

a buffer state with independence permanently guaranteed by America and England. An offensive and defensive treaty could be made with Japan whereby in case of Russian aggression these three countries could act in unison. Since in case of war America and England could reach Russia directly, it would be unnecessary for them to maintain large bodies of troops in Eastern Siberia. Under such conditions it is not probable that Russia would again disturb the peace of the Far East.

A serious question, however, is as to whether either America or England would consent to pay the sum required, whether these countries are sufficiently altruistic to champion the cause of the orient. On this point I confess to doubts myself. I fear lest there be too many little Englanders and anti-imperialistic Americans to allow such magnificent altruism. A full consideration of this suggestion would demand a study of the agricultural possibilities of eastern Siberia, her mineral and other natural resources, and of the probability as to whether so cold a country could ever like Canada become a white man's land. The commercial value to England and America of that country of splendid possibilities together with the normal trade of an un-