

EXTREME TENSION

Chinese and Foreigners on Bad Terms.

TROUBLE LIKELY TO OCCUR

Relations Between Court and Legations is Unchanged—Open Agitation Continued to Central and Southern China—Pekin is Now Comparatively Quiet.

PEKIN, Feb. 3.—An evidence of the tension existing between the Chinese and foreigners is shown in a recently unimportant event, which took place in Tien Tsin on the occasion of the birthday of Emperor William. While Yuan Shi Kai, viceroy of the province of Chi Li was passing through the British settlement on his way to make a formal visit to the German officials one of his outriders was struck by a Chinese policeman, enforcing the rule of the road to keep to the left. A scuffle ensued. The viceroy afterward ordered the surrender of the policeman for punishment. After a meeting of the authorities the British Consul-General and representatives of Yuan Shi Kai, a full apology was drafted and the policeman was dismissed and handed over to the Chinese officials, who proposed leniency. The viceroy's magistrate, however, ordered a punishment of a thousand strokes with the bamboo, which is frequently fatal and three months penal servitude. Foreign opinion here insists that the viceroy's demand for the surrender and the extremity of the punishment ordered were both deliberately intended to impress foreigners with a sense of the Chinese authority. British officials are bitterly denounced by foreign residents for surrendering the policeman, who was a British employe.

The foreign newspapers published at Shanghai, Hongkong and Tien Tsin continue to dwell in apprehension upon anti foreign trouble, but Peking gives no sign of any hostile feeling toward foreigners.

The dowager empress received the diplomatic body on the Chinese New Year. At the audience she displayed her customary cordiality. The relations between the court and the legations are in no way changed. The open agitation against foreigners is confined to Central and Southern China, and it is anticipated that troubles, if they occur, will be limited to these sections as "Boxerism" was limited to the North. Those whose predictions would carry greatest weight, however, are most reluctant to express opinions.

Undoubtedly all China is at a white heat of political discussion. Such intense feeling as prevails on the part of the inhabitants has seldom been seen before and makes any result possible. A local outbreak may precipitate general hostilities. No organized movement against foreigners is to be discovered except the American boycott. The national feeling is growing stronger and the peculiar status of foreigners in China affords many points of friction. The court has every inducement to preserve friendliness at the legations. The dowager empress' supporters freely discuss the possibility that she may be driven by revolution to seek shelter within the walls of the foreign legation.

The stability of present regime is on insecure foundation. The death of Yuan Shi Kai would be a great blow to the throne. Local newspapers and gossip describe his army as infested with anti-dynastic secret societies, but the reports are difficult to verify. Yuan Shi Kai, however, is frequently threatened with assassination and extraordinary precautions are taken to protect him. He is strongly guarded day and night. The ever present menace to order in the spectre of death overtaking the dowager empress and thereby leaving the emperor, who fails to command the confidence of the people and without heir, surrounded by ambitious, intriguing officials with a restless, discontented populace behind them.

CHANGE OF TIME

The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad commencing Sunday, November 19, train No. 6, the Royal Blue Limited, will leave Grand Central passenger station, Chicago at 5 p. m., instead of 3:30 p. m. and will arrive in Pittsburg at 6:35 a. m., Washington at 4:40 p. m., Baltimore 5:50 p. m., Philadelphia, 8:19 p. m., New York 10:40 p. m. the same as with the old schedule, thus reducing the time one hour and thirty minutes. No excess fare will be charged on this fast limited train. All other trains will arrive and depart the same as formerly. Stop-over is allowed at Washington, Baltimore and Philadelphia, not to exceed ten days, at each place, on all first-class through tickets.

TRADES UNION STRIKE.

On February 15th, Building Trades Will Declare Sympathetic Strike.

NEW YORK, Feb. 3.—At a meeting of representatives of all the buildings trades in the city of New York last evening it was decided to order the various unions in the various trades to go on strike on February 15th in sympathy with the House-smiths' Union. The conference was held under the auspices of the Central Federated Union and it was announced that the failure of any union concerned, to support the House-smiths would mean the expulsion of that particular union from the Central Federated Union. This resolution was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved that on and after February 15, 1906, no member of the union will be allowed to work on any building or job where union men have been locked out or are on strike, or have been replaced."

Commenting on the above, Secretary Ernest Bohm of the Central Federated Union said:

"This means that no union men will work with non-union men who have taken the places of the House-smiths' Union."

Secretary Bohm said a copy of the resolution would be sent to the unions this morning and that the latter would be requested to send a prompt reply.

A German physician who had spent several years at Klein-Popo, in the African Togoland, says that the stages of color through which negro babies pass in the equatorial regions are as follows: At birth they are the same color as European infants. After two or three months the skin turns a lilac color. Ten days later it is a light chestnut shade and it is only at the end of three or four months that the skin becomes completely black.

It is said that if Bertha Krupp is ruler of a city, Harriet M. King rules a principality, as her Texas ranch contains one and one-half millions of acres of land, and that one may ride for ninety miles in a straight line without getting outside its barbed wire fence. It is as large as the State of Delaware and nearly twice the size of Rhode Island, and far greater in extent and wealth than many of those German principalities from which have come reigning houses of Europe.

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SECOND HAND DONKEY ENGINES for sale, suitable for logging and hoisting purposes. For description and price apply to F. D. Kuetner, Astoria, Oregon.

NOTICE FOR BIDS.

Chief Quartermaster's Office, Vancouver Barracks, Wash., January 25, 1906. Sealed proposals, in triplicate, will be received at this office until 11 o'clock a. m., February 24, 1906, and then publicly opened, for the construction, including plumbing and electric wiring, of quarters for two (2) N. C. Officers, at Fort Stevens, Ore. Full information will be furnished on application to this office. Plans may also be seen at the office of the Depot Quartermaster, Portland, Oregon, and at Fort Stevens, Ore. The U. S. reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids or any part thereof. Envelopes containing proposals should be indorsed "Proposals for Building at Fort Stevens" and addressed to the Chief Quartermaster, Vancouver Barracks, Wash.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE office of the Columbia River Packers' Association for the construction of Eureka Cannery at Eagle Cliff. Plans and specifications can be seen at the Association office. Bids will be opened at 10 a. m., Saturday, February 10th. Right is reserved to reject any or all bids. Columbia River Packers Association.

LOST AND FOUND.

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