building was destroyed by mines. Since July 16 the Chinese attacks have not been severe. The Chinese government wishes to induce us to leave for Tien Tsin under safe conduct, but until now we have not been in with this offer."

SIMLA, Aug. 9.—Including the Fourth brigade, the strength of the force proceeding to China is 446 British officers, 1064 non-commissioned and native officers, 13,970 men, 11,850 followers, 1150 drivers, 2520 horses, 4300 ponies and mules, 12 guns, 14 Maxim and 1800 imperial service troops. It is expected that the entire force will have sailed before the middle of next month.

LONDON, Aug. 9.—The flooded country beyond Peking adds immeasurably to the difficulty of the progress of the allies toward Peking. This news

reaches Shanghai correspondents from Tien Tsin, with statements to the effect that the situation at Tien Tsin is again perilous, owing to the assembling of Chinese troops within striking distance.

The losses of the allies in the recent operations are now said to be 1150 men, of which number the Russians lost 600, the Japanese 410 and the British 150.

International suspicion has broken out among the consuls at Shanghai on account of the determination of the British to land there a brigade of Indian troops. It is reported that the French will also land troops at Shanghai to the number of 1,200 men. While the ministers at Peking remain unrelieved, it is not understood why Great Britain should divert forces destined for the relief expedition to garrison a place where peace thus far has been undisturbed.

A news agency dispatch from Che Foo dated Sunday, August 5, says a messenger from Peking reports that the Empress Dowager sent four cartloads of food to the legations on July 23.

The British foreign office is understood to have suppressed portions of the last dispatch of the British minister at Peking, Sir Claude MacDonald, on the ground that his explicit statements regarding the quantity of food and ammunition available might be useful to the enemy.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—The following dispatch has been received at the war department from General Chaffee, sent via Che Foo:

"Yang Tsun, Aug. 6.—Yang Tsun occupied today. Wounded: Second Lieutenant Frank H. Long, Ninth Infantry; casualties about 60 men. Ninth United States Infantry, Fourteenth United States Infantry and Battery F, Fifth United States Artillery. Nearly all from Fourteenth Infantry. Names later. Many men prostrated by heat and fatigue."

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

News from China is almost limited to messages received from the ministers in Peking.

The Express correspondent in Shanghai sends the disquieting intelligence that Sheng has prohibited the export of foodstuffs to the north. Such a measure would militate seriously against the operations of the relief force, which is largely dependent upon Shanghai for its supplies from Nanking.

The Express also reports that Li Hung Chang is endeavoring to negotiate terms with Russia.

ROME, Aug. 9.—The foreign office here has received a cipher dispatch bearing the signature of the Italian minister at Peking, not dated, in which the minister, the Marquis Salvage Ragli, confirms the reports of the murder of Baron Von Ketteler, the German minister, and adds that the legations of Belgium, Austria, and Italy have been evacuated. The members of the legations, missionaries and foreigners to the number of 700, seeking refuge in the British legation.

The Catholic missions in the north city, it is further announced, hold out, defended by thirty French and ten Italian marines. The British legation, when the dispatch was sent, was provisioned for two weeks.

BERLIN, Aug. 9.—It is generally believed that Germany will send another expedition to China, bringing the total German contingent up to 30,000 by the middle of October, but neither the foreign office or the minister of war will confirm the reports to this effect.

The foreign office, however, denies that Emperor William has arranged with the czar for the transportation of German troops by way of the Siberian railway.

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

In spite of the message received from Sir Claude MacDonald announcing the safety, or the comparative safety of the Peking legations up to Aug. 3, official circles here are full of pessimism. Doubts still prevail, and it is felt even now to be more than doubtful whether the allies can strike hard and quickly enough to save the ministers.

The publication here of the latest Conger message confirms this pessimistic opinion. On the other hand it is worth while to remember that the British foreign office has from the beginning displayed a tendency to look at the worst side of the Peking situation. It reportedly accepted as authentic the reports from Shanghai and Che Foo which gave lurid accounts of the wholesale massacre of the foreigners, and it seems to have made up its mind that its representative had been slaughtered weeks ago. A curious example of this pessimistic frame of mind is found in the queen's speech, read at the close of the parliamentary session. Her majesty made it to say that it is a matter of uncertainty whether the British minister and his family have been among the victims of Chinese violence, yet shortly before this document was submitted, Mr. Broderick read to the house of commons a cipher dispatch from Sir Claude, which showed that at any rate the British minister was alive on Friday last.

Outside of the foreign office there is a strong hope that the emphatic message communicated by Consul Goodnow from the United States may have

some effect. Men who know the Chinese and their methods believe that the mandarins will deliver up the ministers unharmed, but not until the last moment, and when they see the game of prevarication and resistance is up. This would be in accordance with the attitude of Li Hung Chang, after the Tien Tsin massacres of 1870, and with Celestial precedent generally, but the experts admit that the position of the Manchurian and Tartar fanatics like Li Ping Heng and Tung Fuh Slang, at the head of large bodies of armed troops introduces a new factor whose value they are unable to estimate.

Nothing is known here officially as to the alleged suggestion of the German emperor that Count Von Waldersee should be appointed to the supreme command of the allied troops in China. If the proposition should be made, it would probably be welcomed in this country. The British government is well aware that no English general is a possible candidate for the office of generalissimo, and it would as soon see a German officer appointed to the post as one from any other country apart from this. His majesty's government is extremely anxious just now to keep on good terms with Germany in the far East.

There is considerable seriousness at Downing street as to the attitude of France in regard to the Yangtze valley. English statesmen will have to move with great caution if they intend to assert the paramount interests of Great Britain in central China without provoking dangerous opposition on the continent of Europe.

The accounts of the battle of Pei Tsang are too fragmentary for military men here to form an opinion on it of any value. One distinguished soldier said that he thought that the stand made by the Chinese would, at any rate, give to the foreign officers a more just appreciation of the difficulties encountered by England in South Africa. The Chinese seem to be adopting Boer tactics, but fortunately their men are not of the fighting quality of the Transvaal burghers.

NEW YORK, Aug. 9.—The country over which the allied forces are now fighting is, according to all accounts, of a sort to make it a wonderful accomplishment to reach Peking in the face of a superior force. W. Kai Kee, of this city, who has traversed the route between Tien Tsin and Peking several times, having gone from south China by the Grand canal, says of the country:

"Near Tien Tsin it is a waste of marshes with lagoons and wandering rivers. The Chang Ho, the Hun Ho, and similar streams join the Pei Ho somewhere in this mesh, but they are very much confused. About the city to the north are rice fields and gardens. Beyond these are marshes, across which the railway is built on an embankment made of bamboo driven in the earth, the space between the two rows being filled in."

"At Pei Chang (Pei Tsang) the first good ground is found. It is 60 li, (20 miles) from the town. The newspapers have much misstated distances, because the Chinese miles are one-third of English miles."

"Here are great rice fields stretching for many miles, with embankments built by the province along the river, which is very crooked and with earth paths running every few yards through the rice. The water being very low, these paths and embankments would make natural trenches for fighting. Only on boats in the river or along the railway can artillery be used."

"For 20 miles here and all about Yung Sung (Yan Tsun), which means dust and mud, are mud flats, which at this season are very dry and baked. Last summer I was along that road we often had to lie down and cover up our heads while the dust storms swept by. It is as bad to march through as water. Lafa-Sang or the last place of mud, is where the low hills covered with grass begin to rise, and the country from there on to Peking is fine and rolling with many villages, rich farms and gardens."

"Before Lafa-Sang is reached there is not one stone as big as a man's fist which is natural to the ground, and not one tree is to be seen. If the soldiers stay long near the rivers which in the summer have an awful smell, they will next month become ill with fever and very many will die."

"There are not many people living between Lafa-Sang and Tien Tsin, except the Chinese whom the railroads keep at work on the track to watch it so the water, which sometimes flows two different directions within an hour, will not carry a mile of it away."

VANCOUVER, B. C., Aug. 9.—The Rev. Jonathan Lees, head of the London Missionary Society, arrived from Tien Tsin on the steamship Empress of India. He said that but for the Chinese converts many missionaries would have been killed. They were invaluable during the siege. They built all the barricades under a rain of bullets.

He severely scored the foreign diplomats who, he says, are babies beside the wily Chinese. As an instance of how little European representatives know of the native rulers, he said that the day before Peking was closed Sir Claude MacDonald persuaded some ladies who were visiting him that there was no danger and that they might as well prolong their visit.

BOERS PLOT ASSASSINATION

Planned to Burn Part of Pretoria and Kill British.

TEN RINGLEADERS ARRESTED

Angry Discussion in Parliament Over the Situation—American Muleteers From New Orleans Being Shipped Home From Boerdom.

LONDON, Aug. 10.—The Daily News has the following dispatch from Pretoria, dated August 9:

"A plot to shoot all the British officers and to make Lord Roberts prisoner has been opportunely discovered. Ten ringleaders were arrested and are now in jail. The conspirators numbered about 15."

"They had planned to set fire to the houses in the extreme western part of the city, hoping that the troops would be concentrated there. The plan was that then the conspirators were forcibly to enter all the houses occupied by British officers and kill the occupants."

"The Boer sympathizers were acquainted with the plot and several had been told to secure the person of Lord Roberts and to hurry with him to the nearest commando. Horses had been obtained for this purpose. The affair has created a tremendous sensation."

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

The public interest in the South African war has waned, but the parliamentary session closed with a series of angry discussions on the subject. Mr. Chamberlain being fiercely baited by the Radicals on the communications which he alleges some opposing members have maintained with the Transvaal government. In all this there is a considerable element of party politics. It is commonly believed that the general election will take place in the autumn, and the policy and conduct of the war will be the issue before the people, since the politicians are still talking of South Africa, though the nation is paying far more attention to the opening of the drama in Eastern Asia.

Everybody is tired of the Boer war and is anxious to have done with it as soon as possible, but the government is by no means convinced that the end is at hand, and it is significant that reinforcing drafts for two of the regiments at the front have just been ordered to hold themselves in readiness for embarkation next week.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—The department of state is in receipt of a dispatch from the consul-general of the United States at Cape Town, relating to the further shipment of American citizens as muleteers at New Orleans on British transports. In this instance Stowe remarks that he sends home free all who apply to him, but adds: "Over five hundred have arrived and further shipments of these muleteers ought to be prevented."

POPULISTS MEET.

Chairman of the National Committee Wants a Populist Vice-Presidential Candidate.

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—The Populist national executive committee held two sessions here today, but contrary to expectations, Senator Marion Butler, of North Carolina, chairman of the national committee, was not present.

There seems to be a good deal of apprehension among the members of the committee in regard to the attitude of Senator Butler on the vice-presidential situation. There has been a strong rumor to the effect that the North Carolina Populist would take the bit between his teeth and insist that a Populist be named for vice-president on the Populist ticket.

BRYAN AT CHICAGO.

He and Stevenson Will Rest for Some Weeks.

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—William J. Bryan and party arrived in this city this evening. They were driven to the Auditorium, where Bryan will remain for several days for the purpose of consultation with Chairman Jones and members of the national committee regarding the conducting of the campaign. When Bryan leaves here he will go to his home in Lincoln to remain there during the remainder of the month. Tomorrow Stevenson will proceed to Lake Minnetonka with his family, where he will remain for some weeks.

WHEAT MARKET.

PORTLAND, Aug. 9.—Wheat, Walla Walla and Valley, 54c to 55c; bluestem, 55c.

CHICAGO, Aug. 9.—Wheat, September, opening 76 1/2c, 76 3/4c, closing 76 1/2c @ 76 3/4c.

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