

CHINA'S POSITION
IN THE GREAT WARYuan Took Crown While Pow-
ers Were Busy

DOES HE LOOK TO BERLIN?

German Activity There Meets Re-
sponse in China's Hatred of
Japan, Allied Against Germany

Were the great powers of Europe not at war, Yuan Shi Kai would never have dared to have himself proclaimed Emperor of China in the face of protests from Japan, Britain and Russia. That he has done so is not merely an indication of his belief that the powers that claim particular influence in China are so much occupied with the European problem that they can do nothing more than issue futile remonstrances, but seems to show that he chooses to look to Berlin, rather than to Tokyo, London or Petrograd, for the signal that shall direct his course in international affairs. Indeed, in the opinion of "Ex-Attache," who writes in the Pittsburgh Dispatch, Yuan Shi Kai is to be reckoned with as a secret ally of Germany, and one who may be an open ally should the opportunity present itself.

A Hater of Japan.

This appears to us an unduly pessimistic view, but bearing in mind what Germany has accomplished with countries originally neutral, the stakes she is playing for, and the peculiar situation regarding China, it is worth considering. For the past ten or fifteen years, or in other words, since Yuan became a great figure in Chinese affairs, his foreign sympathies have been markedly pro-British, indeed, he has been denounced upon this ground more than once. Nevertheless, he has been equally marked in his hatred of Japan. Therefore, when Britain and Japan entered the present war as allies, he had to choose between his friendship for Britain or his hatred of Japan. He has concluded, apparently, that he has more to fear from Japan than he has to hope from Britain. His recent actions justify the remarks made in the house the other day by Sir Edward Grey, to the effect that the machinations of Germany in China were a source of considerable anxiety to the British government.

German Machinations.

These machinations were an almost inevitable result of the conditions that immediately followed the outbreak of war. A year ago last August the various treaty ports of China were crowded with German merchants, and the managers, clerks, and salesmen in their employ, as well as a considerable body of Germans who were in the pay of the Chinese government. Unable to return to Germany, these patriots at once organized to the best of their ability and sought to determine how best they might aid the German government. Had he desired to stamp out the German conspiracy he could have done so easily, but before he could make up his mind to take a position favorable to the British government, Japan had announced her intention of warring upon Germany in the Pacific, and had already begun military and naval operations in the course of her campaign she is said to have violated Chinese neutrality, and a protest was made at the time; but even without the insult, Yuan would have determined to give no aid to any power that was an ally of Japan, which he regards as China's worst enemy.

German Train Army.

Until recently China did nothing, or could have done nothing, that might be considered hostile from a British point of view; and even now there is nothing very serious to complain of. However, the fact remains that in the past few weeks Yuan has engaged a large number of German officers as instructors of the Chinese army and these experts are now laboring diligently to give China a powerful army. The national munition works are also in operation night and day, and Japan has been deterred from sending guns and ammunition to China for fear of war with China, and even if China contemplates no attack upon her small but aggressive neighbor, she has created a feeling of insecurity in the East that has been of assistance to Germany.

The German Game.

We know what the German officers have done with the Turkish army. They have made it a most formidable fighting force. They might do the same with the army of China if there were enough of them, which there are not at present, and if the munition problem could be solved, which it cannot be for some years to come. Yet if the German emissaries in China could bring about a war which would engage the entire attention of Japan, and which would force both Britain and Russia to divert forces against China, the German agents would not have labored in vain. The fact that China would be defeated and torn asunder would not influence them in the least. They might hope, too, that the United States would feel a keen interest in the affair, and might be constrained to take China's part. If Germany can make trouble she has scored her point, without regard to other results. Up to the present Yuan Shi Kai appears to have lent his assistance to the Germans. If he permits them to involve him in a war with Japan he will prove himself to be far from the great statesman he has been considered, and his ultimate downfall will be no cause for general regret.

THE STORY OF CREATION

William Dean Howells a well known American author and critic, tells a Shakespeare story. "In Stratford," he says, "during one of the Shakespeare jubilees, an American tourist approached an aged villager in a smock and said: 'Who is this chap, Shakespeare, any way?'

"He was a writer, sir."
"Oh, but there are lots of writers. Why do you make such an infernal fuss over this one, then? Wherever I turn I see Shakespeare chocolate, Shakespeare shoes. What the devil did he write—magazine stories, attacks on the government, shady novels?"
"No, sir, oh no, sir, said the aged villager. 'I understand he wrote for the Bible, sir.'"

LOCAL NEWS

BATTLE LINER.
The Battle liner "Selsia," Captain Abbott, sailed on December 21 from Civita-Vecchia, Italy, for Hampton Roads for orders.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS.
In knives, forks, spoons, and tableware are lasting, beautiful, and reasonable in price at Grandine's, the Plate, 24 Waterloo street.

How about a pair of shoes, a few ties, some dress shirts, gloves and umbrellas, a pair of fine suspenders, or some choice hostery for "this" Christmas? We've the best toggery to be had—Wise's Cash Stores, 243-247 Union street.

CORRECTION.
In the obituary of Stephen A. Stephens the name of Mrs. G. Carton was given in error. It should be Mrs. William Smith.

Sale of hot water bottles 60c. each, boxed for gift purposes at Watson's, 711 Main street.

LEE VS. BOONE.
The case of Robert R. Lee vs. Frank L. Boone was continued today, the morning session of the hearing being devoted to evidence by witnesses for the defence. It is expected that the evidence will be concluded this afternoon.

Band in Carleton rink tonight.

FOR CHRISTMAS.
Holly wreaths. Leave your orders at once for the prepared holly wreaths as stock is getting low and cannot be repeated, 60c. each at Daniel's.

Women's Jersey waterproof overshoes for \$1.25 at the True-It Shoe Store, 889 Main street.

In a drawing for a miniature sewing machine, which realized \$20 for the Red Cross Society, ticket No. 19, held by W. H. Smith of Douglas avenue, won.

Queen's rink opens tonight. Band tomorrow.

Make it glasses for the old folks. We can make suitable arrangements to test their eyes carefully and have a scheme of gift spectacles can be presented as a gift—K. W. Epstein & Co., Optometrist, 193 Union street. See ad. page 7, T. F.

Christmas slippers for every foot in the family, 25c to \$1.85—Wise's Cash Stores, 243-247 Union street.

Call up Dunham's for Christmas trees; Main 465-11.

Father Morrice's
Stomach Remedy for the cure of Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Heartburn, Gas, Stomach, Sourness and all forms of stomach troubles. No Cure—No Pay. Price 60c. All Druggists.

GET YOUR GIFTS AT GILBERT'S
47 Brunswick street.

Send your washing to Ungars Laundry and get satisfaction. No chemicals used. Phone M 28 and our team will call.

Fancy candies, Christmas goods, choice boxes and baskets of chocolates at Dunham's, 141 Main street. Also a fine stock of Christmas specialties, presents, stockings, etc., at reasonable prices.

We are showing many choice things in Christmas footwear that can not be found elsewhere—Wise's Cash Stores, 243-247 Union street.

LADIES' NECKWEAR.
Popular ladies' neckwear. Another shipment just received at Daniel's, 25c to 75c. each.

Watson's, 711 Main street will deliver ice cream bricks on Christmas Day. Order early Phone 110.

PRACTICAL GIFTS SHOULD
HEAD YOUR CHRISTMAS LIST

Men are practical and they like to receive practical gifts. A gift of something to wear is sure to please him, because it is of practical use and of lasting benefit. Our very complete stock of winter wear for men and boys offers a splendid chance for you to choose just the gift he would like best to get, and you would like best to give him, and the wide range of qualities and prices enables you to suit your own pocket-book as well. The time is getting short now, and late selections are always hurried and the stocks are never so good. Now is the best time to do your shopping, so come this evening or tomorrow and see the many things suitable for gifts at this store—Hunt's Busy Up—Men's Store, 17-19 Charlotte street.

The True Philosopher

"The truest philosopher," says Jerome K. Jerome, "I ever heard of was a woman. She was brought into a London hospital suffering from a poisoned leg. The house surgeon made a hurried examination. He was a man of blunt speech. 'It will have to come off,' he told her."
"What, not all of it?"
"The whole of it I am sorry to say," growled the house surgeon.
"Nothing else for it?"
"No other chance for you whatever," explained the house surgeon.
"Ah, well, thank Gwad it's not my head," observed the lady."

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

One year's ticket for our new library for Christmas Gift Costs \$4.50. Books new, latest and best, 2c. per day.

Try our special Fruit Cake, Plum puddings, Pies, etc., for Christmas. Women's Exchange, Tea and Lunch Rooms, 158 Union street; phone M. 789.

FOR SALE—Ford Roadster, 1915 model, in good order, has been driven less than 3,000 miles. Address P. O. Box 333, City. 83194-12-30

WANTED by a widower, a house-lady to go to the country, good home for the right party. Address H. D. rare Times.

WILL the person who found the Pair of Glasses at the Children's treat at R. of C. hall kindly return them at once to 15 St. Andrew's street, or leave at Times Office. 83199-12-23

For Christmas

CANADIAN CANDY

Mixed Candy (extra value), 40c. lb.

Xmas Ribbon Mix, 10c. lb.

Superior Barley Toys, 20c. lb.

Hard Mixed (Frank White's), 25c. lb.

Mixed Chocolates and Creams, 30c. lb.

Hand-made Creams (Frank White's), 40c. lb.

Scotch Mints, 30c. lb.

Cream Almonds, 30c. lb.

Maple Walnuts, 30c. lb.

Wrapped Butter Scotch, 30c. lb.

Marshmallows, 30c. lb.

Peter-Pan Caramels, 50c. lb.

Canby Cakes, 25c. lb.

Nelson's Chocolates, 50c. lb.

Moir's Chocolates, 50c. lb.

Moir's Chocolates, 50c. lb.

Nut Milk Chocolates, 50c. lb.

IMPORTED CANDY (U. S. A.)

Chocolate Nougats, 50c. lb.

Peppermint Patties, 50c. lb.

Marshmallow Snowballs, 50c. lb.

Quality Chocolates—A full assortment (in bulk), 70c. lb.

Chocolates Straws, 50c. lb.

Fancy Boxes Chocolates, 35c. to \$4.00 each

Quality Wrapped Caramels, 40c. lb.

Sugared Jordan Almonds, 50c. lb.

Cream Castanets, 70c. lb.

Molasses Chips, 40c. lb.

Marshmallows, 15c. pkgs.

IMPORTED CANDY

(English)

Riley's Toffees (10 kinds), 40c. lb.

Devonshire Toffee, 30c. lb.

Double Mints, 30c. lb.

Mixed Gum Drops, 30c. lb.

Clear Jujubes, 40c. lb.

Sugared Jujubes, 40c. lb.

Panama Assorted Fruits, 50c. lb.

Barley Almonds, 50c. lb.

Barley Walnuts, 50c. lb.

Buttered Almonds, 50c. lb.

Buttered Walnuts, 50c. lb.

French Almond Rock, 50c. lb.

Canadian Toffee, 50c. lb.

Festival Bon-Bons, 50c. lb.

Picture Boxes, Chocolate Dolls, Served Sheraz, Smokers' Sets, and other lines too numerous to mention.

Store Open Every Night Until Xmas
Gilbert's Grocery

THE BAPTIST MINISTERS

(Maritime Baptist)

Rev. J. H. MacKinnon is supplying for a few Sundays on the Belleisle field, left vacant when Rev. E. J. Barras accepted a call to the Olivet church, Marysville.

Rev. F. C. Wright, once pastor at Harvey, Albert county, is now at Gardiner, Me.

Rev. W. H. Johnson spent last Sunday at Chipman. His services at St. George were taken over by Rev. Gordon Swin.

The Chapman churches were left pastorless by the resignation of Rev. S. Johnson to accept a call to the church at Centerville, Carleton county.

Rev. E. H. Cochrane of the Highfield street church, Moncton, is now with his people, engaged in special services.

Rev. G. F. Howard, who has been serving the churches at Cape Tormentine and Bayville, has accepted a call to the Half Island Cove group.

Rev. P. R. Hayden continues to do excellent work at Oxford. A new and comfortable parsonage has been completed. The outlook at Oxford is most hopeful.

The many friends of Mrs. Fred A. Cook, who was Miss Bessie McNally, will sorrow with her in the sudden bereavement in the death of her husband. Dr. Cook died at their home in Yorkers, N. Y., after only two years of wedded life. Mrs. Cook is a graduate of Acadia, of the class of '98, and is a sister of Rev. C. R. McNally of New London, Conn.

Dr. H. H. McNally of Fredericton.

Rev. Joseph C. Robbins has been appointed to fill the vacant secretaryship of the Baptist Missionary Union. Dr. Robbins, we believe, is a native of Chelobogue, N. S., and usually spends part of his summer vacation there.

The field at Springfield and Alberton, P. E. I., will soon be vacant, owing to the resignation of Pastor J. C. Peacock, after five years of earnest and successful service.

The death of Walter E. Bradshaw at Montreal has cut short a promising career.

After studying a few years at Acadia he completed his course at McGill, graduating as a civil engineer. He rose rapidly in his profession and was appointed construction engineer for the building of the new bridge across the river St. John. About two years ago he married the daughter of Michael Kelly (Ile.), so widely known through his advocacy of the temperance cause. Mrs. Bradshaw passed away just a few weeks before her husband's death.

We have learned with great pleasure that the two United Baptist churches at Sussex are about to unite under the pastoral leadership of Rev. G. B. Macdonald, who has been pastor of the Main street church.

Wm. Rev. W. P. Parker of Church Avenue received his commission as chaplain of the 88th, it was foreseen that such outcome might be possible, though few hoped to see the union consummated so soon.

The Weather a Year Ago Today

Cold. Temperatures: High, 40; low, 12—remember Laxative Bromo Quinine cures a cold in one day. There is only one Bromo Quinine. Look for signature E. W. GROVE, 25c.

A VETERAN PIPE

The twelve-inch main, which is now being cleaned, was condemned as useless on account of age at the time of the Loch Lomond extension. In opening it recently to take out the cleaner, it was found to contain better iron than can be secured in water pipes now and although sixty years old, has stood the pressure of the entire water system when it was turned on to dislodge the cleaner without showing any sign of strain. The cleaner got as far as Fernhill yesterday, and it may get to the One Mile House today.

MARCH-OUT TODAY

The members of both siege batteries on Partridge Island came ashore this afternoon and went on a march-out about the city.

The German prisoners have always got enormous appetites. As soon as they are captured they ask for something to eat, and devour anything that is given them especially bread.

Walking Sticks!

From \$2.50 to \$7.00 each

ELEGANT BRILLIANT PIPES, from \$1.50 to \$7.00 each

TOBACCO POUCHES, CIGAR CASES

Ladies Can Make a Nice Selection from the Above

THE ROYAL PHARMACY

47 King Street

ESTABLISHED 1894

To build a large optical business is one thing.

To keep it is another.

Nearly twenty years' successful work and still the leaders is something to be proud of.

And in the face of all kinds of opposition.

The entrance of 1916 sees us doing more optical business in St. John than all others combined.

There can be only one reason for this record and that is—Satisfaction to our patrons.

D. BOYANER

TWO STORES

38 Dock Street, 151 Charlotte Street.

Notices of Births, Marriages and Deaths, 50c.

MARRIAGES

LORETTA-SINER—At Fredericton on Dec. 18 by Rev. J. E. Wilson, Jasper Lorette of Seckville and Marion Siner of St. John.

DEATHS

SINCLAIR—At Arlington Heights, Mass., on the 21st inst. at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. C. A. Bray, Jane, widow of Archibald Sinclair.

Funeral on Friday, 24th inst. at 3 o'clock from residence of John A. Sinclair, 161 Waterloo street.

FRASER—Entered into rest on the 21st inst. after a short illness, William M. Fraser, aged 72 years, leaving a loving wife, two sons and one daughter to mourn.

Funeral on Saturday 23rd inst. from his late residence 28 Paddock street. Service begins at three o'clock.

GOOD THINGS COMING
TO THEATRES OF
ST. JOHNCARTER DE HAVEN AT IMPERIAL
TONIGHT

Carter De Haven and Flora Parker will dispense holiday fun at the Imperial tonight and tomorrow in that effervescent comedy, punctured with moments of excitement, entitled "The College Orphan." The story deals with a young fellow who is deserted by his fiancée and his father because of a supposed fraud. The college lad proves his sterling qualities, however, through the devotion of a little orphan waif. This is an Universal Broadway feature, the same corporation responsible for that splendid play "The Long Chance," shown at the Imperial last week. That it will distribute plenty of merry Christmas frolics and giggles is a surety. The Universal Weekly of this week's issue—same as shown in New York today—will complete the picture part of the bill. Henry Kelly will sing. Tomorrow and for the ensuing nine days, Arthur Haskins & DeWitt Cairns will return to the Imperial for one of those pleasing engagements of popular and humorous songs in duo and solo.

THE IMPERIAL'S CHRISTMAS
DAY SHOW

The week-end, including Christmas Day, will be marked at Imperial Theatre with a programme of films and music keyed right up to the demands of the holiday. The chief feature of the bill is to be the Monroco photograph, "Kilmeny," an exquisite gypsy action presenting the charming little star, Lenore Clith, who attained fame throughout

Who'd be a Scrooge?

You wouldn't intentionally. But you might be one and not even know it. Supposing that you were to die before another Christmas came around, would your kiddies' stockings be as well filled next year? Or might they not lack even some of the necessities of life?

Among other gifts this Christmas why not present your wife with an Imperial Home Protection policy.

That would be a most practical gift; based on generosity and kindness; banishing worry, anxiety and care; making Christmas all the happier, and the New Year all the more hopeful for yourself and loved ones, in the knowledge that, come what may, the future is provided for.

THE IMPERIAL LIFE
Assurance Company of Canada

HEAD OFFICE - TORONTO

L. J. Lowe, Provincial Man., St. John

Do Your Shopping at

MARCUS'

The Store of Practical Gifts

Let us have the Christmas home more attractive and finer every way than relatives and friends expect to find it this year, and after merry-making is over, they'll remember the day as more eventful for the greater pleasure than heretofore with you and yours.

There are many things in our stock that are desirable, inexpensive and appropriate for any member of the family. If you come here you may be able to easily solve the problem of "WHAT TO GIVE?"

FOR THE KIDDIES:—Dolls' Carts, Kindergarten Sets, Desks, Bookers, Couches, Dolls' Rocking Beds, Rocking Horses, Swing Horses, Hobby Horses, etc., etc.

Until Xmas we will give, absolutely free, with every \$5.00 purchase, a beautiful pen picture

FREE
J. MARGUS 30 DOCK STREET
STORE OPEN EVENINGS

the big cities as the bright, particular

in the production of "The Bird of Paradise." Kilmeny is a love story of present day gypsies. A little white child grows up among these romantic wanderers only to return to her social station when she falls in love with a dashing young chap from one of the embassies.

In this picture gypsies have taken America absolutely by storm and with the appropriate musical setting which Director Svendsen of the Imperial orchestra is arranging, the Bohemian story is of extraordinary interest.

The remainder of the programme will consist of a high-power comedy; Arthur Haskins and DeWitt Cairns and Henry Kelly, baritone. There will be two bumper matinee shows and two in the evening. The Imperial promises a genuine surprise in concert for the holiday stage appointments for the holiday season.

PATRIOTIC FUND

Single—Gertrude MacRae, \$3; Donald and Edith MacRae, George D. Alexander, \$2; R. A. C. Brown, \$5; Mrs. Howard Wilcox, 8 Birch Hill road, Newtonville, Mass., \$50; proceeds of concert given by young people of Albert Mines, Hillsborough, N. B., \$21.94.

Monthly—Adam P. McIntyre, \$5; Scott A. Hurder (2 mos.), \$2; H. S. Drinan (3 mos.), \$4; Donaldson Hunt (2 mos.), \$4; John Lee, \$2; Miss M. O. Magee, \$5; St. John Railway Co., \$100; Bank of Commerce staff, \$35.00.

SOCKS SENT TO SOLDIERS

To the Editor of the Times:

Sir—As we see almost daily appeals for socks and several just lately from the 6th C. M. R., many of your readers will be glad to know that, through the generosity of their friends, I was able to send 200 pairs of specially good socks to each sock.

France seemed quite beyond my reach until the Soldiers' Comforts Association kindly offered to forward them for me, and, thanks to their promptness and efficiency, the boxes are now well on their way to the front.

M. LILIAN MORRISSEY.

PASTOR RECEIVES GIFT.

Rev. F. P. Dennison, pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, received last night from friends outside his own church, and whose identity was not revealed to him, a new typewriter. He is the more deeply appreciative of the gift because he has of late been suffering from trouble with his eyes, and is going away on Monday next for treatment, in the hope that the trouble may be overcome.

THE CURLERS

At a meeting of St. Andrew's Curling Club, which was held last evening, several new members were admitted. No definite arrangement was made for Christmas, owing to the uncertainty of having good ice. If conditions are favorable for playing, scratch games will be held.

The Best Quality at a Reasonable Price

Diamonds and Watches

Don't think you cannot afford to give a Diamond because you've heard Diamonds prices are continually increasing. That's all the greater reason why you should buy one now for the longer you delay, the higher will be the cost of a Diamond the size and quality you want.

But Diamonds are not so high as most people think. In our stock you will find Diamond Rings priced at \$20 to \$100 in the sizes most people want.

Single Stone Diamonds from \$3.00 to \$275.

Combination Rings containing Diamonds with Sapphires, Pearls, Rubies, Emeralds and other gems, from \$12 to \$80.

Watches

The present year or daughter wants most is a Watch. It's the finest present you can give your child. Good Watches are not expensive. You can get a good watch from our stock at the price you feel you can afford.

Bracelet Watches, Gold-filled, \$11 to \$25; Gold, \$22 to \$60.

Wrist Watches, \$3 to \$25.

Longcase Watches, Specially priced, \$5 and \$7.

Decimal Watches, \$13 to \$55.

Howard Watches, \$40 to \$125.

Waltham Watches, \$10 to \$55.

Don't forget that Father would appreciate a Howard Watch Christmas morning more