# BRITISH PEOPLE IN FAVOR OF SCRAPPING ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY

## STEED URGES ENDING BRITISH-JAPAN PACT

### Alliance, London Editor Asserts, Causes Suspicion in Conference.

### IS NO LONGER OF USE

### Writer Shows London Is Not Bound to Aid Tokio in War on U. S.

### FOGGY WORDS CONDEMNED

### Cooperation in Far East, With Fewer Clashes, to Follow Abrogation of Treaty.

By WICKHAM STEED.

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—In a recent despatch I pointed out that American opinion is disposed to make the retention or abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese alliance a test question of the reality of British good will toward the United States.

With all deference to American feelings, I urge that this is not the most tactful way of putting the matter, and that the future of the Anglo-Japanese alliance should be determined in the light of the advantages or drawbacks which, from the standpoint of the highest interests of the British Empire, its continuance might involve.

Upon mature consideration the balance of advantages, which include the prospective influence of the British Empire as a whole for the maintenance of peace in the Pacific and throughout the world, seems, I added, clearly to indicate the association of the alliance, irrespective of any agreement for the limitation of armaments, eminently beneficent though such an arrangement would be as an additional pledge of tranquillity.

Notwithstanding this somewhat pointed hint—which has been widely reproduced in the United States—some well known American writers continue to force the issue of the Anglo-Japanese alliance upon public attention. One such writer says:

"I am in a position to state authoritatively that, despite official reassurances given last December by the British Foreign Office, the United States Government considers, on the face of the known texts, that in case of war between Japan and the United States, involving—as it inevitably would—some third nation, Britain, so long as the present Anglo-Japanese alliance continues in effect, is in honor bound to go to the assistance of Japan against the United States. This consideration, as has perhaps been often said, but not sufficiently realized, is one of the gravest matters that has now to be threshed out here in Washington."

#### Another U. S. Writer Quoted.

Another writer, who obviously is not out of touch with the views of some official quarters, suggests that before entering into any agreement for the limitation of naval armaments the United States may ask for the definite abandonment of the Anglo-Japanese alliance. He argues that for the United States to pledge itself not to build warships for ten years and to leave the other two naval Powers bound together in a defensive alliance, with their combined navies approximately double the naval forces of the United States, would scarcely be regarded as reasonable.

The idea that a triparite Anglo-Japanese-American agreement might be substituted for the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, he continues, is not popular with the American Administration and would probably never be ratified by the Senate. Interpreting the reference in the Chinese memorandum to international "commitments" affecting China which ought to be examined by the conference, the writer concludes that the Anglo-Japanese Alliance is one of the commitments referred to.

In view of this campaign, which many tend to confuse American public opinion or, if it foreshadows official action, may create a delicate situation, it seems expedient to state frankly the real position of the British Empire in regard to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and thus to obviate the impression that pressure or dictation from any foreign quarter is requisite or that it could or would affect the decisions of the peoples of the British Empire.

There are some facts in the later history of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance which, even if known to the American State Department, are certainly not appreciated by the American public. One such fact is that, in 1911, when Viscount (then Sir Edward) Grey was negotiating the renewal of the alliance with Baron Kato, the Japanese Ambassador in London, he informed him that a clause must be inserted removing from the possible scope of the alliance any Power with which the British Government might conclude a treaty of general arbitration.

#### Kato's View on Treaty's Renewal.

Baron Kato replied that he would advise his Government to accept this restrictive clause. Japan, he added, knew that England would probably conclude a treaty of general arbitration with the United States, but the Japanese Government had long been convinced that, alliance or no alliance, the British Empire would never in any conceivable circumstances fight alongside Japan against the United States. Therefore Japan would lose nothing by accepting the proposed clause.

Thus the restrictive clause was embodied in the renewed treaty. Shortly afterward a treaty of general arbitration was negotiated between the British Government and the United States. The Senate, in its wisdom, declined to ratify it—a proceeding for which the British Government, with all its faults, cannot fairly be held responsible. Technically, therefore, the United States Senate nullified the exclusion of the United States from the scope of the Anglo-Japanese alliance, until, in September, 1914, what is known as the Bryan-Spring-Rice "Peace Commission Treaty" was negotiated and duly ratified. On his own initiative Sir Edward Grey then informed the Japanese Government, through Baron Inouye, that in the British view and for purposes of the interpretation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, the "Peace Commission Treaty" would be equivalent to the general arbitration treaty which the United States Senate had rendered inoperative.

Consequently the Anglo-Japanese Alliance has not contained any anti-American implication since September, 1914. Whether or not this fact was ever officially intimated to the United States I do not know. Possibly the British Government, then absorbed in the conduct of the war, omitted to inform the State Department. It may also have imagined that the British conviction as to the impossibility of armed hostility on the part of the British Empire against the United States, which Japan shared in 1911, was sufficiently shared by the American Government to render notification superfluous.

#### Should Convince Americans.

The foregoing considerations ought to dispose of any suggestions that, under the alliance, the nations of the British Empire could or would be called upon to fight against the United States. But American objections to the alliance are based also upon the contention that it has emboldened Japan to make encroachments on China, and to put forward her famous twenty-one demands, which she would never have done had her position not been strengthened by allied relations with Great Britain.

This contention may or may not be valid in practice. Technically it is incontestable that any Japanese action directed against the welfare and integrity of China is contrary to the letter and spirit of the alliance. But it is also true that, at the recent conference of the dominion and British Prime Ministers at London, the majority did not favor the abrogation of the alliance, which, as interpreted by the Lord Chancellor, was held to renew itself automatically from year to year unless denounced.

Into this somewhat blurred situation came President Harding's invitation to the Washington conference. Though its significance was not immediately perceived in British official quarters, the consciousness that any practical scheme for the limitation of naval armaments must involve consideration of Far Eastern problems gradually grew, and rendered inperative a definition of the interests and attitudes of the self-governing nations that form the British commonwealth.

For the British delegation to the Washington conference I have no title or pretention to speak. What may be in their minds they alone know. But I am certain, on the strength of extensive inquiry and investigation during recent months, that the majority of the peoples, if not the majority of the governments, of the British Empire now regard a continuance of the Anglo-Japanese alliance as inexpedient.

#### Arguments in Japan's Case.

The facts of the case are very simple. If, as there is reason to hope and believe, the policy of Japan in the Far East is peaceful and directed toward cooperation with other civilized Powers for the purpose of safeguarding and restoring China to her rightful position in the world, such a policy can now be carried out as well without the alliance as with it.

If, on the contrary, the policy of Japan should be unwisely dominated by aggressive or militarist tendencies, such as would be likely to produce conflict with the United States, it would be physically impossible for some portions of the British Empire not to side against Japan. And when any portion of the British Empire is compelled by considerations of its own welfare and security to take a definite stand, the whole British Empire is necessarily involved.

In the one event therefore the Anglo-Japanese alliance is superfluous; in the other it is worse than futile. Regard for Japan, where this situation is understood, no less than regard for British honor, demands that the alliance should be abrogated.

Unless the Washington conference achieves success it will leave the situation in the Far East, and of the world generally, worse than if it had never been convened. If it is to succeed in fullest measure there must be the utmost attainable clearness in the positions and policies of the Powers attendit. Save in regard to the limitation of armaments—which may in theory be arranged independently of an understanding upon the Pacific problems—the success of the conference will depend upon the constructive good will of the various Powers toward the greatest Asiatic people, the Chinese. The leading delegates to the conference are not without hope that Japan may prove to be as helpful in this respect as any other Power.

#### Japan's Reply Analyzed.

The official definition of her attitude by Admiral Baron Kato in the committee on Pacific and Far Eastern questions was therefore eagerly awaited. Satisfaction with its general tone is somewhat qualified by its suggestion that the conference can only attempt to adjust China's foreign relations, "leaving her domestic situation to be worked out by the Chinese themselves"; and by the statement that Japan would "regret the undue protraction of the discussions by detailed examination of innumerable minor matters."

It is unquestionable that many prominent Chinese, who would presumably take part in working out the domestic situation of their country, are subject to Japanese control. Some indication that Japan is not aiming at the perpetuation of undue influence in Chinese domestic affairs, and some more precise definition of what "innumerable minor affairs" may be, would tend to remove suspicions of which the persistence might seriously detract from the usefulness of the conference.

But if suspicion is to be dispelled in all directions, the policy of the British Empire must be at least as clear as that of any other Power. This it cannot be until the Anglo-Japanese alliance, which, under conditions now obsolete, rendered notable services to the world at large, is relegated to the domain of history. If this is done, as a spontaneous expression of British policy, the way will be open for understandings of a more general nature on which a larger system of international cooperation in the Far East could be based.

## Labor's O. K. on Navy Cut Aids British Delegates

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

THE manifesto of the British Labor party, issued in London yesterday, announcing its support of the Hughes naval programme, comes as a great relief to Great Britain's delegates to the Washington conference. The delegates feel that their hand has been strengthened and they will return to their work to-morrow with the knowledge that one of their most perplexing problems has been solved.

By their manifesto the Labor party leaders in England have lifted a load off the minds of their countrymen in Washington. Although special groups of labor may make trouble in the event of the closing down of yards in which they are employed, the delegates feel that the workers will not receive the sympathy of the mass of British labor, and that therefore they cannot bring serious harm to the domestic political interests of the present Government.

## FRANCE TELLS AIMS AND FEARS AT LAST

### Briand's Speech To-day Puts Nation in Foreground of Arms Conference.

### EFFORT FUTILE, SAYS LOW

### London Correspondent Sees Britain and America in Closer Sympathy.

By A. MAURICE LOW.

*Correspondent of the London Morning Post.*

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

On Monday France will be brought into the foreground of the Washington picture. Not with intent, but because of circumstances France has been relegated to the background, which has not been pleasing to French national pride.

The French delegates have not enjoyed reading column after column in the American press about England and Japan and only a stray paragraph or two about France; even China has occupied more space than France.

Now France is to come into her own. Mr. Hughes has called a plenary session of the conference for Monday solely to enable M. Briand to acquit France before the world of being militaristic and to explain why France must maintain a great army.

M. Briand leaves Washington next Wednesday and he felt he could not go before making his speech. He is expected to speak for about three quarters of an hour, and from what he has said in conversation it will be virtually an offer on the part of France to reduce her army provided she is assured she can do so in safety; in a word, if Great Britain and the United States will guarantee her against further unprovoked attack from Germany.

A mere expression of benevolent intention or of vague sympathy will not satisfy M. Briand. He knows, of course, that he will not get what he asks for, that so far as practical results are concerned his speech will not influence a single member of the conference nor create public sentiment, but the Premier of France could not cross the Atlantic and remain a silent and subordinate figure.

The Japanese alone will listen to M. Briand with interest. They, I am told, would be glad to reduce their army to some extent, but they cannot do it now owing to domestic conditions and military reduction similar to naval is possible only for the Japanese if it is part of a world policy.

This conference puzzles our French friends who, as M. Briand is reported to have said, "do not know why they were invited and wonder why they should remain as there is nothing for them to do." It is the first conference in the last seven years in which France has not taken a leading part or in which her voice has not been powerful.

It is a new and not particularly delightful experience for France to sit in a conference in which the English speaking and not the Latin bloc is predominant. The solidarity of the two English speaking peoples is what surprises and I think a little disturbs the French, who have evolved more than one theory, quite logical, but unfortunately devoid of all fact, to explain it.

For instance, our immediate acceptance of the American naval proposals was so contrary to precedent that the French believe our Government had been informed in advance of what was coming and the surprise of the British delegates was feigned.

When Mr. Balfour last Tuesday complimented Mr. Hughes on the way he had kept his secret Mr. Balfour spoke with the admiration one master of his profession has for another. It was a tribute to efficiency.

Another theory entertained by the French is that as the power of Britain has rested on her navy she would not agree to its reduction unless an Anglo-American entente existed and Great Britain in her future calculations could count upon the American Navy as part of her own. This also is interesting but not accurate. It is true the leaders of the two peoples are closer to-day than they have ever been, but it is not an entente in the diplomatic or political sense, or as the word is generally used in international relations.

American and British delegates sitting in the conference have come to see that the fundamental interests of the British Empire and America, no matter how divergent they may be in some respects, are identical and that by working together they may not only be able to serve each other but serve the world.

There is this recommendation, but nothing more. One may dismiss once and for all any suggestion, now or contemplated, of an agreement, understanding or anything else of the kind between Britain and the United States. Politically they are as far apart as ever and each is the unhampered master of its own policy, but spiritually they have been drawn together. This, however, must be qualified to prevent misunderstanding.

The conference, of course, has produced no change in the attitude of the American people, anti-English sentiment has not been softened and it would not be surprising if that feeling should be increased.

There are some persons hoping to wreck the conference. We already hear the same objections that were used during the peace treaty debate. "Superstate," "surrender of sovereignty," "dishonest English diplomacy," and all the other pet spectres are being dragged out. If they are made to perform later it would not be surprising, nor would it be surprising if they produced an effect in certain quarters now devoted to Anglo-American friendship, but this is the future.

I am writing only of to-day, and in the words of one of our officials: "I am optimistic; there may be a slump later, but to-day everything is all right and we may feel satisfied with what has been done."

It is not only that the relations between England and the United States have improved during the first week of the conference, but also between the United States and Japan.

The defensive vessels Japan wants, I learn, are airplane carriers, Japan regarding them as essential for her protection, as owing to the frail character of Japanese buildings enemy bombs would do greater damage than in any other country; the carriers being necessary for the quick mobilization of aircraft to resist attack.

There is the Far East and all its complexities, but the attitude of Japan thus far, I am told by members of the conference, has been conciliatory and moderate. She has given proof of this in the acceptance of the Chinese proposals as the basis for discussion, thus removing another dangerous obstacle. Japan, if she is as clever as she is credited with being, can afford to make many concessions. She can enter the Anglo-American fellowship and that surely must be worth much to her.

## CONFERENCE JOURNALISTS SEE WILD WEST SHOW

### Owner of Baltimore 'Sun' Gives a Barbecue at His Country Home and Foreigners See Vigorous American Sports for the First Time.

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

Van Lear Black, the Baltimore banker, coal operator and owner of the Baltimore *Sun*, gave a lavish entertainment to-day at his country place, "Folly Quarters," about forty miles from Washington. The guests were the principal American and foreign newspaper correspondents who are in Washington.

The affair, which was a barbecue, included a Wild West entertainment, a part of which was engaged from the Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey circus.

Approximately three hundred correspondents, about half of them from foreign countries and the others well known in the American field, attended the affair. They made the trip by automobile, a total of sixty-two cars having been engaged for the day to transport them to Folly Quarters and back.

A full sized circus tent was pitched and it served as a dining room. Outside the tent there was a great fire over which hung an ox, being roasted. Oysters in the shell were roasted, as well as rabbits, chickens and turkeys.

While the dinner was being served—it included everything that could be thought of for such an occasion—a full military band furnished music, alternating with a troupe of thirty-five negro jubilee singers in field costume, who wandered about singing plantation melodies.

Among the guests were the most distinguished journalists from Japan, England, France, Italy, China and many other countries. There was also a party of Crow Indians, in full and colorful headdress and costume, headed by Chief Plenty Coos, who bestowed the decoration a week ago on the Unknown Soldier buried at Arlington. In addition to the correspondents there were some other guests, most of them friends of Mr. and Mrs. Black, from Baltimore.

One of the pastures had been developed into a Wild West arena. On one side there was a long row of circus reserved seats, ropes separating the spectators from the section which was prepared for the exhibition. The show, which lasted an hour and a half, was under the supervision of John Agee, equestrian director of Ringling's circus.

The various acts were more in the nature of contests than customarily seen in circuses and Wild West shows. This spirit was injected into the show by Mr. Black, who provided prizes for the events, particularly the races, of which there was a large number. There were half a dozen bucking horses, fresh from Western ranches, which could not be ridden, even when blindfolded. The bulls that were roped and thrown by some of the cowboys were very wild. Cowgirls participated in some sensational riding.

Just before the exhibition began Chief Plenty Coos gave a historical Crow "Pipe of Peace" to Mr. Black, at the same time sticking a feather into his hat, a signal for taking him into the tribe with the name "Good Eagle."

## SEES FRIENDLINESS DOMINATING JAPAN

### Kawakami Says Nation Is Actuated by Sincerity and Sanity in China's Case.

By K. K. KAWAKAMI.

*Special Correspondent of the Jiji Shimpo, Tokio.*

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

To an unbiased observer the first impression of Japan's statement on the Chinese question, submitted yesterday to the Far Eastern Committee of the arms conference, is not unfavorable. It puts Japan on record as "adhering without condition or reservation to the principle of the open door and equal opportunity in China." It shows the Japanese delegation favorably inclined to the abolition of extraterritoriality coveted by China. It expresses a belief in the establishment of "policies and principles which are to guide the future actions of the nations." And it avows non-interference in the domestic affairs of China. All these ideas are admirable.

Upon second thought, however, one feels that the Japanese statement lacks definiteness and that it is couched in language repeated only too often in such documents. The Chinese memorandum presented last Wednesday was not as specific in its statements as it might have been, but the Japanese document is even less specific.

One of the reasons for this peculiarity of the Japanese statement may be attributed to the illness of Ambassador Baron Shidehara, who is looked upon as the real spokesman for the Japanese delegation as far as the Chinese and Far Eastern questions are concerned. The Ambassador had been ill and was unable to attend the committee meeting Saturday.

But one chief reason may be found in the general attitude of the Japanese delegation. The representatives of the Tokio Government, it is understood, have been acting upon the idea that they are guests invited by the American Government, and that it would be improper for them to press a set programme upon the conference and urge its adoption by the participating nations.

#### Sees Moderation and Sanity.

In previous correspondence I ventured the prediction that Japan's course of action at this conference will be characterized with moderation and sanity, and that she will neither be dramatic nor radical in the presentation of her ideas.

The dominant idea of the Japanese delegation as we see it is friendliness and frankness. They are willing to discuss frankly but with sympathy any specific problem which the committee deems proper to take up. What they want above all is frank, friendly informal, unreserved exchange of opinions with the representatives of other governments, with a view to finding the most practicable and serviceable principle for the solution or adjustment of various problems concerning China and the Far East. They have come to Washington not for political effect, but to accomplish something. And the best way to attain that end is frank, friendly, heart to heart conversation, taking up specific topics one by one, and avoiding the grandiose effect of a debating society.

To the Japanese one of the most amusing eidelights of the confefence is persistent talk of "giving something" to Japan, insinuating that Japan is desirous of getting some new territory to solve her population problem. One wonders what put this notion in the heads of the writing folk assembled at Washington. Japan has not come to Washington for any territory in Siberia or Manchuria. What Japan wants is a free, unobstructed access to natural resources and raw materials in those countries. The conference is contaminating. Every writer of every school, class and creed seems to think that he must write something about the Far East and China simply because the conference is discussing them. The resultant *ensemble* is certainly amusing.

H. G. Wells, apparently racking his brain to think of something to write about on the conference, hits upon the happy idea that no nation has the right to let its population "slop over" (to quote Mr. Wells) its territorial confines, and that the solution of Japan's population problem lies in the gospel of Margaret Sanger.

#### Forgets England's Policy.

Evidently Wells has forgotten that England when the rate of increase in her population was highest not only peopled but encouraged her surplus to "slop over" the British Isles by the hundreds of thousands. He has also forgotten that England has acquired by honorable means vast colonies totalling 12,624,425 square miles, from which all Asiatics are rigidly excluded, though most of them have but a few people to the square mile.

It would have been more like Mr. Wells the liberal had he frankly admitted that Japan's population problem is but an aspect of the broad problem of the inequitable distribution of land among the nations. He should admit that the empire building scheme of the great Powers of the West is mainly responsible for the predicament of a growing population such as that of Japan.

The Japanese memorandum on the Chinese question definitely states that Japan is "entirely uninfluenced by any policy of territorial aggrandizement." Japan's policy of economic expansion is not the same as the German policy of "seeking a place in the sun." If any place "in a sun" means room for free immigration and unhindered trade, Germany has always had it. She has been free to send emigrants to any country. To the United States alone she has sent many millions of emigrants. In South America Brazil alone has received more than a million Germans.

Japan's case is entirely different. Here we have a people whose need of a breathing space is not imaginary but decidedly real. The Western empire builders have preempted by far the largest part of the world's habitable surface, and have erected around it an insurmountable wall barring out all other races. Yet Japan, young and docile, is quite willing to accept the inevitable. What she wants in nought but a fair opportunity for her people to improve their hard lot by encouraging their peaceful economic activities along the line of least resistance.

## SOVIET RUSSIA TO ASK LABOR FOR $100,000,000

### Will Appeal to World Workers, Says London 'Times.'

LONDON, Nov. 21 (Monday).—The London *Times* says it has received information from Communist sources to the effect that Soviet Russia shortly will appeal to the world's workers for $100,000,000. It is proposed to issue shares of five shilling each, "guaranteed by the first working class republic of the world."

The *Times* says it is not known whether any interest money attaches to the loan.

## EXCHANGE MENACES U. S. TRADE IN NORWAY

### One-third of Imports Now From America.

CHRISTIANIA, Nov. 20.—America's export trade in Norway, which made tremendous strides since 1914, is menaced, according to trade experts, by the high rate of exchange of the American dollar, and which has already affected American exports with various other European countries. Figures of Norway's imports for 1919, recently made public, show that about one-third of the Norwegian imports were from the United States.

American exporters gained a hold in the Norwegian markets at a time when Norway's chief source of supply was closed. Requirements which could not be covered in the regular markets nearer home, as was the custom prior to the war, had to be taken from America or not at all. It is now being pointed out, however, by Norwegian trade experts that in order that the United States may maintain this position in Norwegian trade, it is essential that American manufacturers stipulate virtually the same terms of credit as other countries.

The dollar now costs more than twice as many kroner as it did prior to 1914. This high dollar rate makes imported American goods so expensive that similar goods from other sources, home made or imported from Germany, can be sold cheaper and which eventually will crowd American articles off the market.

Merchants suggest that if the trade relations between Norway and the United States are to be maintained at anything like their present level it will be necessary for the American dealers to grant long terms of credit and for the Americans to buy more goods of Norwegian origin.

## RETRACTS MURDER STORY.

### Drunk When He Accused Himself, Britt Asserts.

Walter Britt of 612 West 137th street, who was arrested Thursday night after it was said he had called Capt. Arthur Carey of the homicide squad by telephone and announced he was wanted for killing a woman in Chicago several years ago, was arraigned yesterday in Washington Heights court and held for examination to-day. He was charged in a short affidavit with being a fugitive from justice in Chicago.

After his arrest Britt made the excuse he was drunk when he sen the telephone call and denied he had killed any one. The Chicago police are still investigating.

## MARTIAL LAW IN MINE AREA.

### Colorado Governor's Action Declared Unjustifiable.

DENVER, Nov. 20.—In response to a telegram of inquiry John P. McLennan, district president of the United Mine Workers of America, to-night telegraphed to the American Civil Liberties Union, New York city, that "martial law was declared by the Governor of Colorado" in Huerfano county, "without any justification, before the miners suspended work."

## CHINA ENCOURAGED BY KATO'S AVOWAL

### Admiral's Reply Like a New Diplomatic Charter, Says Jabin Hsu.

### 'TOKIO ATTITUDE FRANK'

### Domestic Situation Hinges on Foreign Relations of Pekin Government.

By JABIN HSU.

*Correspondent of the China Press, Shanghai.*

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

China received Japan's reply with a sigh of relief, because with it came the new charter of the diplomatic world for China.

With the other Powers represented at the great conference acquiescing in the firm attitude assumed by the United States for a new policy for our country, the attitude of the Japanese delegation had been up to yesterday morning the only question mark of the gathering, especially in view of Japan's attempt to increase her naval strength from the present to 70 per cent. of that of either Great Britain or the United States. All the delegates at yesterday's session, therefore, naturally looked to Japan for a hint to show her trend in China since she is more vitally interested.

The attitude of Tokio as voiced by its spokesman, Baron Kato, reveals greater frankness and sincerity of purpose than at first was expected by the Chinese in Washington. Although we felt that after the position taken by Great Britain, who officially placed herself on record that she would abandon her sphere of influence along the Yangtsze Valley, and that of France, who definitely offered the return of Kouang-Tcheou, it would be difficult for Japan to assume any other attitude than that shown at yesterday's session.

#### Conditions Sure to Improve.

Admiral Kato's reply, brief and general, like the ten points presented by Dr. S. K. Alfred Sze, furnishes much food for thought among the Chinese. Japan's reply asserts that the existing difficulties in China lie no less in her domestic situation than in her external relations. But all thinking Chinese would like to add that China's domestic situation is certain to improve if her external relation is properly adjusted so that intervention in her internal affairs may cease.

In America to-day we see strong indication that efforts are being made in certain quarters to picture the internal situation of China as darkly as possible and to exaggerate the extent of the division of the country. It is true there is dissension in the country, but when you come to the bottom of things it is always the foreigner who is playing the one against the other so that he might reap a rich harvest.

Baron Kato will agree with us that the most glaring instance of our statement is the signing of a number of secret treaties between the late Anfu clique and Tokio's militarist party by which some of China's most valuable mines and railways were pawned. This fact alone, it will be remembered, caused the collapse of the internal peace conference held between North and South China in Shanghai in 1919.

#### Must Be Rid of Intervention.

China expects much from this conference, but also is aware of her own position. China can be united. She can be strong and prosperous only when she is free from foreign intervention, thus enabling her people to work out by peaceful means a system of self-government suitable to their own temperament and environment.

The Baron told the conference that his country looks to China in particular for the supply of raw materials essential to its industrial life, as well as foodstuffs for his countrymen. China fully appreciates the needs of her neighbor, but nations can only do business on equal terms. Under a protectorate, or suzerainty, or parceled out in spheres of influence, a country is not in a position to treat all other nations with equal favor.

With the friendly counsel and aid of friendly nations it is certain that a Government in China can be established which will be able to allow all nations to participate on equal footing in her vast natural resources and varied products in a manner acceptable at home and abroad.

The raising of one single specific issue by the Japanese spokesman in his general response—the abolition of extraterritoriality is interesting and significant. It is interesting because Baron Kato has singled it out among perhaps a score of concrete problems which China would like to bring up.

China's only fear to-day, however, is the creation of a "diplomatic diversion" through the abolition of extraterritoriality. By that we mean that circumstances may be created so as to afford to China's evil disposed neighbors occasions and pretexts to interfere with her complete jurisdiction.

Yesterday's reply ended with Japan's disapproval of undue protraction of the discussion of minor matters. Whether by that Japan meant to exclude some of the issues forecast by the ten points time only can tell. Suffice it to say, we are confident that the conference itself will be in the best position to decide whether an issue is major or minor, and neither Japan nor China need lose any sleep over the difference of opinion in the magnitude of certain Far Eastern problems.

Without taking the reply point by point, Chinese are satisfied with Baron Kato's statement, which appears to be sympathetic. The recognition of the great principles enunciated by the China delegation is a source of great satisfaction in the Chinese camp and the application of these principles to the issues to be raised by China will engender much interesting deliberation.

IRVIN COBB
tells
A GOOD STORY
every day in
The Sun

## CHARTIER EXPECTS NEW CHINA 'POINTS'

### Predicts Defeat of Pekin Government and Doubts if It Is Representative.

### ARMY ON WAY TO CAPITAL

### Believes Chinese in Towns Under Japanese Influence Would Oppose Change.

By GEORGES LE CHARTIER.

*Correspondent of the Journal des Debats, Paris.*

*Special Despatch to* THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., Nov. 20.

It has become known to-day that the endemic revolution, which has been raging in China for years, has come to a more critical phase and that Gen. Hou Pei Fou is advancing rapidly with a strong force on Pekin.

This fact may remove some of the apprehension which has been felt lately in some incompletely informed quarters after the ten points had been presented by the Chinese delegation as the most complete and moderate expressions of the aspirations and wishes of the actual Government of Pekin. It does not really appear that this Government is actually possessed of enough strength to resist the attack. And if it falls, what shall become of the ten points?

On the other hand, the events come in good time just to show how little, under the present conditions, China is capable of governing herself and how badly, if she must rise to her feet again, she will need some kind of foreign help.

It has been pointed out by many Japanese now in Washington that the demands of China may indicate the desire of the intellectual class and of the students, but they do not for a moment express the wishes of the majority of the Chinese people. And if the unofficial declaration of some of the delegates from Japan, Britain and France, according to which these respective countries should be willing and ready to return Kwang-chow, Wei-hai-wei and Kiaochow, were to be put into effect, the inhabitants of those places, who have nothing to do with politics, would be unanimous in regretting it.

In fact, all those who know something of China and of the conditions actually prevailing there, declare the general feeling of the people, in most of the places where the Japanese have made their influence felt, is clearly and beyond doubt doubt pro-Japanese.

The situation standing thus, it might be well for the delegates at the conference, before they take up in too great earnestness the Chinese ten points, to wait, first, until they know what Government they soon will have to deal with; second, until the Chinese people have had some opportunity to express their own desires and wishes through some delegates who will represent adequately the big Republic of China.

## JAPANESE MISSION TO SEE HARDING TO-DAY

### Nippon's Business Men to Split Into Visiting Groups.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—The Japanese business men's mission to America, which arrived in Vashington last night, will remain here until Wednesday. One group will then go to Boston, another to Pittsburgh, a third to Detroit, Cleveland, Niagara Falls and Schenectady, while those interested in cotton will leave for Dallas and Houston, Tex.; New Orleans, Birmingham and Atlanta.

The delegation, which is described as "strictly non-political," will be received at the White House by President Harding to-morrow, while on Tuesday it will call on Secretary Hoover at the Commerce Department.

Mr. Hoover entertained the mission at dinner last night after its arrival here.

#### PICKS UP WIRE, IS KILLED.

OGDENSBURG, N. Y., Nov. 20.—Guy Harper, a young man employed at the Lisbon Milk Factory, picked up a high tension wire accidentally to-day. He was killed instantly.

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