

Not Unlike Kruger

The Chinese Propose to Establish a New Capital at Tsian Fu.

Remarkable Statement by Representative in London--China Has Been Insulted.

Disturbances Near Canton--A Number of Villages Destroyed.

(Associated Press.)

Washington, Sept. 21.—A cabinet meeting was held today. At its conclusion the following announcement was made:

"The government has reached a determination relative to the Chinese situation. It will be made public as soon as it can be communicated to the powers interested."

It is definitely known that three notes have been prepared, one in reply to the German proposition, one bearing upon the last Russian proposal and one relative to the communication from the Chinese government delivered by Minister Minister Conger with power to treat with Prince Ching in peace negotiations. These several communications, which set forth the position of the United States, will not be made public before to-morrow.

A New Capital.

New York, Sept. 21.—An Imperial decree has been received here, says the Pekin correspondent of the Herald, which announces the arrival of the Emperor and Empress Dowager at Tai Yuan Fu. The decree also commands the governor of Shan Si province to raise money to build a palace at Hsian Fu as the new intended capital.

Minister's Statement.

New York, Sept. 21.—A London dispatch to the Herald says: "Sir Chih Chen Lo Feng Luh, the Chinese minister to Great Britain, who asks the meaning of the reported bombardment of the Pei Tang and Lu Tai forts, declared that if the Imperial defences at the mouth of the Pei Ho had been riddled with shells by the allies, China should immediately declare war against the powers which participated in the assault. 'It is incomprehensible,' he continued, 'and constitutes a gratuitous insult to China.'"

Shelling Pei Tang Forts.

Berlin, Sept. 21.—A dispatch received here from Taku, dated to-day, says yesterday evening the Pei Tang forts opened fire on the Russian infantry camp, wounding 25 men. Since early this morning a German howitzer battery has been shelling the forts and town.

Chaffee's Dispatch.

Washington, Sept. 21.—The following dispatch, received yesterday at the war department from Gen. Chaffee, was made public to-day:

"Taku, (no date)—Adjutant-General, Washington: Pekin, Sept. 19.—The Rockhill Wilson expedition returned, object successfully accomplished; no casualties to our troops. Forsyth's squadron scouted northeast forty miles, and returned bringing in 14. The surrounding country daily growing less hostile and more peaceful so far as my expedition can determine the questions. (Signed) Chaffee."

The date of this cablegram, September 19th, shows that close communication has been established with the Chinese capital.

Disturbances Near Canton.

Paris, Sept. 21.—The French consul at Canton telegraphs yesterday that the Thursday, September 20th, that disorders have broken out at Sun Tai near Canton. Several villages have been destroyed and others besieged.

The first batch of troops sent by the viceroy proved powerless to subdue the disorder, and the foreign consuls made a most urgent request for the dispatch of a larger body of soldiers. The chancellor of the French consulate and the French gunboat Avalanche will accompany the forces.

Eari Li at Taku.

Tong Ku, Sept. 19, via Shanghai, Sept. 20.—Li Hung Chang arrived on Tuesday at the Taku anchorage, where he was visited by Rear-Admiral Remy and the Russian flag captain. He proceeded to Taku to-day. He was received with no special honors, and his presence attracted little attention. Only the Russian and the Japanese officers called on him, but later he had a long consultation with Vice-Admiral Alexieff on board a Russian war ship.

Eari Li, accompanied by a Russian guard of seven and his own escort, the latter unarmed but wearing the Imperial uniform, will proceed by special train to Tien Tsin, where a residence has been prepared for his occupancy.

London, Sept. 22.—Germany, it is believed throughout Europe, proposed her demand that anti-foreigners should be surrendered before negotiations commenced, with a view of delaying any general acceptance of her proposal until Field Marshal Count von Waldersee should arrive at Pekin.

A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Washington asserts that the United States government has politely de-

clined to agree to Germany's proposal on this very ground.

In any event, with Count von Waldersee and Li Hung Chang both journeying northward, matters must soon reach a crisis.

The manner of Eari Li's reception seems to be due to the suspicions existing in Shanghai regarding his close understanding with Russia. About four thousand Russian troops and all the principal officers met him at Chung Liang Chen, half-way to Tien Tsin. A long conference was held, at which no report of any other power was present. This remarkable friendship apparently exists at a time when two continents are ringing with the stories of massacres by the Russians in Amur.

The Moscow correspondent of the Standard, reverting to the subject of massacres this morning, says: "From a recent visit to the Amur region, I learn that massacres are the order of the day with the troops overrunning Manchuria. The orders are charged to Gen. Grodekoff, but it is quite certain that Emperor Nicholas must be ignorant of their nature. The same correspondent asserts that troops by the wholesale continue to pour into Manchuria."

Li Hung Chang, according to Shanghai dispatches, assumed the seals of the viceroy of China Li yesterday. His officers are busy raising 8,000 foreign drilled men and well armed veterans, who are now encamped at Yang Chow, and will proceed to Tien Tsin as Eari Li's body guard under command of Chang Kan Yung, who was the Chinese general at Kao Chou when the Germans seized that place.

It is reported that Liu Kun Ki, viceroy of Nankin, alarmed at the prospects of the German fleet ascending the Yangtze River, is placing obstructions in the channel below the Kiang Yin forts and sending troops to the northeast of Kang Su, for fear the Germans may land troops there to attack the Sing Kian Fu.

The Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post expresses the opinion that Germany's policy may yet lead to a rising in Central China.

The Standard has a Taku telegram, asserting that, as a means of averting punishment, the acting governor of Pao Ting Fu has posted a proclamation, ordering the suppression of the Boxers.

Telegraphing from Pekin on September 21st, Dr. Morrison says: "Gen. Chaffee has received orders from the United States to cease his preparations for wintering his troops in Pekin. This is interpreted to mean that the United States is contemplating a withdrawal of her troops, the abandonment of her interests in Pekin and the transferring to another power of the protection of the numerous converts who reached the American missions and survived the siege. The withdrawal of the German legation is capable of explanation, but a misgiving is felt that the United States also proposes to withdraw her legation."

Decision of United States Ministers.

Washington, Sept. 21.—An official communication, coming through diplomatic channels, was brought to the attention of the state department to-day, giving information as to the condition in the Yangtze River valley, and also giving detailed and fully authenticated instances of atrocities in the province of Hunan against Christian missionaries. The account is given by one of the missionaries who escaped, and who makes the report through officials of the government now forwarding it to Washington. In one case it is stated that a missionary had his eyes burned out, then a portion of his body was cut off and a red-hot staff was driven through his back. Concerning conditions in the Yangtze River valley, the report states that the viceroys there have exercised most pacific influences, despite orders to the contrary from Pekin.

It appears that the Pekin government ordered the viceroys to assemble a large army and march it to the north. But as the viceroys were opposed to anti-foreign crusade, the order was not executed.

The United States government has made full and complete answers to the various important inquiries which have been addressed to it by the powers relating to the Chinese trouble. Moreover, it has gone farther and has made a disclosure of all of its purposes. This action was taken after the cabinet meeting to-day. At 3.30 o'clock, Mr. Wu called, by appointment, upon Acting Secretary Hill, and was handed a memorandum embodying the response of the United States government to the request of Prince Ching, that Mr. Conger or some other person be immediately empowered to begin negotiations with the Chinese authorities for a final settlement. The minister came away with a dissatisfied expression on his face.

Next came M. Thiebaut, the French charge. A few minutes' conversation sufficed to impart to him orally an answer to his own verbal inquiry.

Baron Sternberg, the German charge, who had been notified of the readiness of the state department to make answer to the German note, called and was given that answer. He hastened away to cable it to his government.

The department then sent the answer to the Russian inquiry, forwarded by messenger, and wired cablegrams containing the substance of the answers to its diplomatic representatives abroad. Thus closed one of the most interesting and important phases of the Chinese entanglement.

The state department absolutely refused to make any statement as to the nature of the answers, taking the ground that to do so would be a violation of the diplomatic proprieties. However, as it was circulated that all of these answers will have reached their destinations abroad by to-morrow, it was promised that the text of the communications would be given to the press to-morrow afternoon.

With all this, it is known that the

German proposal, that negotiations with China be deferred until the Chinese responsible for the Pekin outrages have been surrendered to the allies, has failed of approval by the United States.

The impression has been conveyed in a manner that cannot be offensive, but it is believed that the United States government cannot recognize the principle that a country may be called upon to surrender its own people to a foreign power for punishment. This judgment does not rest on the idea of ultimate punishment of the offenders when they are properly identified, but it does not believe that the pursuit of this object should put a stop to all negotiations.

The idea of a commission to adjust the difficulties with China is again brought forward, and it is suggested that such a commission on the part of the United States may either form part of a joint international commission, which it is proposed will be appointed for this purpose, or, in the event of the failure of the effort to secure joint action, then the members can go directly to work on China for a settlement. The names of Minister Conger, Gen. James H. Wilson and Mr. Rockhill are mentioned in this connection.

It is believed that the outcome, from a military point of view, of to-day's action will be the withdrawal of all but one regiment of the United States troops from China to Manila, where they can be held ready to return in an emergency. Gen. Chaffee will probably remain in China as commander of the forces there, which will be simply regarded as a legion guard.

One fact concerning the United States forces, which is learned officially, was that they contained no new propositions; they simply clean away the debris of unanswered inquiries.

At Tien Tsin.

Tien Tsin, Sept. 20, via Shanghai, Sept. 21.—Li Hung Chang has arrived and is domiciled in his own yamen under a Cossack guard. His reception here was a repetition of his reception at Tong Ku. Only the Russian and Japanese officials called on him, those of the other nations not taking part in it.

Agree With Germany.

Berlin, Sept. 20.—The German foreign office has received replies from Italy, Austria and France, agreeing without reserve to Germany's China proposal.

A Shanghai dispatch under date of to-day, says that the German warship Bertha, with Count von Waldersee, the commander-in-chief of the allied forces in China, on board her, arrived at Wosung. She will go to Kiao Chiu to-morrow.

Fort Occupied.

Vienna, Sept. 21.—An official dispatch from the commander of the Austrian squadron in Chinese waters says: "A small Austrian detachment has occupied the south fort at Pei Tang, in conjunction with German and Russian troops, and the Austrian and German flags have been hoisted. The Russians captured two guns. The Austrian losses were a naval cadet killed and 14 wounded."

Success of Allies.

Pekin, Sept. 17, via Taku, Sept. 20.—

General James H. Wilson, the United States commander, took Heita Chu this morning. No details of the affair have been received, but British officials have received a dispatch announcing that the arsenals were taken according to arrangement.

It is expected that Gen. Wilson will move on San Hai Tien and destroy the Chinese arsenals there.

The Germans moved westward to-day, and it is doubtful if they co-operated in the taking of Pei Tai Chu. The Japanese scouts report that the surrounding country is free of the enemy.

No word has been received from the 6th United States cavalry, which is operating in the northeast.

As announced by the Associated Press dispatch from Pekin, under date of Sunday, 16th, via Taku, Sept. 20th, Gen. Wilson, with 600 British and 800 American troops and six guns, marched westward that day and the Germans were to move on the following day, to co-operate in taking Pei Tai Chu, where the enemy was supposed to be in force. Gen. Wilson, it was decided, would attack from the west and the Germans from the east. The dispatch also said that Gen. Wilson would then take the San Hai Tien arsenal.

New York, Sept. 22.—There are signs of a revival of public interest in England in the China questions, says the Tribune's London correspondent. The most noteworthy is the sharpness with which Russia is attacked by the press for duplicity in dealing with the powers and for the inhumanity in her method of warfare. These criticisms may not be well grounded, but the fact that the English journals, after a long period of apathy and indifference, are uniting in a general assault upon Russia is highly significant. It indicates a return to the normal conditions of English opinion of foreign affairs, which is nothing if not critical. Keen observers explain this sudden access of spirit as the natural result of the close of the war in South Africa. The exchange of posts by British ministers in the Far East is not accepted in diplomatic circles as due entirely to Sir Claude Macdonald's impaired health. There is a general impression among well informed men here that Lord Salisbury is now coming strongly to the front, and that Russia and Germany will speedily be reminded that the British policy in China has been transformed by the close of hostilities in South Africa. That the powers and the Imperial government have not been in earnest in their negotiations but have been playing for position in a great diplomatic game which will now open in earnest. Russian troops will remain in Pekin, Count von Weddersee is close at hand, and the question to be settled is whether the Emperor shall be allowed to return to the Forbidden City and resume her despotie sway after being more responsible than any of her mandarins for the reign of terror and bloodshed.

The Attack on Pei Tang Forts.

Taku, Sept. 20.—Four thousand Russians, three thousand Germans and one thousand French troops, with a detachment

of Austrian marines, began the attack upon the Pei Tang forts at daylight. The attack was answered briskly from the forts, the bombardment continuing until noon, but it was noticed that the forts did not reply after 10 o'clock.

The allies sent forward at noon to discover the reason of the cessation of the firing of the forts, and found them deserted, there being only four dead Chinamen without the walls. The allies were much chagrined, as they believed they had the place completely surrounded, making escape impossible; yet over three thousand men got away in broad daylight.

The Russian artillery fire proved ineffective and the forts were badly damaged.

The British and Italian commanders had decided to join in the attack but their troops had not arrived in time.

The entire line between Tien Tsin and Taku shows reinforcements were heading for the forts.

Three members of the allied forces were killed and fifty wounded, through an explosion of mines laid along their line of march.

Remy's Report.

Washington, Sept. 28.—The navy department has received the following cablegram from Admiral Remy: "Taku, Sept. 21.—A force of Russians, Germans and Austrians advanced on the Pei Tang forts last night. Fire was opened by the Chinese and kept up all night at intervals. The forts were evacuated at 9 o'clock this morning. The Europeans hoisted their colors over the forts at 11. Twenty-five Russians and Germans are reported to have been blown up by a mine. Information from Commander Wise, who followed the troops into the forts, reports only five Chinese killed. (Signed) Remy."

Reviewed by New Commander.

Shanghai, Sept. 22.—Court von Waldersee reviewed 5,000 foreign troops to-day. The Bengal Lancers furnished a field march's escort. The troops marched past in the following order: German, French, volunteers (composed of British, Americans, French, Japanese and Germans), Bengal Lancers and other Indian troops.

To Be Issued To-morrow.

Washington, Sept. 22.—The state department has decided to defer until to-morrow the publication of the answer of the United States to the various powers relative to the Chinese situation.

International Losses.

Berlin, Sept. 22.—A dispatch received here from Tien Tsin gives the loss of the allies at the capture of the Pei Tang forts: 20 men, including seven German and three Chinese, the dispatch adds, escaped in boats.

SITUATION AT GALVESTON.

Exodus from the City is Falling Off—Conditions Improving.

(Associated Press.)

Galveston, Tex., Sept. 21.—The conditions at Galveston continue to rapidly improve. Everyone is so busy that there is little time to mourn over losses. The number of patients in the various hospitals is much smaller than would have been expected considering the number of dead. This is due to the fact that few, who were entirely helpless, succeeded in escaping alive.

The number of people leaving the city is decreasing, and there is no longer any necessity for sick and injured to go elsewhere for medical treatment.

Commander Selfridge, lighthouse inspector, gives official notice that all buoys at the entrance of Galveston harbor are in position.

Galveston, Sept. 21.—The first train since the storm arrived at 6.15 a. m. over the temporary bridge. Trains are now running regularly, more coming in than going away. The building of the temporary bridge 2 1/2 miles long, was a remarkable achievement of engineering. Martial law ended at noon.

NANAIMO NEWS.

The Annual Exhibition—Increase in Number of Entries.

(Special to the Times.)

Nanaimo, Sept. 21.—The seventh annual exhibition of the Nanaimo District Agricultural and Horticultural Society was opened yesterday afternoon. The exhibits included all kinds of farm, field and dairy produce, poultry, pigeons and canaries, flowers and ferns, bread and pastry, ladies' work, drawing, painting and penmanship. The exhibits were at least 20 per cent. more than in any previous year. There was only one opinion expressed by all who were present, and that was that the exhibition was excellent in every department. The exhibition of live stock takes place to-day.

Mrs. Agnes Gilbert, wife of H. Gilbert, died at Wellington yesterday, aged 47.

Arthur James Godfrey and Maggie Beck, daughter of James Beck, were married at the Presbyterian manse on Wednesday evening, Rev. W. B. Cumming officiating.

JOINING INTERESTS.

Reported Combine of American Telegraph, Telephone and Cable Companies.

(Associated Press.)

New York, Sept. 20.—In its forthcoming issue the Electric Review will say that American telephone and telegraph companies, which now includes the American Bell Telephone Company, the Telephone, Telegraph & Cable Company, the Western Union Telegraph Co. and the Postal Telegraph-Cable Co., will, according to persons in position to know, be consolidated into one big company, to be known as the National Telephone & Telegraph Co. It is said the consolidation will be accomplished before the end of the present year.

Premier at Montreal

Conservative Organ Admits the Demonstration Was a Great Success.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Able Reply to Statement by Sir C. Tupper.

He Deals at Length With the Tactics of the Opposition.

(Special to the Times.)

Ottawa, Sept. 21.—The Laurier demonstration in Montreal last evening is described by the Gazette, Conservative organ, this morning, as a great success. There were about 12,000 at the meeting. In his speech, Sir Wilfrid Laurier said the demonstration was the largest ever seen in Montreal. The Premier spoke in French.

Another demonstration for English speeches will be held in a few days.

Premier Laurier reviewed what the government had accomplished during its term of office. He condemned those who were importing again the school question into politics. He justified British preference, which Sir Charles Tupper is attacking. The Conservatives never could get preference from Britain with a protective tariff. What has the government done? asked the Premier. It has made this country more prosperous than it has ever been before. There is more work; there is more pay; there is less anxiety; there is more comfort; there is more happiness—not only for the workmen but for women and children who are depending upon them. The Conservatives could not deny this, and they had no policy to bring in opposition to what the government had done. They had no principles and no resources, but appealed to one prejudice in one province and another in another. There was the dangerous question of cretinism to be continued, on which the Conservatives' committee prepared a pamphlet written in French and another in English. In one they blamed the government for sending the contingents at all; in the other they blamed them for hesitating to send them over for a single moment. Sir Charles Tupper had repudiated the notorious pamphlet No. 2, but in spite of his disavowal it was still being circulated in the campaign against the government, and he had a right to challenge it at the bar of public opinion, a bar he himself faced without fear and without reproach, for he had everywhere the same policy. For his part, he believed the cause of England was just and meant the advance of civilization.

In reply to Tupper's statement that he (Laurier) was too British, the Premier said: "I am a British subject and I accept all the responsibility of all duties together with the privileges of the position. I have accepted the privileges and in the name of British liberty I claim all the right of that high position. I accept also its obligations, but above all, I am a Canadian."

Messrs. Fielding, Tarte and Bernier spoke. The procession through the streets surpassed anything ever seen in Montreal.

Another Report.

Montreal, Sept. 21.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier opened the Quebec political campaign by a speech in Sobner Park, this city, last evening. A conservative estimate of the number of people is placed at between ten and fifteen thousand. The Premier defied the opposition leaders to point out one single engagement that the government had failed to fulfil during upon what had been done by it as regards the tariff, the school question, the labor question and other questions of equal importance to the Dominion. He felt confident that the electorate of the Dominion would sustain the party at the polls.

Hon. W. S. Fielding also addressed the meeting and contrasted the prosperity of the Dominion of the last four years under Liberal rule, with that of 1892 to 1896 with the Conservatives in power. Speaking of the outlook for the Maritime provinces, Mr. Fielding expressed confidence that the Liberals would gain a number of seats.

FLOOD IN TEXAS.

(Associated Press.)

Fort Worth, Tex., Sept. 21.—Trinity river rose 20 feet during the night on account of 12 hours rain. Three persons are reported drowned. Hundreds of families were driven from their houses in the lower portion of the city.

MR. AND MRS. MCCOY.

(Associated Press.)

New York, Sept. 21.—The action for absolute divorce begun by Norman Selby, better known as "Kid McCoy," a prize fighter, was dismissed by agreement when the case was called by Justice Bischoff to-day. Mrs. McCoy's counter suit was withdrawn at the same time.

DR. PRICES' CREAM BAKING POWDER. Used in Millions of Homes—40 Years the standard. A Pure Cream of Tartar Powder, Superior to every other known. Makes delicious cake and pastry, light, flaky biscuit, griddle cakes—palatable and wholesome.