

# REVIEW OF AN EVENTFUL YEAR FOR CHINESE

## People Observe "National Disgrace Day," as the Papers Call It.

Peking, May 3. (Correspondence of the Associated Press)—This day marks an anniversary peculiarly favorable for a general review of events in China, which were not for the European war, would doubtless have received far more world-wide attention than has been possible during the past twelve months. The day, May 9, is the first anniversary of the formal announcement by the Chinese government of its acceptance of the majority of the twenty-one demands delivered in Japan's ultimatum of May 7, 1915.

It is "national disgrace day," according to the term applied by many of the Chinese newspapers, which are printing editorials today recalling with much bitterness the aggressive action which Japan took against China last year—a bitterness which has been intensified by many other incidents, particularly at present by rumors that China is now trying to curtail its relations with the Japanese, and that the present government is willing to mortgage the railways in Japan in order to raise funds necessary to put down the revolutionary movement.

In brief the eventful year in China's history is, chronologically, as follows: May 9—Chinese government announced its unwilling acceptance of most of the twenty-one Japanese demands.

Aug. 18—Movement to make President Yuan Shi-kai emperor launched.

October 3—Entente powers protested against abandonment of the republic.

December 22—Acting parliament declared people's republic.

January 31—Kweichow province joined Yunnan province in its independence movement.

March 13—Kwangtung province declared its independence.

March 22—Yuan Shi-kai announced abandonment of the monarchy.

April 7—Kwangtung province declared its independence.

April 9—Armistice of one month arranged between Szechuen and Yunnan province leaders.

April 22—President Yuan Shi-kai delegated his powers to a responsible cabinet with Tuan Chi-jui as premier.

May 5—Announcement made of establishment of provisional government in Canton.

Immediately China granted the Japanese demands, which permitted Japan to strengthen its position very materially in the far east. The Chinese instituted a boycott against Japanese goods which lasted for many months, was disastrous to Japanese commerce and resulted in much bad feeling.

For two years there have been rumors that Yuan Shi-kai was planning to make himself emperor. These rumors were substantiated on August 18, 1915, when the Society for the Preservation of Peace issued a long proclamation in favor of the restoration of the monarchy, and based its arguments upon the advice of President Frank J. Goodnow of Johns Hopkins university, who had given Yuan Shi-kai a written opinion that a monarchy was a more suitable form of government than a republic for China, providing the monarchy could be resumed without internal troubles.

Although Yuan Shi-kai disavowed the action of the Society for the Preservation of Peace, it was clear from the first that he was behind the movement to restore the monarchy. On September 22 the state council acting as parliament advised that a long proclamation of peace be issued to pass upon the form of government.

October 9 the Chinese government was dumb-founded when Mr. Obama, the Japanese charge d'affaires, Sir John Jordan, the British minister, and Mr. Kropensky, the Russian minister, appeared at the foreign office and protested against the change in the form of China's government on the ground that such a change at a time when Europe was so embroiled in war would imperil the peace of the far east.

The Chinese government gave assurances that it could preserve peace throughout the change, but this was not satisfactory to the entente powers, which again protested.



## John C. Adamson

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While this situation was at fever heat, it became known that China had been invited to join the entente powers and intern the Germans and Austrians in Chinese territory. China refused to take this action. Japan was apparently quite unwilling to admit China to the entente, although it was evident the other members of the alliance were favorable to China's admission.

The revolutionists made their first bold stroke on December 4, when a party of them managed to board the Chinese cruiser Chaoho in Shanghai harbor, and the ship and turn her guns upon the forts and other warships in the harbor. Little damage was done, and the revolutionists were put to flight by the Chinese navy. However, this action started the armed hostility, and was apparently part of a plan for a general uprising which was thwarted at that time.

On December 22 the acting parliament announced that the public had voted favorably in regard to the monarchy. Yuan Shi-kai expressed a willingness to become emperor as soon as a propitious date for the coronation could be arranged. He protested that this honor was not of his own seeking, but had been forced upon him.

In the meantime the opposition to the monarchy had been developing in the southern provinces, and the Yunnan revolutionist, with Tsai Ao at its head came into full swing on December 25 when that province declared its independence. The Kweichow revolutionists joined the movement on January 31. On March 13 Kwangsi declared its independence.

Yuan Shi-kai announced on March 22 that he had abandoned the monarchy, and that the republic had been restored. The opposition had become so great that it was apparent his monarchical plan could not be consummated in the face of both domestic and foreign opposition. This action on the part of Yuan Shi-kai did not stop the spread of the revolutionary movement. Kwangtung province declared its independence on April 7, and Szechuen did the same a few days later.

On April 9 an armistice was arranged between the Peking government and the revolutionists under Tsai Ao in Yunnan. Kweichow and Kwangtung provinces in the same way for one month, and later was extended.

Realizing that further steps must be taken to check the movement against the monarchy, Yuan Shi-kai announced on April 22 that he would delegate all his military and civil power to a responsible cabinet under the leadership of a premier and ministerial government.

Even this step did not conciliate the revolutionists in the south. Yuan Shi-kai's abdication was the first demand made by the revolutionists, and a necessary preliminary to peace negotiations. While Yuan Chi-jui has always been known as an opponent of the monarchy, many of the revolutionists from the post of minister of war in Yuan Shi-kai's cabinet rather than contentment the effort to re-establish the monarchy, and they insist that leaders refused to accept his presidency as a guarantee of the preservation of the republic unless Yuan Shi-kai resigns the presidency.

Li Yuan-hung, the vice president, is mentioned by the revolutionists as the logical successor of Yuan Shi-kai according to the terms of the provisional constitution, and they insist that this honor shall go to him. However, there are many ambitious leaders among the revolutionists in the southern provinces who are eager for high honors themselves, and foreign newspapers printed in China are almost unanimous in expressing the opinion that Li Yuan-hung is advocated merely as a safe refuge. It is generally believed by the foreigners in China that the vice president would not be allowed to continue long in the presidency were he to succeed Yuan Shi-kai. Li Yuan-hung is one of the most respected men in China, but he is far from being a forceful leader.

It is difficult to tell what constitution, if any, China is acting under at present. The revolutionists insist the provisional constitution of Nanking is the only real constitution which China has had, and is still in force. Under that constitution Yuan Shi-kai would have a term of five years, or nearly two years yet of his present term.

Many of the less rabid revolutionists have shown a disposition to let Yuan Shi-kai finish his present term under the supervision of a proper cabinet and national assembly.

Immediately after he became premier, Tuan Chi-jui outlined his policy very fully to the correspondent of the Associated Press saying that the president had turned over full military and civil power to the cabinet, which is a provisional cabinet and will make immediate plans to hold an election for a national assembly within the next three months. That assembly is to draft a new constitution.

On May 5 it became known in Peking that the southern provinces of Kwangtung, Kweichow, Yunnan and Kwangsi have formed a provisional government at Canton with Tsen Chun-huan, former military governor of Kwangtung, at its head, Tang Chi-yao as vice president, and Liang Chichao, the famous old classical scholar, as premier.

Apparently there is a great division among the southern provinces as to

## NATIONAL GUARD GETS CHANCE TO SHOW WHAT STUFF IT'S MADE OF WHEN BAKER CALLS OUT MILITIA TO DEFEND THE BORDER



Indiana national guard at maneuvers; Secretary Baker (left) and General A. L. Mills.

Washington, June 21.—When Secretary War Baker ordered the mobilization of the national guard in every state he took a long step toward settling the dispute as to the efficiency of the organized militia. No one knows better than the division of militia affairs of the war department, whose chief is Brigadier General A. L. Mills, the ailments of the guard. There are severe shortages of men and material alike.

Some time will be necessary to recruit the 22,000 men the national guard lacks to make up even its peace strength of 15,000. It is short by 188,000 men of its full war strength of 315,000.

Of the twelve divisions existing on paper, only two, the Sixth New York and the Seventh Pennsylvania, have a divisional headquarters organized. Headquarters unorganized.

Of the thirty-six brigades, on paper, making these divisions, only twenty-eight have their headquarters organized. Due to the troops of many of the brigades and most of the divisions being from different states, and the war department having no regular officers to spare, there is no one available for these staffs.

For the 127 regiments of infantry and cavalry there should be 635 machine guns. At last reports a few weeks ago there were but 172 in the possession of the various regiments. The ordnance department had only 77 available. There were 67 others in the sea coast defenses, but they were needed there.

Transportation is of the utmost importance in any field operation and this will be particularly true in Mexico. Yet the Sixth New York division is the only one with complete regimental and divisional wagon trains. The Seventh Pennsylvania has complete regimental trains but no wagons at all for the trains of the other ten divisions.

## GUARDSMEN MAY BALK AT GOING ACROSS BORDER

### So Declare Some Army Officers in Discussing Invasion.

Washington, June 21.—Now that the first excitement of mobilization has quieted down a little and the national guardsmen are about to occupy the camps assigned to them, some important questions are being presented to the war department.

When do the guardsmen leave for the border? This question has been asked most frequently and has been answered by the department that it does not know. Only events can decide.

Another question arising is that of

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## MILITIA BOYS CITY'S GUESTS AT EXERCISES

### Members of Co. M March to Park Where Glowing Tribute is Paid.

### Col. John H. Fraine Promises Relatives to Care for His Charges.

Citizens of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks, numbering nearly 3,000 gathered at Central park yesterday afternoon, to participate in the exercises which had been planned as a parting farewell to the members of Company M, N. D. N. G., and the marching gun detail, who have been placed under government orders, and are now awaiting the command to proceed to Mexico.

A large number of the business men of Grand Forks, and all of the East Siders closed their doors at 4 o'clock. Headed by the East Grand Forks military band and the chief and captain of the police department 200 school children and a long line of automobiles from across the Red River, invaded Grand Forks shortly after 6 o'clock and proceeded to Central park where the program was to be given.

### East Siders Lauded.

The spirit shown by the citizens of the Minnesota city brought much favorable comment as nearly a few hours had been spent by Mayor Kelleher and assistants in making up the arrangements which proved so successful.

The Grand Forks band headed the procession of the west siders, in which the members of Company M, North Dakota National Guard, the honor guests of the day, made up the feature section. At 4:30 o'clock a concert was given at Central park, when patriotic melodies were played after which a banquet was served to the militia boys. At 6 o'clock the program commenced, with Dr. E. P. Robertson presiding. Mayor James A. Dinneen was the first speaker, and representing the residents of the entire city, made an appropriate address, in which the sentiments of the populace were sounded. The executive wished the boys goodspeed on their trip and hoped that at no distant date, a similar gathering would be held to welcome them home.

The most prominent speakers of the day were: J. F. T. O'Connor, Tracy Bangs, F. B. Feetham, Colonel John H. Fraine and Dr. E. P. Robertson.

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While shorter but interesting speeches were made by A. J. Pierce, "Uncle Joe" Parson and J. McCune.

### Frasers Flag.

A beautiful silk flag, a gift of the local order of Elks was presented by Attorney F. B. Feetham and was accepted by Captain L. L. Eckman, who made a short address of acceptance.

When Colonel John Fraine arose to make a speech, a great cheer greeted him, the militia boys sprang to their feet, saluting their superior, who straightened up and raised his hand to his forehead in response. Following the demonstration which lasted for several minutes, the colonel made a short but impressive speech, during which he promised to look after the boys of the state guard to the best of his ability. Bringing his address to a close, Colonel Fraine said:

"Fathers and Mothers, brothers and sisters, sweethearts and wives, I will bring these boys back safe if human endeavor can bring them back, so help me God.

In a closing statement of the colonel was short, the remarks made, established confidence in the hearts of the friends and relatives of the departing soldiers. In the man who was to be in charge of the North Dakota National Guard, should they be called into Mexico.

Every speaker of the day sounded the key note of patriotism, and the necessity of upholding the president and the honor of the United States imperative. That the advance to the border would not only mean patrol duty but actual engagements, appeared to be the belief of each speaker.

The program of the day was brought to close with a prayer, spoken by Dr. E. P. Robertson.

## SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING FRIDAY

### Contracts Will Be Let for South End Paving—Citizens Will Be Heard.

Citizens of the south end are much interested in the special meeting of the city council scheduled for Friday morning. At that time, bids for the contract for the paving of Belmont and Vernon avenues and the cross streets between Eighth avenue and Lincoln Park will be opened, and it is understood that the property owners of the district affected will be present to be heard on the matter of the selection of a contractor.

At this time the council expects also to finish up its duties as board of equalization for hearing complaints on tax valuations.

The real campaigning will come next October, when we shall hear all about how wicked old Satan is at his works are exemplified in the other political party.

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## HOLLAND ORDERS IMPORTS.

Directs Steamship Line to Carry Certain Cargoes from America.

Rotterdam, June 21, (via London).—What recently was announced as a "van arrangement" between the Dutch government and the Holland American Steamship Line, is a definite order to the latter to carry monthly to Holland the following supplies: 2,000 tons of cotton for Dutch spinners, 1,000 tons of lubricating oils, 200 tons of edible fats, 1,000 tons of raw material for the manufacture of margarine, and 1,200 tons of cottonseed oil to satisfy the urgent requirements of home manufacturers besides quantities of military munitions, presumably aeroplanes, engines and parts.

The carriage of the supplies is in addition to the 200,000 tons of cargo space reserved monthly for American grain, which represents already 37 per cent of the Holland America Line's freight capacity. Therefore, the shipments of other goods to Holland from America are liable to delay.

The Holland America Line at present does not contemplate putting the liner Rotterdam, which has been laid up for some time, back into service.