

North China Moves for "Autonomy"



This scene at Tientsin in 1932 is being re-enacted as Japanese troops are being massed in North China, where it is expected they will be used to enforce the declaration of "autonomous" governments in five provinces. Armored trains, such as the one shown at left above, have carried the troops inland. In the insets are Gen. Ho Ying-chin (left), forced to vacate Peiping, and Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, the Chinese dictator.

By WILLIAM C. UTLEY
TWENTY-FIVE counties of the province of Hopei, in North China, on November 25 declared themselves divorced from the central Chinese government at Nanking, and set up an autonomous, or independent, government under the leadership of Yin Ju-keng, commissioner of the demilitarized zone. The 25 counties aggregate approximately 8,600 square miles and are inhabited by 5,000,000 people.

The Yin Ju-keng government, it is believed, will prove to be the first effective culmination of an "autonomy" movement that may gather under its wing the five provinces of North China, namely Hopei, Chahar, Suiyan, Shansi and Shantung. Such autonomy for these provinces would mean the complete failure of the Chiang Kai-shek dictatorship north of the Yellow river. More than that, it would probably mean the spread of the rapidly expanding Japanese empire farther into the Asiatic continent until Japanese control on the continent would be extended over an area approximating China itself in size. North China would become little more than another Manchukuo.

To the average observer and certainly to the Nanking government the "autonomy" movement is purely a Japanese project. Yin Ju-keng is famed for his willingness to "co-operate" with Japanese military leaders. His wife is a Japanese.

Japanese army officials have been reported to have been fostering the autonomy movement secretly for many months. Only in the past few weeks Maj. Gen. Kenji Doihara, of the Japanese army intelligence corps, and famed as the "empire builder" of the "land of the rising sun" has arrived on the scene and has openly worked for the secession and autonomy of the five provinces. It is certain that he will not be satisfied with a victory only in a few counties of one province. And the Japanese army has backed him up to the extent of warning Gen. Chiang Kai-shek not to interfere.

Quirks of Japanese Politics.

It is, of course, true that Tokyo has hinted that Doihara is overstepping his authority, and that Japanese troops have been mobilized lately in these provinces only to protect communications and maintain order in the face of any civil outbreaks or communistic uprisings. However, it is customary for the military faction in Japanese politics to assume the aggressive, with the rather mild objections of the civilian government as something of a bluff to appease the injury felt by foreign nations who have interests in areas where the Japanese empire is expanding.

It is known that in Peiping and Tientsin autonomy demonstrations have been instigated by the Japanese. One of the most spectacular demonstrations was in the latter city, and was staged by 300 members of the famed Chinese "Dare-to-Die" army, many of them wearing new uniforms closely resembling those of the Japanese army. They left their uniforms in their headquarters in a lecture hall afterwards—for the Japanese soldiers to collect. On occasions handbills exhorting the populace to revolt in favor of an autonomous government have floated to earth under the roar of airplanes—which

could only have been Japanese. Japanese soldiers have constantly moved inland, even through the Great Wall of China, to make sure that no railroad cars will be allowed to pass to the south where they might be loaded with troops of the Nanking government and returned. Nipponese army officials have confiscated Chinese school books and removed from them passages which might be construed as anti-Japanese. And these same officials have repeatedly been accused of hiring professional Chinese agitators (at 40 to 60 cents a day) to stir up trouble.

The Japanese claim is that the autonomous movement is a natural one entirely founded and furthered by the Chinese in the provinces involved. They point out that the Nanking rule drains these already poverty-stricken people by excessive taxes, and at the same time gives them little or no benefit. But the Chinese people in the territory literally do not know what it is all about. They are confused, bewildered. Like Chinese everywhere, they have no interest in politics. That, indeed, has been the chief stumbling block in the path of Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's attempt to unify China under one government. To the educated Chinese, an "autonomy" movement is a joke.

Yet Nanking's hands are tied. While there are not enough Japanese troops in North China today to enforce the rule of Japan's army chiefs, Nanking knows that troops could—and would—be speedily dispatched from Korea or Japan itself to meet any emergencies. Accordingly, at a nod from Japanese officials in Tientsin or Peiping, Chinese officials comply. Two outstanding examples of this were the recent retirement of the mayor of Peiping, known to oppose the autonomy movement, and the return of Chinese Minister of War Ho Ying-chin from Peiping to Nanking, both at the suggestion of Japanese officials.

Tokyo Ignores Protests.

Nanking's protests to Tokyo are ignored because of Japan's insistence that the autonomy movement is strictly of Chinese origin. Yet it is known that in all of these autonomous governments planned, the administrations will have to be decidedly pro-Japanese.

That the government of Yin Ju-keng in Hopei is to be the model for other pro-Japanese autonomies to come is apparent from his declaration: "From today the demilitarized zone will be separated from the central government and will institute and carry out an autonomous regime as the first voice of a federation of provinces with a view toward maintaining peace in eastern Asia."

"We, the undersigned, hope that the people, the public organs and the military and political leaders of the various provinces will rise up with us to suppress the criminals and arch-enemies of the nation, to draft a constitution, and choose wise and able men for the administration of the country."

This is directly in line with the program desired for the five North China provinces by Doihara, the "empire builder." And only a few days after the proclamation, Gen. Sung Cheh-yuan, commissioner of the Chinese garrison at Peiping-Tientsin, upon whom Doihara is known to have exerted extreme pressure, circulated a telegram proclaiming the intention of Hopei and

Chahar provinces to form an autonomous state.

What Japan Wants.

What does all this "autonomy" business mean for Japan, for North China and for the rest of the world? For Japan it means political economic and industrial control of another great slice of territory that once belonged to China. There is much cotton in Hopei and opportunity for planting more, to take the place of the cotton that Japan must now import from the United States and from India. There is iron ore and coal, vastly important in building the naval parity which Japan is demanding from Great Britain and the United States, although not enough iron and coal, according to research scientists, to warrant the expense and the responsibility of complete Japanese conquest and government of North China.

Such a complete subjection would undoubtedly be ruinous to Japan, already financially burdened as she is. Much better to allow these North China provinces to govern themselves, under the "protecting" wing of the Japanese army of occupation, with free trade privileges for Tokyo.

Great Britain, the United States and other powers would be far more seriously hurt commercially by the establishment of a "Manchukuo of North China" than they were by the establishment of the present Manchukuan rule itself, for their commercial interests in North China are much greater. As a result, Secretary of State Hull and Sir Samuel Hoare, British minister of foreign affairs, simultaneously demanded Japanese explanation of apparent violations of the Nine-Power treaty which guarantees the territorial integrity of China. This treaty, signed by the nine leading powers of the world, with the exception of Russia, at the Washington conference of 1922, was formed as the organic international law to apply to all future controversies in the Far East. All of the signatories are bound to respect not only the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China, but the administrative integrity as well. Secretary Hull claims that this provision is directly involved at the present time because "an effort is being made to bring about a substantial change in the political status and condition of several of China's northern provinces."

Other provisions of the treaty bind the signatories not to support any agreements designed to create "spheres of influence" for their nationals. And still another requires them not to seek "any arrangement which might purport to establish in favor of their interests any general superiority of rights with respect to commercial or economic development of any designated region of China."

Claim Treaty Was Misnomer.

Japan's claim is that such a thing as the territorial and administrative integrity of China never existed.

Meanwhile, the course of the Japanese empire becomes clearer and clearer. Pescadores and Formosa in 1895; Port Arthur in 1904; Karafuto in 1905; Korea in 1910; mandates over the Pacific Islands north of the equator in 1920; the puppet state of Manchukuo in 1932; Jehol added to it in 1933. —Are the next to be the puppet states of Hopei, Chahar, Suiyan, Shansi and Shantung?

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France Is Again Closing Her "Iron Gates"



INDICATIVE of the state of unrest in Europe is the fact that France has re-established Longwy, a border town that made history in the World War, as a garrison town. The troops are seen marching through the city gate to take up the watch on the eastern frontier.

BEDTIME STORY FOR CHILDREN

By THORNTON W. BURGESS

HOW LIGHTFOOT GOT RID OF THE HOUNDS

POOOR LIGHTFOOT! It seemed to him that there were no such things as justice and fair play. It was bad enough to have hunters searching the Green Forest for him, watching at the places where he was accustomed to drink, searching every hiding place. Had it been just one hunter at a time against whom he had to match his wits it would not have been so bad,



On the Bank the Hounds Stopped and Bayed Their Disappointment.

but there were many hunters with terrible guns looking for him, and in dodging one he was likely at any time to meet another. This in itself seemed terribly unfair and unjust. But now, added to this was the greater unfairness of being trailed by hounds.

Do you wonder that Lightfoot thought of men as utterly heartless? You see, he could not know that those hounds had not been put on his trail, but had left home to hunt for their own pleasure. He could not know that it was against the law to hunt deer with dogs. But though none of those

hunters looking for him was guilty of having put the hounds on his trail, each one of them was willing and eager to take advantage of the fact that the hounds were on his trail. Already he had been shot at once, and he knew that he would be shot at again if he should be driven where a hunter was hidden.

The ground was damp, and scent always lies best on damp ground. This made it easy for the hounds to follow him through their wonderful noses. Lightfoot tried every trick he could think of to make those hounds lose the scent.

"If only I could make them lose it long enough for me to get a little rest, it would help," panted Lightfoot as he paused for just an instant to listen to the baying of the hounds.

MOTHER'S COOK BOOK

Codfish Balls.

4 or 5 medium-sized potatoes
 1 cup picked salt cod
 1/2 cup prepared salt cod
 1 tablespoon butter
 Pepper
 1 egg or 2 egg yolks

Pare and slice potatoes and cook with picked cod in boiling water until potatoes are tender. Drain, mash and beat until smooth. Add butter, pepper and egg. Drop by tablespoons into very hot fat, 395 degrees F., and cook until light brown. Drain on soft paper. If mixture is too soft to hold together a tablespoon of flour may be added. The finished cakes, however, should be irregular in shape. If croquettes of regular shape are desired, add the flour, shape and dip in flour

before frying. Garnish with bacon fried in deep fat and with sliced lemon.

Scalloped Oysters.

1 pint oysters
 1/4 cup oyster liquor
 2 tablespoons milk
 1 cup dried bread crumbs
 1 cup rolled cracker crumbs
 1/2 cup melted butter
 Salt
 Pepper

Mix cracker and bread crumbs with the milk. Put a thin layer in the bot-

TRY THIS TRICK

By PONJAY HARRAH
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SUGAR THAT BURNS

WILL sugar burn? The easiest way to answer the question is to try it. At the magician's suggestion, people experiment with matches and lumps of sugar. They find that sugar will blacken and melt, but apparently will not burn.

That is, not until the magician tries it. The moment that he applies a match to the lump of sugar, a bluish flame results. The sugar burns steadily, the tiny flame eating away a corner of the lump.

People will puzzle deeply over this, without learning the secret of the trick. You can mystify your friends time and again with this simple experiment. But never try the trick except when cigarette or cigar ashes are handy.

For you must first dip the corner of the lump into the ashes. Do this secretly. Then apply the match. The presence of the ashes will enable the flame to take hold. Once started, the combustion continues.

WNU Service.



"It's sad but true," says typing Tillie, "but if we don't come back from that two weeks vacation feeling half dead we figure we didn't have a good time."

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tom of a baking dish, cover with oysters, sprinkle with salt and pepper and add half the milk and oyster liquor. Repeat and cover top with remaining crumbs. Bake thirty minutes in a hot oven (450 degrees Fahrenheit).

Croton Soup.

1/4 cup finely-cut crotons
 2 tablespoons butter
 3 tablespoons malted milk
 3 cups milk
 1/4 cup cream
 Seasoning

Fry crotons in butter until light brown, add milk and heat. Mix malted milk to a paste with cold water and add. Season to taste and when ready to serve add cream and sprinkle with paprika.

Making Sugar From Dahlia Bulbs



PROLIFIC flower gardens of the South may soon provide a new industry, with the extraction of sugar, twice as sweet as cane or beet sugar, from dahlia bulbs. It is being produced experimentally by Dr. LeRoy S. Weatherby, chemistry professor in the University of Southern California, who believes it may serve as another aid in the war against diabetes, as the new sugar is more easily oxidizable. The production is similar to that of beet sugar production, the dahlia bulbs being sliced, crushed, converted into starch, then into syrup, from which the fine sugar is precipitated. The photograph shows Miss Florence Shelly, assistant, and Dr. Weatherby inspecting syrup in a retort.

TODAY DECIDE

By DOUGLAS MALLOCH

THE man you meet upon the street Today was yesterday a child, Who yesterday was plastic clay, Unfashioned yet and undefiled. Then came the old the mind to mould, The heart to shape for good or ill; For we may take the child and make Tomorrow's man the thing we will.

The woman who is known to you Today was yesterday a maid To take, refuse, as we may choose, Then genuine, the masquerade. Then came to us the moment thus, To us who surely understood Life's calm and storm, our task to form Tomorrow's woman, ill or good.

The child you find with open mind Today in school, at home, or where, is ours to plan—the woman, man, Tomorrow is today's affair. And we who teach, or pray, or preach, The teacher, parent, all who guide, Shall shape the will for good or ill—Tomorrow's life today decide.

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To Match the Car



This chic new sports hat for winter is made of automobile upholstery fabric. Influenced by the attractive interiors of the 1936 models, the designer selected taupe mohair velvet with the new "breathing back" that makes it soft and easy to tailor so mildly now may have a hat to match her car if she chooses.