

THE PARTITION OF CHINA

THE fall of the Chinese empire and its actual partition among the western peoples have furnished one of the most dramatic spectacles to be found in the history of the nations. It came about through the Chinese-Japanese war. The pretensions of a vast empire were exposed within three months. The war demonstrated that China was made up not of one people, but of many peoples—peoples who spoke different languages, had differing customs, entertained differing beliefs, held differing ambitions. In a general way, it had been known that a man from Canton could with difficulty make himself understood in Hong-Kong, but the world dreamed of nothing like the racial separation which existed within the far-reaching confines of the flowery kingdom. All of these interior and exterior peoples believed in a vague way that the emperor was the son of the sun, but they were not willing to fight for it. The generals were venal, cowardly or incompetent. The navy was a sham. The army was not above the ridiculous. The state was rotten through and through. Japan accomplished the expedition, but was held off. It wished to seize Korea and a large part of the Chinese mainland. It got only some money and the Formosan islands, which have been a white elephant. Russia, Germany and France interfered. England was appealed to, but failed to interfere. England fights only its own battles.

The vast Chinese kingdom was left open and palpitating. The emperor's head rolled uneasily on his shoulders.

lighten it. It is still exerted. Nominally leasing only a part of the Liatong peninsula Russia now controls all of Manchuria, which is being opened by the Siberian and Manchurian railways. It controls all of the province of Pe-Chiee-Lee, which includes Peking. It controls Shansi and Shensi, over which a Belgian corporation (which hides a Russian corporation) is driving a railway. It controls Kansu, unexplored, but said to be rich in minerals, and the northern part of Tibet. This mysterious land, which is closed to England from the south, is wide open to Russia from the north and is being surveyed by Russian engineers. With these territories Russia dominates every caravan route through Koko-Nor and Turkestan. The price has been high.

Directly south of the Russian "sphere" lies the British "sphere." The space, occupying the center of the map, includes the great Yang-tse valley. For more than a quarter of a century it has been regarded as the bondmaid of British trade. This is China—actual China—the China of the Chinese, not the China of the Manchurians or the Manchu dynasty. It contains 300,000,000 people, or three-fourths of the entire population of the empire. It contains hundreds of huge cities. It is twenty times worth the other portions of the kingdom. It is, so far as cultivation is concerned, the garden of the world. The seat of the British governance of this royal territory is now and has been for many years Shanghai. Until last year not one of the European governments had sought to ques-

of China; it would be dominated by French and Russian officials; its tariffs would be fixed by France and Russia; its trains would be run to suit the convenience and purposes of those countries.

The German possessions in China are much smaller than the Russian or French possessions, but are more compact and more advantageously situated. No one doubts that Russia and France agreed that Germany should have this territory when the three powers were throttling Japan. The immediate excuse for German occupation was the murder of three missionaries. A force of marines was landed at Kiaochow, the Chinese ran away, promptly the German flag was hoisted and the deed was accomplished. The result has been that Germany now owns the entire Shan-tung peninsula; has reserved the right to build railways and do mining in that part of the empire; handles the customs as a matter of course; has obtained an ice-free port for its warships, and stands ready to take a hand when the final slicing begins. It demands also the right to construct a parallel line to the contemplated French and Russian line through the Yang-tse valley, thus placing a railway owned by a third inimical power in the territory supposed to belong to England. If the French claims for an extension of "sphere" are allowed the French will cut the British line of communication between Central China and British China. This is made clear by a glance at the map.

The difference in the policies of the three great powers briefly stated is: Great Britain, confident in its commercial prowess and the value of the foothold it has obtained by half a century of occupation, wishes to throw open to the world the trade of the 400,000,000 subjects of the Emperor. Russia, Germany and France have wished to partition China commercially among themselves, reserving certain portions for their own trading and barring out competitors by means of customs regula-

TRAVEL IN GUATEMALA.

Primitive Means of Transport Yet in Vogue in Central America.

The primitive means of transport on the high table-lands and mountainous districts of Central America will exist till a railway running north and south, midway between the two oceans, will introduce modern and more convenient contrivances. When the Spanish conquerors took possession, they found no beast of burden as they had found the llama in Peru. It was the tall, muscular Indian of these mountainous regions who was the beast of burden then. And so he is to-day. A leather thong, with a pad over his forehead, keeps the load of from six to nine stone in its place. A callous growth on the forehead and the disappearance of the



MOUNTAIN TRAVEL IN GUATEMALA.

hair are the result. For passenger travel a kind of sentry-box, sometimes made of wickerwork, sometimes of rough boards, with a seat inside and a sort of thatch overhead, is used. Water and provisions are carried by another Indian in the "lacaste," a sort of creel.

SMILING SAMOANS.

When They Are Riled They Can Fight Like Fiend.

The men are noble specimens, physically—tall, muscular, with the erect carriage and elastic step of an American Indian. They, too, are smiling and kindly—in time of peace—and are clad in mantles of the gay prints which they have bought at the store; they greet you with a wave of the hand and a courteous "Alofa." They tattoo the legs from the waist to the knee, and as they stride along these members appear between the folds of their drapery as if they were decently clothed in skin-tight trousers. They are indolent and, when not roused to hostility, as amiable and fun-loving as children. They work as little as is possible, and why should they? The forest abounds in wild bananas, breadfruit and yams, which may be had for the taking; the sea is full of fish, which they are expert in catching, and if Providence deigns to send them a fattened pig once or twice a year they are blessed.

But these gentle creatures can fight, and fight cruelly, although their method of warfare is peculiar; they eat and drink between rounds, when a sort of truce is declared, then go at it again, shoot at short range and shoot to kill. Formerly, until the practice was abolished by Chief Justice Ide, the killing was followed by beheading, and this ceremony was not always deferred, where the victim had been only wounded, until life was extinct. The heads were then collected and presented to the king as an especial proof of prowess. This barbarous practice the chief justice had the utmost difficulty in dealing with, and it was not discontinued until the other representatives of the triple protectorate consented to enact a law to punish offenders by fining them heavily, and adding to this penalty a lengthy term of imprisonment.—Leslie's Weekly.

Independence Monument.



A Texas Independence monument is to be erected at Washington, Washington County, by the school children, to commemorate the signing of the Texan Declaration of Independence.

De Castro's Duel.

Corporal Joseph H. De Castro enlisted when 16 years old. At Gettysburg he was already a veteran. When Pickett made his great charge and the men in blue and the men in gray were mixed up in a tangle before the union lines, Corporal De Castro, who was color-bearer of the Nineteenth Massachusetts, engaged in a duel with a big color-bearer in gray. The two men clubbed the staves of their flags and went at it hammer and tongs. The other man was larger, but De Castro was young and agile, and finally landed a blow on his adversary's head and wrenched away the flag. It was the colors of the Nineteenth Virginia.—N. Y. World.

Golf was a popular game in Scotland in 1457. By an edict of James IV, issued in 1471, the games of golf and football were prohibited in that country; that monarch opposed his own edict by engaging in the former game himself, and was considered a crack player.

Medals of valor have been conferred on 100 Greek women who served as nurses in the war with Turkey. There wasn't anything to do but decorate the women, for the men furnished no excuse for such attention.

A scientist of note has discovered that the smell of flowers is injurious to the voice. He declares that several operatic singers of his acquaintance owe the loss of their voices to their passion for certain sweet smelling flowers.

PERIODS OF PAIN.

Menstruation, the balance wheel of woman's life, is also the bane of existence to many because it means a time of great suffering.

While no woman is entirely free from periodical pain, it does not seem to have been nature's plan that women otherwise healthy should suffer so severely.

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—Miss JENNIE R. MILES, Leon, Wis. If you are suffering in this way, write as Miss Miles did to Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass., for the advice which she offers free of charge to all women.

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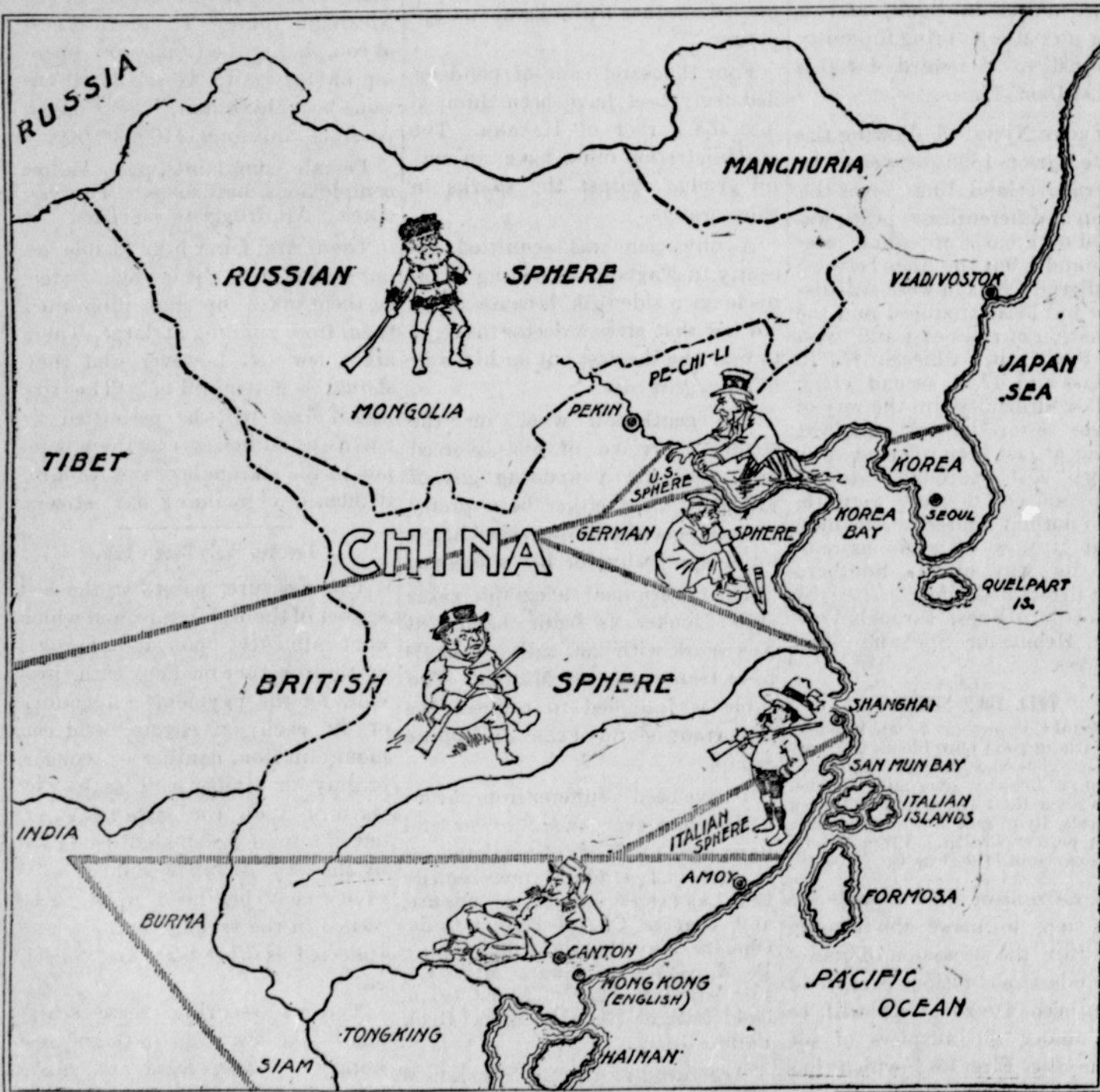
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MAP SHOWING FOREIGN "SPHERES" IN CHINA.

Rebels were to the north, south, east and west of him. His revenues were stopped. Anarchy threatened. His family had been taught by more than fifty years of experience that it costs money to appeal to England. He knew little of Russia, beyond the fact that it had proved friendly in fending off Japan. He turned to Russia. That country acquiesced promptly. The price paid has been greater than Britain would have exacted. Russian agents swarmed into Manchuria. Russian troops followed them in thousands and are still there. Russian ships prowled along the coasts, the waving black lines of smoke signaling to him that his powerful friend was still aiding him.

Mr. Pavloff, Russian representative at Peking, elected himself the special guide, counselor and friend of the tung-li-yamen and it was forced to take his advice. Russia demanded and obtained treaty rights, occupancy rights, railway concessions, mining privileges, changes in customs and anything else which the Czar's minister thought might prove of advantage. The Chinese government acted like a child. It pouted and whimpered. It appealed tearfully to England one day; the next it would not receive the English ambassador. It lied to Russia, to Germany, to England. Steadily the Russian pressure continued. Nothing could

tion the British right to control this valley. Russia now denies it absolutely. Pavloff asserts that British dominance of the Yang-tse is a myth; that no guaranteed rights of possession have been granted to England by China and that Russia has every right to build through the valley or to take any action she may please looking to the development of Russian trade. It is over the valley of the Yang-tse that battles of the future may be fought.

Impinging upon the British "sphere" to the south is the French "sphere." Russia has gained its foothold through diplomacy and promises of aid. France has fought for hers. French diplomacy in China has not been a success. The French have been compelled to find excuses for wars and to take with the strong hand. Years have been spent by the Gallic government in endeavoring to increase its holdings in Annam. It has succeeded only in obtaining concessions to build two railways. It is contemplated that one of these shall go north to a point on the Yang-tse River, where it is to join a Russian road running south from Peking. If the scheme is carried out the Yang-tse valley, now dominated by England, will be pierced through and through by a road, one end of which will be owned by Russia and the other by France. This road would be the future grand trunk line

tions, local taxes, railway tariffs, etc. It may be stated here that Great Britain has maintained the open door in her "sphere" since the acquisition of her "sphere," and that her trade with China is three-fourths of the entire trade of the empire with the outside world.

The accompanying map marks the portions of the empire which have been grabbed by the contending Western powers, and it is common prediction in European circles that the world war of the future is to come from the clashing of these "spheres." The militaries of England declare that if their country fails to preserve her domination of the great river of the Yang-tse she will be forced to fight to preserve her influence from utter ruin; if she does finally stake out her "possessions" she will be forced to fight over a matter of boundary lines.

When newly married people read the advertisements in the street cars and in the programs at the theater, instead of talking, it is one sign their dream has ended.

The next time you think you have heart disease recall what you ate for dinner, and you will remember that you ate pie.