



MR. ROOSEVELT WALKING IN THE FUNERAL PROCESSION AT WINDSOR.

## MR. SCHIFF EXPLAINS

**A**N ARMED CONFLICT between the United States and Japan was never declared by Mr. Jacob H. Schiff to be inevitable. His speech at the dinner of the Republican Club was falsely reported, he says in a letter to *The Japan Advertiser* (Tokyo). "Now that he has sent an explanation of his own speech," says a Japanese Government official to a representative of the *Yomiuri Shimbun* (Tokyo), "the Japanese are bound to accept it. . . . It would be a wise policy to bury the unfortunate incident in oblivion."

Mr. Schiff says in his letter to *The Advertiser*:

"I have never given it as my opinion, as has been variously reported, that an armed conflict between their and our country was a likelihood or a possibility. What in the main I did say was that the American people viewed with alarm the fact that a compact had evidently been made between Japan, Russia, and England in Manchuria which in the course of time was certain to lead to nothing but irritation, if not to an intense struggle, in which I counseled the United States should take part, 'not by might and not by power, but in the spirit of righteousness only.'"

"It can certainly not give any satisfaction to the American people when they find Japan, to whom they had lent their unreserved support in its desperate struggle for self-preservation hardly more than half a decade ago, joining hands under the protection of England with their erstwhile foe who sought to crush them, and thus combine against the forces of civilization, who wish to see established a strong, self-reliant China rather than an impotent vassal state, a second India."

"America will be the last to deny Japan's dearly bought right to work out its manifest destiny on the Asiatic Continent, but Japan must not seek to do this by acting in unison with Russia, whose methods of government are not such that its 'blessings' ought to be permitted to extend beyond its own borders."

"Nor can it be right that the policy of development of a country of 400,000,000 people should be dictated through a compact between England, Japan, and Russia for their own purposes."

"I have not abated one iota of my respect and friendship for the people of Japan, and just because of this fact I have deemed it well to sound a note of alarm when I find these people entering upon paths which can only lead to complications and estrangement from those who in the past have proved their most disinterested friends."

## THE CHINESE PRESS IN POLITICS

**T**HE RECENT development of political sentiment in China appears principally in two cognate circumstances, the rise of the popular newspaper and the agitation for a national representative parliament, says Fernand Farjenel in the *Correspondant* (Paris). While there are two languages in China, the written literary style and the vernacular spoken tongue, it is only quite recently, we are told, that the spoken tongue, used by the common people, has been used in the daily or periodical press. Tho illiteracy is very prevalent in the Flowery Kingdom, yet so keenly has the propaganda been carried on for a national assembly that the opinions and arguments of the reform party are still brought to the ears and minds of the populace, as Mr. Farjenel shows in the following passage:

"Notwithstanding the vast number of the people incapable of reading a journal, even when printed in the spoken language, the influence of the press is still very great in every class of society. Every evening, in fact, throughout the towns and villages the Chinese love to assemble in groups to drink tea or smoke after the day's work is over. The man of each group who is able to read recites to them the news and comments upon it. It is thus that new ideas of reform are disseminated from one end of the Empire to the other. In this way the people in the remotest villages of Manchuria, as in Peking, are acquainted with the latest events and inventions of the Occident, and listen with delight to the account of Wright's or Paulhan's aeroplane exploits. . . . The Chinese of to-day by means of the press participate in the general life of humanity."

"Particularly are they interested in the hope of a general national assembly for China."

Their hope is fed by writers in the now extensive newspaper literature of China, as this writer tells us:

"Those Chinese who are active in politics desire the establishment of a parliament without delay. The Senate, as at present existing, does not satisfy them. They wish to have a national assembly which will really inaugurate a new government. The great stir in public opinion has reached a climax; it is a formidable wave of enthusiasm which is breaking upon the seats of monarchical power, and its force is already felt. The change is a serious one, favored by the rapidity of communication between all parts of the Empire. It is being



enormously increased by the extension of the press in recent years."

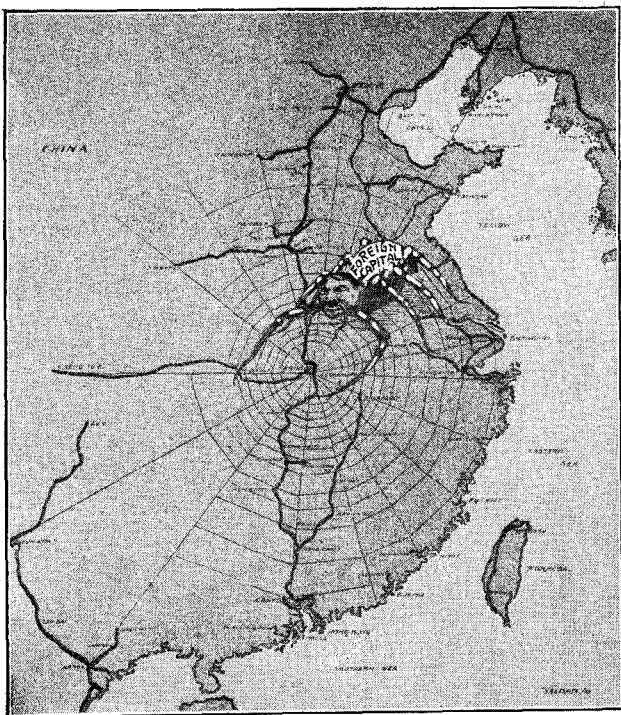
The original press of China was intelligible only to the highly educated and had no direct influence on those who knew only the spoken language. "This class of journal did not meet the needs of the general population," says Mr. Farjenel, and "the need suggested the foundation of a new journalism, the *Péhoa*, or journals printed in the spoken vernacular." This new Chinese newspaper, we are told, is very much of the same contexture as that of the journals of Europe and America. The number of such publications is constantly on the increase, their circulation being from 5,000 to 10,000 each. In writing his article the author had before him fifty of the most important journals "published at Mukden, at Peking, at Hankow, at Tientsin, at Tchekiang, and the borders of Mongolia."

The large papers like the *Chenpao* or the *Sinwennpao* (Shanghai) "contain a quantity of matter equal or superior to that of the *Paris Temps*. Large journals are sold at three or four cents a copy, the small sheets at about half that price."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST*.

### AMERICA WINNING CHINA

EVER SINCE Secretary Hay defeated Lord Salisbury's scheme to divide up the Chinese Empire into "spheres of influence," or rather protectorates, among England and other European nations, China has shown special favor for American enterprise and trusted American statesmanship. Dr. Ernst Shultze goes so far as to declare in the *Preussische Jahrbuecher* (Berlin) that henceforth "China must necessarily prove to the United States the most important field for the exercise of the American spirit of enterprise." This well-informed writer thinks that "the Chinese Government is striving to open the way for the investment of American capital within her provinces to encourage the development of profitable enterprises." The American Tobacco Trust, it seems, has already erected a large factory in Manchuria, and in South China the Steel Trust is building furnaces for the manufacture of iron and steel.

America, therefore, declares this writer, will practically hold the balance of power between China and Japan:



THE RAILROAD SPIDER.

—*National Review* (Shanghai).

"The United States will also find it desirable to extend its political as well as its commercial influence in China. The Government at Washington may some time perhaps be called upon to interpose in preventing a clash between China and Japan, which would be disastrous to the interests of both parties concerned. In this emergency America could exhibit her diplomatic address in handling the two most powerful nations of East Asia. She would at least have the advantage of China's favor in aiming at the hegemony in the Far East. This doubtless is the reason why American diplomacy has labored to propitiate China."

This writer enumerates the various colleges founded by American money and conducted on American methods at Peking and other cities of the Flowery Kingdom. But the real influence of America in China, we are told, comes from the Chinese students who have studied in New England and other colleges, remaining from ten to twelve years in this country. Many of them on returning to their native country have taken high official positions. One of them was appointed president of the special commission dispatched from Peking to Washington in 1908. Tang-Schao-Yi is a graduate of Yale. Liang, the Governor of Middle Manchuria, is a graduate of Amherst. He was formerly a Chinese representative at Washington and is now president of the Canton-Hankau Railroad. Another highly placed official is Yen, who was educated at Lehigh, Pa. He is now chief engineer to the Kalgan Railroad which runs through the Nankau Pass, traversed by Marco Polo.

In the autumn of 1909 there were 600 Chinese students in American institutions of learning, we read, 100 of them being sent here by the Government at Peking. "Naturally in North America every means is resorted to in the treatment of these students to increase the influence of Washington in Peking."

America, declares this high German authority, is setting an example to European Powers anxious for influence in Asia. China sees her opportunity and grasps it eagerly.

It is significant, Dr. Shultze remarks, that Chinese students at Cornell, the universities of Pennsylvania, Columbia, and Harvard prefer the technical to the literary departments. Nineteen per cent. of them choose railroad engineering as their specialty, 13 per cent. machinery, 16 per cent. take a commercial training, while 9 per cent. become mining engineers, 6 lawyers, and 4 teachers. Art and esthetics are studied by very few. Thus it happens that when American capital is invested in China, American methods and American machinery actually succeed in almost Americanizing the country where "progress in the technical arts is made with much greater rapidity than even in Europe or America."—*Translation made for THE LITERARY DIGEST*.



A DISCOURAGING TASK.

—*National Review* (Shanghai).

### CHINA'S BURDENS.