

## Peace And Order In Manchuria

ONE of Japan's stock arguments is that the prosperity of Manchuria was due to Japanese protection in spite of the Chinese misrule, which caused them to follow the course of action she has taken since the night of September 18 last year. Manchuria has now been half a year under Japanese rule, and it is time to check up the blessings of protection. Ten days after the Japanese occupation of the City of Shenyang (Mukden) i.e. September 28, 1931, the *fengpiao*, or local Chinese banknote, dropped to one-tenth of its face value. Such financial chaos was the first fruit of the Japanese rule, that had promised prosperity. On the next day it was reported that two-thirds of the population had left that city. This proved conclusively how much prosperity the Japanese were able to bring to Manchuria. Are we judging them too soon, not allowing the Japanese enough time to let the shock of the *coup* pass and normalcy to set in? Then let us take the latest information we had on the subject. On February 27, a report of Reuter's from Mukden, describing the \$125,000 three-day celebration of the newly proclaimed state of Manchuria which was then still without a government, said *inter alia*: "Innumerable posters and leaflets proclaiming that a new Manchurian paradise is in prospect have been distributed by the police, but it is a pathetic commentary on the present position that many of the posters are displayed on shops which have been closed since last September." (Italics ours.) Let us examine next the peace and order that the Japanese have brought to Manchuria since last September. On the 9th of October, 1931, the Japanese consul in Mukden reported to Tokyo that the American and British Consuls of that city had requested the Japanese authorities to maintain better peace and order so that foreign residents there would not be disturbed at night by the sounds of rifle fires. During the Chinese regime, there was no necessity of the British and American Consuls making such request. And here is a bit of interesting statistics from the Japanese source: during the first ten days of November (1931) there were 278 cases of banditry against 34 cases for the same period last year (1930)." In other words, *cases of banditry under the Japanese regime was 817+ % more than those under the Chinese regime for the same period!* If further proof of Japanese inability to maintain peace and order is ever needed, the recent development in Manchuria can supply innumerable instances. However, it is not necessary to mass all the details here. Let us confine ourselves to a few outstanding facts. Ever since the evacuation of the Chinese troops from Chinchow at the beginning of this year, the Japanese have been having a hard time with the "bandits" in Chinsi and Chinchow region, both Chinsi, west of Chinchow, and Sinmin, east of it, are now in the hands of these "bandits." Or more recently, Gen. Honjo returning from Changchun to Mukden, on the 10th instant, after attending the inauguration ceremony of the "Prince Regent" as the head of the government of the new state, his train was attacked by "300 mounted bandits." On the same and the following days, the North Station of Mukden was attacked, while there was fighting in the southern part of the city, and fire broke out in seven places there. Whatever may be said of Chang Tso-ling's and Chang Hsueh-liang's regimes Manchuria was never in such chaos under their rule. They certainly did maintain better peace and order in

Manchuria than these self-appointed guardians. Is the Japanese spokesman ready to admit that these so-called "bandits" are not bandits at all? Is he ready to admit that they are either Chinese soldiers who have sense of duty enough to fight the invaders, or the patriotic sons of China who have risen in arms to resist the foreign invaders? If so, then they have admitted that they lied to the world. And isn't it part of the game that when one nation invades another one of the risks the former takes is that the people of the latter country may rise *en masse* to resist such an invasion? Surely a nation as well versed in military affairs as Japan ought to have known it, and surely they must have known that such is part and parcel of the burden they assumed upon themselves. In the light of this, there is absolutely no excuse for the Japanese claim that they were better able to bring about peace and order in Manchuria, let alone the prosperity. It is only logical that they should get out of it as soon as possible.

## The Death Of M. Briand

THE death of M. Aristide Briand removes from the arena of world politics one of the most colorful figures of this generation. A great parliamentarian and a still greater diplomat, he has done much to gain for France the enviable position which she holds at present among the family of nations. His favorite brain child is the Pan-Europa scheme which aims at establishing a French hegemony. Aside from that, he has also engineered many alliances and ententes which all work for the interest of France. His love for his country, however, did not interfere with his being at the same time a veritable citizen of the world. Together with the late Dr. Stressemann, he was responsible for the rapprochement between France and Germany; and as the co-author of the Paris Peace Pact, he had shown himself to be an indefatigable worker for the preservation of world peace as well. Furthermore, in his capacity as the chairman of the League Council, he had also many a time lent his good office as mediator between the conflicting member states. It is to be regretted however that in the present Sino-Japanese conflict, he had tried in vain to uphold the prestige of the League. But in spite of that, the fact remains that he had at least done his best. That he did not succeed in averting the catastrophe was not due to his personal fault; one can only regret that the rest of the world is not yet ready to support his views.

## Doctor G. E. Morrison Lectureship

WE are delighted to learn that leaders of the British and Chinese communities in Sydney and other cities of Australia have instituted a Lectureship in memory of Dr. George Ernest Morrison, who, though a medical graduate, preferred a journalist's career and became the famous London Times' correspondent in Peiping during those momentous years of 1898-1910, which covered the great scramble for territory in China and the Boxer Outbreak. The late Dr. Morrison was born at Geelong, Victoria in 1862, and after completing his medical education at Melbourne and Edinburgh, travelled extensively,

visiting Burmah, Siam, Tonquin, South China, North China and Siberia. Eventually he settled down in Peiping, where he was appointed the Times' Special Correspondent. Dr. Morrison's remarkable dispatches to the London 'Thunderer' during the years 1898-1900, which were often published twenty-four hours before his own and other Governments heard from their Ministers at the Chinese capital, were models of brevity and succinctness and enhanced both the reputation of the London paper and the correspondent. It was ascertained afterwards that Dr. Morrison had a close friend at the Tsungli Yamen (now Wai Chiao Pu), who kept him in close touch with the diplomatic negotiations carried on between the Manchu officials and the foreign ministers and provided him with copies of all treaties and documents signed or on the point of being signed. This enabled the doctor-journalist to obtain information far in advance of any one else. On the establishment of the Republic and the election of Yuan Shih-kai as President in 1912, Dr. Morrison was appointed the first Foreign Advisor and he held this valuable office until the death of Yuan in 1915. Dr. Morrison was a great friend of the Chinese, and his home in

Wang Fuching (also called Morrison) Street, including his famous Library, was a rendezvous of English-speaking returned students, officials and book-lovers. During the World War Dr. Morrison's health broke down, and he sold his home and library to a Japanese baron for £30,000 in 1919 and retired to England with his wife and four sons. He died a few years afterwards. In founding the George Morrison Lectureship in Australia, the promoters (including Sir Colin Mackenzie, Mr. F. J. Quinlan, Mr. William Liu and Mr. W. Ah Ket) are desirous of furthering closer relations between Chinese and Australians, particularly along scholastic and commercial lines. We are pleased to hear that the first lecturer will be Dr. Weiping Chen, formerly Chargé d'Affaires in London and now Consul-General in Australia. Dr. Chen also knew Dr. Morrison in Peiping twenty years ago. There is urgent need of a better understanding between Chinese and other nations of the world, particularly those speaking the English language, and we trust that through this Lectureship leaders of thought and culture in China may be invited to meet similar leaders in Australia for mutual benefit.

## China As An Organized State

WHEN Mr. Sato, the Japanese Delegate to the League of Nations, first contended that China was not an organized state, we thought that he was forced to such libellous subterfuges because he could not otherwise defend the unjustifiable action of his government. But as more and more the Japanese militarists, diplomats and propagandists are making capital of this form of libel, it is time that something were said about it.

Japan's motives in reiterating this libellous charge are quite plain. First, it would relieve her of her responsibility, as a signatory of the Nine Power Treaty, to respect the territorial and administrative integrity of China, since such integrity, according to her allegations, does not actually exist. Similarly, her obligations under the League of Nations Covenant, the Kellogg Pact, and all other relevant treaties. Secondly, it would justify her in dealing directly with the newly formed puppet state of Manchuria, which she has created for her own convenience. Lest public opinion in other countries be misled by Japan's unfounded and atrocious allegations, we submit the following facts to show that China is an organized state.

1. *A single set of laws, enacted by the National Government, is applied and enforced all over China.* This means a more centralized form of government than in many other countries. In the United States, for instance, each state has its own laws in addition to the Federal laws. But this is not the case in China.

2. *A uniform administrative system is found in all parts of China except in Tibet and Mongolia, and the frontier districts of certain provinces where there are many Mongolians.* These modifications are made to suit the needs of these races. Elsewhere the country is divided into provinces, and each province divided into so many *hsien* corresponding to counties, districts or arrondissements in other countries. Under the

Manchu regime, these provinces were governed by Viceroy and Governors, with the assistance of a Commissioner of Justice and another of Finance. Under these were *Toatais* governing sections of a province known as *tao*, Prefects governing sections of a *tao* known as *fu*, and Magistrates governing sections of a *fu* known as *hsien*. This hierarchy of territorial divisions was abolished under the Republic, and instead functional differentiation along modern lines was introduced in the provinces to replace the very inadequate system of Commissioners of Justice and Finance. The Viceroys who governed more than one province and the Prefects who governed more than one *hsien* were done away with, and territorial divisions were of three grades only, the province, the *tao* and the *hsien*. Later the *tao* was also abolished. When the National Government again changed the form of organization of the provincial governments by substituting the Provincial Administrative Committee for the former Civil and Military Governors, it was applied to all the provinces. Only two years ago, the Branch Political Councils which had been created by the National Government to control each a number of provinces were abolished by the National Government. *These steps could not have been carried out were China not an organized state.*

3. *The above administrative system has been gradually extended to a larger and larger area, until now it is applied in all parts of China except Mongolia and Tibet.* The following quotation from Japanese sources shows how the form of government in the old eighteen provinces was first extended to Manchuria.

"In 1907, the military affairs of the Three Eastern Provinces were unified under the control of the Viceroy of the Three Eastern Provinces, and the