PORTLAND MERCHANT FROM CHINA SAYS WAR SOON ON THE PACIFIC IS INEVITABLE

I. R. Concuff, a former resident of Portland, has just returned with his family from Shanghai, China, where he has been engaged in the mercantile business for the past two years. Mr. Concuff is a firm believer in the future greatness of the Chinese empire, which, he says, is destined to take its place as one of the great powers of the earth before many more decades have passed.

"The main check to the commercial prosperity of China right now," said Mr. Concuff, "is in the monetary system. The standard of the land of the dragon is silver, and of course any overproduction of that metal or shortage of gold in any of the world's markets immediately makes itself felt in the commercial relations of China with foriegn countries.

"For example, since the panic last fall importations of flour from the United States have fallen off fully 60 per cent. The people over there can't afford to pay present prices for flour when the rate of exchange is so high. Two years ago a sack of flour that could be purchased for a dollar in gold cost the buyer $1.80 in Chinese money. Now it takes $2.30 in Chinese to buy a dollar's worth of goods.

Portland Loses Trade.

"Portland has practically all the flour trade with Hongkong and the southern ports of the empire, but in Shanghai, Chefoo and other northern ports the Rose City has only about 50 per cent or a little more. This is due to the fact that Portland has no direct steamship line to these cities on the upper end of the Chinese coast. Goods shipped from the Willamette river must be transhipped at Kobe and no small loss is caused by breakage. For that reason dealers who would prefer to trade with Portland exporters send instead to Puget Sound with which there is a connecting line of steamers.

"The sailing vessel is a thing of the past on the Pacific, as far as the oriental trade is concerned. Seldom do you see one plying in Chinese waters. The orient demands and gets fast service. Goods must be shipped with all speed owing to the fact that fluctuations in the money market may mean a difference of thousands of dollars to the merchant. An order which was billed at $5,000 in Chinese money when it left on a sailing vessel might have doubled in value by the time it arrived because of a panic or some other cause which depreciated the price of silver.

China Wide Awake.

"Much has been said of the awakening of China, but the reports cannot exaggerate, or for that matter, give a true idea of the rapid progress which the ancient country is making. The great middle classes of the empire are at work overturning the idols built up by centuries of paganism and with each year the number of the enlightened are increasing by almost geometric ration.

"The people have inherited from the age of Confucius certain elements of greatness which are bound to leave their impress on the world's map. Among the racial characterizations which they possess in far greater degree than any other people on earth are industry and adaptability. They are honest, sober, eager to acquire knowledge, and in addition have a keen intelligence and power to grasp.

"I would rather deal with a hundred Chinamen than with one Jap, and so would any one else who has ever had dealings with the native in the land of the mikado. The Japanese business men are, as a class, lying, deceitful, dishonorable and thoroughly unreliable. They have no sense of duty and do not keep faith in contracts. So well are they protected by the technicalities of the Japanese law that it is impossible to recover a judgment or to get justice from a merchant who wishes to defraud a foreign customer.

Chinese Merchants Honest.

"The Chinese, on the other hand, are strictly honest and reliable. A Chinese merchant would no more think of ordering goods which he could not pay for than he would of disowning Confucius. The Chinese do not speculate, either, like their neighbors, the Japs. A Japanese will contract for supplies and then if the price sags when it is time for the order to be delivered he will refuse to accept it. There is no way to compel him to do so.

"The international patent agreement has no effect on the Japs. They steal the labels of foreign brands of goods, bodily, and sell them without the owner of the patent being able to get any redress whatever.

"The Chinese have experienced a revolution in sentiment towards the United States in the past decade, especially since the famine last year when supplies were sent from this country to the relief of the starving. A Chinese merchant prefers to buy from America wherever he can purchase goods as reasonably as from other countries.

Uncle Sam's Slowness.

"Strangely enough, the prevailing idea in this country is that American industries are pushing out those of other nations. This is not the case. On the contrary, Germany, England, Belgium and France are selling annually millions of dollars worth of machinery and supplies of all kinds while the American manufacturer is apathetically watching. Some commodities are even shipped from the United States by other countries and then exported to China.

"Railroad activity is at its height in Cathay. There are now some half a dozen new railways nearing completion and when they are in operation the prosperity of China will have received an impetus difficult to overestimate.

"Among the new steel lines almost finished, or in process of construction, is the Che Kiang railroad, which penetrates a rich district for a distance of 400 miles up the Yang Tse river from Shanghai. The Chefoo-Hankow railroad, which connects those cities and makes a loop into the interior on the way up the coast, furnishes access to a vast region and a means of transportation for produce that will materially add to the nation's wealth.

"The Russian government is building a railroad down the Amoor river in Siberia to connect Nerchentsk and Habarovsk. This is a strategic move rather than one of commercial importance. The czar needed this road to prevent the isolation of Vladivostock in case of another war, as the line of the trans-Siberian, as it runs at present, is through Manchurian territory.

Difficult Engineering Problems.

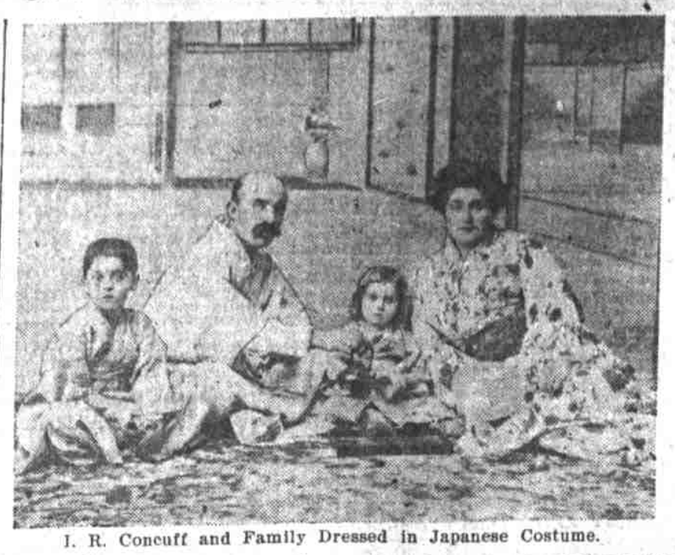
The treaty signed with China makes it a condition that Russia may not transport troops or munitions and supplies of war along the road in Manchuria.

"The construction of this new road involves some of the world's most difficult engineering problems, yet American engineers are making no effort to secure positions. The work is entirely in the hands of Belgians and Englishmen.

"The farmer of Manchuria is coming to hate the Japanese government and all things Japanese, for the railroad across this great province from Dalny to Quen Chanxy is owned by Japan, and the producer is forced to take for his products just whatever the Japanese will pay, and no more.

"Foreign competition has been absolutely shut out by a system of rebates which discriminate in favor of Japanese dealers and against those of other nations. A car of wheat which costs an American 50 yen for transportation from Dalny to Quen Chanxy is hauled for a Japanese merchant for only 15 yen. This is an example of the methods by which the Mikado has attained his commercial supremacy.

"Before the railroad was built the farmers were able to sell their produce in open market and buy commodities at



I. R. Concuff and Family Dressed in Japanese Costume.

a reasonable price because four nations were striving for the Manchurian trade. The lumbermen and miners suffer with the farmers by the unjust discrimination of the Jap railroad.

Cannot Avert War.

"It is my sincere opinion that war on the Pacific within the next few years cannot be averted, and China will be one of the participants. I am not saying who will be the others. The men of Cathay are drilling a large army and quietly increasing the strength of the naval armament. The people at large are steadfast in their hatred for the little brown men across on the Mikado's isles and when the queued soldiers meet those who vanquished them once before there will be a different story.

"Skilled tactiticians from the armies of Europe are being paid high salaries to inculcate into the Chinese forces the knowledge of warfare in all its subtleties. The Chinese soldier is not excelled in bravery or efficiency by the military unit of other nations, once he is drilled into form by competent leaders.

"The fate of Korea is today the saddest of any country in history. The Korean is treated with less consideration by his Japanese "protector" than is the yellow dog in this country. Here the dog has a chance because the society for the prevention of cruelty to animals will interfere, but the Korean must submit to the worst indignities without hope of redress. A Japanese may hire a native in Korea to do some work and when the Korean is through his employer pays him what he pleases, or nothing at all. More often than not the laborer is kicked for his pains."

English at Chinese School.

Mr. Concuff will leave again for China September 15. He will reenter the mercantile business in Shanghai, where he will also act as agent for a large exporting firm of the United States.

Mrs. Concuff and her two sons aged 2 and 7, will make their home in Portland, where the older boy will go to school. Little Joe Concuff probably has the distinction of being the only white boy in the northwest who attended his first school in the orient. Joe went to an English grammar school in Shanghai for a year. Mrs. Concuff says she likes China as a dwelling place, for many reasons, but of course, like all Americans, gets "lonesome" for home frequently. In speaking of her residence in the flowery kingdom she said:

"In China you don't have to do a tap of work. Servants are too cheap. The Chinese make fine servants, too. I had three, a head boy who got $20 a month, a coolie who worked for $7 and an amah, or maid and nurse girl. The amahs are most devoted to the children of foreigners, and will risk their lives if need be to render service to them or their families. My amah wanted to come to America with me, so fond had the woman become of the baby, but owing to the exclusion laws I could not bring her.

No Autos in China.

"The greatest objection to living in Shanghai is the fierce heat of summer, which is well nigh unbearable. It takes years for foreigners to become acclimated.

"How do we amuse ourselves over there? Oh, there are traveling opera troupes which periodically make their appearances. We women pass the greater part of the time in attending little tea 'chows' and other social affairs, much the same as the women in this country do. No one has an automobile in China, but we all ride about in 'rickshaws.'"

PETTY THEFTS IN COLUMBIA BUILDING ROUSE IRE OF TENANTS

A series of petty robberies which for months past have been occurring in the Columbia building, corner of Washington and West Park streets, culminated last Monday night in the robbing of one of the offices of the Pacific States Telephone company. A new Underwood typewriter was stolen and also some jewelry belonging to one of the employes.

It is believed that the thief is someone who is employed in the building. According to the story of one of the employes, there were two new typewriters on a table in the center of the room. They were of the same make and one was as good as the other. But one of them had a cover on and the other did not. The theif took the uncovered one, which leads to the belief that he must stay in the building, as otherwise he would have taken the covered machine rather than carry down the street at night an uncovered typewriter.

Nearly all the offices in the building have been robbed one time or another during the past few weeks. Umbrellas, hats, coats, typewriters and various other articles of value have been taken —always things that could easily be carried away. The police have been notified, but have found no trace of the thief or of the things he has taken. The matter has, therefore, been placed in the hands of a private detective agency.

BANK EMPLOYES TO FEAST TONIGHT AT ANNUAL BANQUET

Down at the United States bank there are half a hundred smiling faces today. The weekly Saturday frown has been banished for this one day in the year and the formidable array of figures and the monotonous click of the adding machines have no power to disturb those smiles. They just won't come off —for tonight is the annual banquet and president and junior clerk will meet on an unofficial basis. Who cares if a glass or two is clinked after the dinner, either?

This is the third annual affair of this kind to be given by the bank to its hard working force. The dinner will be held at the Rock Island club. Toastmaster W. A. Holt has engaged a number of professional entertainers to furnish an unique musical and vocal program during the progress of the repast. The guests will leave on the launch Rose City, from Portland at 6:30.

MORE OBJECT TO MADISON SITE

Petition Bearing 5135 Signatures in Opposition to Proposed Bridge.

More than 100 people attended the meeting of the street committee of the city council yesterday with various objections and petitions in regard to street improvements, and just to add spice to the occasion there were a number present to urge the adoption of the petition asking for the erection of a high bridge at Clay and Mill streets instead of at Madison street as provided for by the bond issue of last year. The members were here at the city hall until 6 o'clock, and finally adjourned after referring the petition with its 5,135 signatures to City Attorney Kavanaugh for an opinion.

The petitioners on the bridge proposition want the Madison street project set aside and the Clay street bridge substituted. The bond issue carries a fund of $450,000, and the legal questions involved make it one of the most important questions which have confronted the city attorney since assuming his duties.

Had Figures Wrong.

G. B. Frank, president of the Northeast Side Improvement association, presented the remonstrances of a number of property owners on Prescott street against the proposed paving of the street with bitulithic pavement. Frank said that the property owners had been induced to sign the petition for the pavement in the first place by misrepresentation as to the cost. James McGuire, one of the property owners who signed the petition for the pavement, arose after Frank finished speaking and said that Frank was not a property owner, that the club of which Frank was president did not exist, and that the remonstrance should not be considered.

Councilman Driscoll stopped McGuire when he had proceeded this far, and said that he approved of everything he had said about Frank thus far, and then allowed McGuire to proceed. Frank replied that he is not a property owner, but that the club of which he is president does exist, and that he had appeared before the committee as the representative of the property owners whom, he stated, had asked him to appear for them.

Frank failed to list the property owned by the remonstrants, and was instructed to file a proper remonstrance with the city auditor in order to have it checked up. If the required four-fifths of the property owners are on the remonstrance the improvement will go by the board.

SIGHT SEEING TOUR ENDS DISASTROUSLY

Mrs. Mary Cunningham, who says she is the wife of a traveling man, and A. N. King started on a slumming trip last night. They had a glorious time, but it proved expensive.

The pair visited the closed-curtain establishments of North Seventh and imbibed various brands of liquor. Patrolman Vessey found them at Sixth and Stark after midnight. Mrs. Cunningham shocked the ears of the station force of the night relief when she arrived in the patrol wagon, for her personal remarks to the men before her would have made a drunken sailor blush for shame.

The presence of a revolver on King brought a fine of $10 upon his head this morning, while Mrs. Cunningham must stay in jail until she has worked out a fine of $25.

YOUR HOME will be healthier when you keep bottled Schlitz. The barley is food—the hops are a tonic. And the drinking of liquids flushes the system of waste.

Every doctor knows that most people drink too little. On this account, their systems become clogged with waste.

There lies the main good of watering places. They induce the drinking of water.

That is one reason why the drinking of beer is good for you. It leads you to drink more liquid than you would drink without it. And that liquid is both a food and a tonic.

The sturdiest peoples of the earth drink the most of it.

But be sure that the beer is aged, so it will not cause biliousness. And be sure it is pure.

Schlitz beer is all healthfulness.

Ask for the Brewery Bottling.
Common beer is sometimes substituted for Schlitz.
To avoid being imposed upon, see that the cork or crown is branded Schlitz.

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The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous

2

TREASURE SPOT
TABLE ROCK
See Page 5.

Who gets the $100
Watch for Columbia Woolen Mills Co.'s "Reason Why" Contest in Sunday Papers.

CALIFORNIA HOTELS.

HOTEL STEWART
SAN FRANCISCO
GEARY STREET ABOVE UNION SQUARE
JUST OPPOSITE HOTEL ST. FRANCIS
EUROPEAN PLAN $1.50 A DAY UP
AMERICAN PLAN $3.00 A DAY UP
¶ A new down town hotel. Steel and brick structure. Furnished at a cost of $150,000. Every comfort and convenience. On car lines transferring to all parts of city. Omnibus meets all trains and steamers.
¶ If you want comfort, convenience and luxury at a very reasonable price, stop at the select
HOTEL STEWART

CALIFORNIA HOTELS.

Fred Wollenberg Max Schulhofer Leo Lebenbaum
An unequaled Cuisine and a guaranteed excellence in Every Detail.
Hotel Normandie
Sutter and Gough Sts. San Francisco
Pre-eminently the best and newest uptown hotel, convenient to theatres and shops; 250 bright, richly furnished rooms from $1.50 up, with bath $2.00 to $3.50. Suites, parlor, bedroom and bath, $4.00 up. American plan, $3.50 up. Commercial sample rooms.

BE WISE AND STOP AT
Hotel Von Dorn
242 Turk st., when you visit SAN FRANCISCO.
Fireproof steel frame, steam heat, phone and bath. Rates $1 up, European. From Ferry depot take any Market st. car. Get off at Jones st. E. J. Dyer, Mgr.

HOTEL AUDUBON
978 Ellis Street, SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
A first-class, quiet home hotel. European plan. Centrally located. Near theatres and shopping district. Rates $1 up. Reduction by the week. Mrs. L. H. McClure, proprietor.

Hotel St. Francis
SAN FRANCISCO
This hostelry possesses all the best features of the world's finest caravansaries, and has added many ideas to the sum of hotel happiness.
It has introduced to Pacific Coast Hoteldom the Electric Grill, Pneumatic Tube Service, Magneta Clock System and today represents the farthest advance of science in hotel service in America.
Rates—European, from $2 upward
Under the management of JAMES WOODS

FAIRMONT HOTEL
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A homelike and comfortable hotel, whose superb location, magnificent appointments and perfect service leave nothing to be desired.
Under the same management which made the Palace Hotel the world's standard for 40 years.
Single rooms with bath—$2.50, $3.00, $4.00, $5.00, $6.00, $7.00, $8.00, $10.00.
Suites — $10.00, $12.50, $15.00, $18.00, $20.00 and upwards.
REACHED BY DIRECT STREETCAR FROM FERRY.
PALACE HOTEL COMPANY

Royal House, San Francisco
Fourth and Howard Sts.
All outside rooms, steam heat, hot and cold water. Rates 50c to $1 per day. Weekly rates. Cafe. Fourth street cars direct from Third street depot. From Ferry, Howard street cars direct. F. L. Turpin, proprietor.

Foster & Kleiser Signs

DRIFTING TOWARDS BRIGHT'S DISEASE

Many people who are neglecting symptoms of kidney trouble, hoping "it will wear away," are drifting towards Bright's Disease, which is kidney trouble in one of its worst forms.

FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE

stops irregularities, strengthens the urinary organs and builds up the worn-out tissues of the kidneys so they will perform their functions properly. Healthy kidneys strain out the impurities from the blood as it passes through them. Diseased kidneys do not, and the poisonous waste matter is carried by the circulation to every part of the body, causing dizziness, backache, stomach trouble, sluggish liver, irregular heart action, etc.

If you have any signs of Kidney or Bladder Trouble commence taking FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE at once, as it will cure a slight disorder in a few days and prevent a fatal malady. It is pleasant to take and benefits the whole system.

How to Find Out.

You can easily determine if your kidneys are out of order by setting aside for 24 hours a bottle of the urine passed upon arising. If upon examination it is cloudy or milky or has a brick-dust sediment or small particles float about in it, your kidneys are diseased, and FOLEY'S KIDNEY CURE should be taken at once.

G. B. Burhans Testifies After Four Years.

G. B. Burhans of Carlisle Center, N. Y., writes:

"About four years ago I wrote you stating that I had been entirely cured of a severe kidney trouble by taking less than two bottles of Foley's Kidney Cure. It entirely stopped the brick-dust sediment and pain and symptoms of kidney disease disappeared. I am glad to say that I have never had a return of any of those symptoms during the four years that have elapsed, and I am evidently cured to stay cured, and heartily recommend Foley's Kidney Cure to any one suffering from kidney or bladder trouble."

Two Sizes, 50 Cents and $1.00.

SOLD AND RECOMMENDED BY ALL DRUGGISTS

TREASURE SPOT
TABLE ROCK
See Page 5.

A New Machine.

A new machine to dispose of the ashes which accumulate in the fire rooms of vessels expels them through the keel so forcibly that they cannot scour the hull nor come into contact with the propeller tubes.

England still has 114 miles of street railways operated by horses.