

EFFECT OF THE AMNESTY

French Police Report Crime Increase

AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE

A marked recrudescence of armed robberies and house breaking cases is reported by the French Concession police as the result of the liberation of prisoners from gaol under the amnesty, and still more cases are anticipated as the result of future liberations. Not a day passes without new complaints being registered with the police.

An outstanding case is that of a man with a long list of offences against his name, who was let out of prison under the amnesty on July 18. He has been arrested again by the police after they had carried out a careful watch on districts in which had been reported cases of house breaking.

This man is alleged to have been concerned in the following cases of house breaking reported since July 18: Avenue King, Nos. 896, 1420 and 1428; 81 and 474 Rue Ratard, and 886 Rue Bourgeat. All these are foreign houses, the value of the booty taken amounting to over \$6,000. Most of the stolen goods have now been recovered from various pawnshops in the International Settlement, where they had been pledged for ridiculously small sums.

Police inquiries into this man's activities are continuing, and it is hoped that the rest of the gang, who are still showing activity in various parts of the Concession, will be arrested soon.

JAPAN AND DAIREN CUSTOMS

1907 Treaty To Be Considered Null and Void

Tokyo, Sept. 21.

Although it was recently intimated that Japan would approach China regarding the abrogation of the Sino-Japanese Customs Agreement of 1907, which provides that all appointments to the post of Commissioner of Customs of Dairen are subject to the approval of the Inspector-General of the Chinese Maritime Customs, a spokesman of the Foreign Office stated to-day that Japan had now decided not to broach the question to China.

He added, however, that if China were to protest against the action of the Manchukuo authorities in taking over the Customs, Japan would reply that she considered the 1907 Agreement null and void, as her recognition of Manchukuo presupposed its abrogation. Therefore, he declared, there was now no room to negotiate.

The spokesman said that Japan would have preferred to abrogate the agreement by negotiation prior to recognising Manchukuo. He contended, however, that if by any chance the Chinese authorities continued to consider the 1915 Treaty invalid, they must logically consider that the 1907 Agreement terminated in 1923, as, according to the Chinese, Japan's lease of the Liaotung Peninsula expired in that year.

The spokesman asserted that there was a possibility of Japan returning the territory to Manchukuo if extraterritoriality were abolished, as it would help to strengthen Manchukuo's position and prestige and thereby contribute to the stabilisation of the situation and bring peace and prosperity. These objectives, he concluded, were Japan's principal aims.—Reuter.

MR. WANG CHING-WEI STILL ABSENT

Central Political Council Gives Him Two Weeks' Leave

Nanking, Sept. 21.

The Central Political Council, which held its first meeting to-day since Mr. Wang Ching-wei's departure from the capital almost three weeks ago, granted him another two weeks' leave of absence during which members of the Council will preside over its meetings by rotation.

The discussions at to-day's meeting, which was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Chiu Chiang, centred on the budget for the next fiscal year.

General Huang Shao-hsing, Minister of the Interior, attended office this morning and resumed his duties after a long absence from the capital.—Reuter.

ATTEMPT TO WRECK TRAIN FOILED

Live Shell Placed on Track of Bullion-laden Express

Riga, Sept. 20.

As became known only to-day, an attempt was made on Monday evening near Dvinsk in Latvian territory to blow up the Moscow-Berlin Express, which was carrying a huge consignment of Russian gold destined for the Reichs Bank. The attempt failed owing to the presence of mind of the driver of the locomotive, who, as soon as he saw the obstacle on the rails, increased the speed and succeeded in pushing aside what a subsequent investigation revealed to be a war-time shell wired to the rails in expert manner.

No trace of the authors of the outrage has yet been found. It is stated by the police that, had the plot been successful, the force of the shell would have been big enough to damage the greater part of the train.—Trans-Ocean Kuo Min.

TORY CONFERENCE

London, Sept. 21.

The annual conference of the British Conservative Party will open at Blackpool on October 6.—Havas.

MURDER TRIAL CONTINUES

Witnesses Demonstrate the Alleged Fatal Thrust: Watchman Identified

After a whole day's hearing yesterday, the trial of Yusuf Din, a Mohammedan charged with murdering one Tsu Ah-yeu in Zung Shing Lee, Chapel, on August 2, was adjourned to this morning. The case was heard by the Chief Judge, Sir Peter Grabin, and a jury consisting of Messrs. A. D. Kay, F. R. Lamb, W. Jarmain, H. Booth, J. F. Lauderdale, J. Isherwood, D. MacLennan, H. R. Fielding, M. Berry, W. G. Clarke, C. J. Merritt and C. B. V. Golding.

Mr. A. G. Mossop, Crown Advocate, prosecuted, while Mr. F. G. Livingstone, of Messrs. Hansons, appeared for the defence.

Several Chinese witnesses were called to give evidence on the matter which arose in connection with the removal of certain furniture from 28 Li Tsung Lee. At the instance of the Crown Advocate, the witnesses demonstrated how the accused was alleged to have stopped the removal of a dressing table, struck the deceased with a stick, and then made the fatal thrust. They were unanimous that the incident lasted only a short while, and that the movements were very quick.

Knife Examined

Dr. William King Duncombe, director of medical laboratory of the British Health Department, Shanghai Municipal Council, gave evidence at the opening of the resumed hearing yesterday morning. He stated that he found evidence of blood on the knife given to him by Sub-Inspector J. T. Shields for examination.

Mr. Thomas M. Burton then testified that he had examined a Chinese corpse in a coffin in the Chekiang Guild on August 5, and found a wound between the fourth and fifth ribs. He stated that the wound could have caused death, but was not able to say whether that wound did cause death or not. He did not perform a post mortem examination.

Sze Nien-chien, apprentice, stated that Hoong Kai-fa tried to move his furniture in the morning but was stopped by the Indian watchman as Hoong could not produce a permit for its removal. After the meal, he helped moving a few articles of Hoong's furniture.

But as soon as the Indian approached him and the deceased staggered towards Sze after the Indian had thrust something against the chest. As soon as the Indian left the scene, he went up to the deceased, who passed away in three or four minutes.

Inspector's Evidence

Witness then returned to Li Tsung Li alloy about 6 or 7 o'clock in the evening and found that the body of the deceased was still lying where he had seen it fall. It was eventually removed to the Shaoshing Guild at about 3 p.m. on August 3, and put into a coffin. The jacket and trousers of the deceased were produced and identified by witness as those he was wearing when he was stabbed.

Cross-examined, witness said he saw the deceased take hold of the clothing of the accused. He described them as yellow watchman's uniform. They were several passers-by in the alleyway, he stated. When the accused approached with a stick witness said he ran away immediately and did not stay to assist his friend. Pressed by counsel he asserted that he retreated backwards down the alleyway and was about to witness what happened.

He was followed into the box by Inspector Wong Yen, stationed at the sub-station of the 3rd Station of the 5th Division of the Bureau of Public Safety. He deposed to having received a report from a woman, Tan Wu-za, on the afternoon of August 2, as a result of which he proceeded with a sergeant and a constable to the Li Tsung Li alloy, where he found the dead body lying on the ground. A large crowd had collected. Witness then went with the sergeant to the gateway of the alloy on Yochow Road, stopping on the way at the Indian watchman's hut, but finding no Indians there. While standing at the gateway four or five Indians arrived along Yochow Road, and he and his officers arrested three of them. Two escaped down the alley. He returned with his prisoners past the dead body and took them to the sub-station. On the way one of the prisoners was searched by his constable and a knife found in his pocket, with bloodstains on it. Witness identified the knife. Witness said that it is the police custom to keep a register of residents moving from the district and that to this end, passes are issued to any who desire to remove furniture.

The Judge then asked witness if the blood on the knife was dry, and received an affirmative answer.

Mr. Louis Beale, H. M. Commercial Counsellor, and Mrs. Beale are expected to return to Shanghai to-day from a visit to Tientsin and Peking.

Mr. and Mrs. R. E. McIntyre left for Hongkong yesterday on the President Cleveland.

Mr. L. Everett, Jr., and Mr. V. Meyer sailed for Seattle by the Dollar str. President Madison yesterday.

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The Consular Body will be giving a farewell tiffin at the Shanghai Club to-day at 12.30 p.m. to Mr. K. Murai, the retiring Japanese Consul-General, who has been transferred to Sydney, Australia. Mr. L. Ishii, Mr. Murai's successor, will also be a guest of honour.

Mr. Antonio Gonzales, the Most Worshipful Master of Freemasons of the Philippine Islands, and a delegation of some 15 leading Masons of his jurisdiction, who came to Shanghai to visit Amity Lodge No. 106, P. J. Chapter, and perform certain degree duties left for Manila yesterday by the Dollar str. President Cleveland.

As several witnesses remained for examination both for the prosecution and defence the Court was adjourned to-day at 10.

CHOLERA REPORT FOR WEEK

Epidemic Now Rapidly Dying Out

100,000 CASES THIS YEAR IN CHINA

Reporting on the cholera situation for the week ending September 17, Dr. Wu Lien-teh, director of the National Quarantine Service and chairman of the Central Cholera Bureau, says that the cholera epidemic throughout the Shanghai district is rapidly dying out. For the week under review the number of cases recorded was only 47 (six fatal), as compared with 110 (10 fatal) for the previous week and the maximum of 504 (41 fatal) which was reached on July 30. The figures for the week September 11-17 are as follows:

	Cases	Deaths
Greater Shanghai	11	2
Inter. Settlement	21	1
French Concession	15	3
Total	47 (6*)	6
B/F	4,213 (73*)	311 (19*)
Grand Total	4,260 (73*)	317 (19*)

* Asterisk indicates recent cases.

Information from other cities also point to a similar decline in the prevalence of the epidemic, thus:

	Cases Deaths	
Nanking	13	1
Canton	1	1
(Week-ending Sept. 17)		
Hankow	29	4
Tientsin	0	0
(Week-ending Sept. 10.)		

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