

中國評論週報

The China Critic

SHANGHAI, CHINA.

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All manuscript must be addressed to the Editor, and typewritten, double-spaced, on one side of the paper only. Chinese writers are requested to give their names also in Chinese.

Carl Crow Speaks for China

THE author of "Four Hundred Million Customers" needs no introduction. Within one year he has written and published three books, all of which have turned out to be instant successes. That alone is no mean feat and his numerous articles contributed to the various periodicals in the United States during the past year show that he is one of the most versatile person ever to have come to the Far East. He possesses not only a most enviable memory which few people can boast but also a keen analytical mind which makes his writings always so brilliantly lucid and instructive. We have just received a copy of his latest book entitled "I Speak For The Chinese", a small volume which requires less than two hours to read. We believe that this is the most economical book on China that has ever been published, for we do not know of any other book which gives such a maximum amount of relevant information within such a minimum amount of space and time. Carl Crow is an Old China Hand, having been intimately connected with this quarter of the globe for almost forty years. At the time the notorious "Twenty-One Demands" were presented to Yuan Shih-kai in 1915, he was in Tokyo as business manager of the *Japan Advertiser* and concurrently also correspondent of the United Press. Here in this book he has for the first time revealed how he scooped that exciting event almost twenty-three years ago for the United Press, on May 8, 1915. Starting casually on this absorbing story which anyone having an interest in Far Eastern affairs would surely be most anxious to know, he covers all the important events in China with such an economy of words as only a well-trained correspondent and a space-bargaining advertising man can achieve. There are no elaborate tables of statistics, no presumptuous documents. It is merely a well-balanced account of what the author thinks is China's case and an intelligent interpretation of the Far Eastern situation. For those who wish to check up on his statements or who wish to know more in detail about any particular facts, he furnishes a brief but comprehensive bibliography at the end of his book. He is contented to give a vivid word picture of the kaleidoscopic changes, for instance,

Among the many notable reforms, the most important was that dishonesty and inefficiency in the collection of taxes and the expenditure of official funds became the exception instead of the rule. As statistical evidence, in 1934 the moneys received from the salt taxes—an important source of revenue—were more than five times what they were in 1929. This in spite of the fact that between these two dates Manchuria had become a possession of Japan and the revenues from that territory, while included in the 1929 total, were not included in 1934.

Mr. Carl Crow, as all who has read his "Four Hundred Million Customers" know, is not devoid of humor. His interpretation of the famous tragi-comic "Pear Peel Case" in Hongkew over a year ago defies any other account so far published. In defending the smugglers in North China, it says

In an interview the Japanese Consul-General at Tientsin said that he had looked through the statute-books of Japan and was unable to find any law which made it a crime for Japanese subjects to smuggle goods into China.

We give in. The author asked at the end of his book. "After China, what?" Crow carefully traces the steps taken by Japan since the annexation of Korea as follows:

According to her oft-repeated statements, Japan's conquests have always been in self-defence, and from her point of view this is truthful. Korea was conquered and made a part of the Empire of Japan because of the fear that if this were not done some other power would seize the helpless country and thus menace Japan. Korea and Manchuria were neighbors with a long boundary line and so Manchuria was conquered because, among other reasons, its close proximity constituted a menace to Korea. Jehol was taken as a safeguard to Manchuria and encroachments were made on Inner Mongolia for the same reason. Chinese troops in North China threatened these new possessions, therefore a war of self-defence is necessary in order to bring North China under Japanese control and remove this menace.

This line of reasoning, if carried *ad infinitum*, as Japan no doubt will, would surely stop at nothing less than a world *pax Japonica*.

Might and Right

AMID dead silence in the Lithuanian Parliament at Kaunas on March 19, the acting premier, M. Jakubas Stanisauskas, announced that Lithuanian had accepted the terms of the Polish ultimatum because she had been forced to do so, but he added, "Might is not right". The events of the past seven years and the recent rapid developments in Europe seem to indicate, however, that there are many nations who are firm believers of the principle that "might is right" and have had no hesitation in showing the world that they can do as they please and get away with it. International lawlessness seems to have become the order of the day, while treaties so solemnly entered upon have become mere scraps of paper. Peaceful negotiations have given way to the massing of troops on national borders and the presentation of ultimatums. Austria and Lithuania have bowed to force. China and Republican Spain are valiantly holding out, determined not to surrender, but to resist to the bitter end. Still, the fate of these two countries will depend on the outcome of the present tests of force. The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, when speaking a few days ago at the National Press Club, deplored the "rising tide of lawlessness, the growing disregard for treaties, the increasing reversion to the use of force and the numerous other ominous tendencies emerging in the sphere of international relations today". Mr. Hull urged that the United States be adequately armed to meet any eventuality arising out of the present world conditions, in other words, to be able to meet force with force, if necessary. The United States has now come to realize that no country can prove that she is morally right on any issue unless she is able to fight for her rights and, what is more important, win. While the United States has continued to deplore the growing increase in international lawlessness, we must say in all fairness that upon her and

the other democratic states rests the full responsibility for all that is now happening. If the United States, instead of wrapping herself in a cloak of isolation, had had the temerity to come forth and cooperate with other democratic states to crush the first signs of international lawlessness, the world would not be in such a chaotic state today. One thing has led to another and the boldness of the aggressive states knows no bounds. The acceptance of the Polish ultimatum by Lithuania may bring a short respite, but that does not mean that Lithuania or Europe is safe. The acceptance of an ultimatum no longer prevents attack, as was demonstrated in Shanghai in 1932, when the Japanese attacked Shanghai even after the Chinese Government had unreservedly accepted all the Japanese demands. China has learnt that capitulation to Japanese demands only whets the Japanese appetite and leads to ever more exorbitant demands. The democratic countries are now experiencing the same situation in Europe. They are beginning to pay the price for their previous tacit acceptance of lawlessness, where it did not concern themselves so intimately, and such countries as China and Ethiopia were the victims. Now the danger is getting nearer home and the great chancelleries of Europe and America are greatly agitated at the new changes in the map of Europe. Japan was allowed to get away with something on September 18, 1931, in far off Manchuria. The world is now about to pay the price. How it will all end, no one can predict. Perhaps it is already too late to prevent the great catastrophe. Might or right, which is going to prevail?

Guerilla Tactics Successful

REPORTS from the various fronts seem to indicate that the guerilla tactics adopted by the Chinese army are proving an effective weapon in combatting the superiorly equipped Japanese forces. At the outset, some doubt had been expressed as to how far such tactics would be successful in stemming the Japanese advance, but the results of the large-scale use of this method of defence have surprised even the most optimistic. Although the Japanese have been able to occupy many important cities and have made rapid advance along the railway lines, not only has any attempt to penetrate beyond the railway area proved dangerous, but even their hold upon the railway towns has become most precarious. In North China in particular, where the Eighth Route Army units are most active, the guerillas are operating with deadly effect upon Japanese communication lines and outposts. In Hopei, along the Pinghan railway, they have been causing the Japanese military authorities serious trouble. The Pinghan railway is no longer regarded as a safe means of communication between Peiping and the Japanese forces operating in Shansi and north Honan. The railway is said to be attacked so often and so successfully that all important supplies now go to Shansi by road via Kalgan and Tatung. Japanese supply trains are continuously fired on and small Japanese garrisons at different points are attacked at night by mobile units, causing many casualties. These guerilla bands are said to be strong in numbers and well-