

CONFLICT OVER PORTS IS PERIL IN FAR EAST

Russia Reaches Toward Sea; Outlet for Her Ships Is Vital Requirement.

This is the fourth of a series on the political situation and conditions in general in the Far East, where China, Japan and Russia are near grips.

BY EMILY C. DAVIS
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NEW YORK, June 9.—A long struggle over warm water ports looms ahead in the far east.

This is the outlook as seen by one of those cautious prophets of science, a political geographer. The geographer is Dr. Isaiah Bowman, director of the American Geographical Society, with headquarters here.

One of Russia's vital requirements in the far east, he explains, is a port open to her trading ships all the year round. Such a port is known as a warm water port, to distinguish it from ports that are ice-bound in winter.

Throughout czarist history Russian leaders worked to gain warm water ports for the vast Russian domain, not only in the far east, but in every other direction. So far as the far east was concerned, the czarist regime never completely solved the problem. It was left to the Soviets, and now is one of the key points in far eastern strategy.

War Complicated Problem

Russia seemed near a solution of the port problem in the far east when she gained a twenty-five-year lease on Port Arthur and Dairen in South Manchuria, back in the 1890's. The most southerly seaport in Russia's own Pacific territory, Vladivostok, was at that time icebound for the greater part of the year. So it was necessary to look farther south, into another country—Manchuria—for the desired outlet to the sea.

But the favorable position which Russia gained in South Manchuria was lost long before the twenty-five-year lease was out. The Russo-Japanese war broke, and the outcome was that Russia had to withdraw from South Manchuria, giving up her seaports.

Since then Russia has concentrated on Vladivostok. She has wrought a complete change in its character, turning the port, to all intents and purposes, into a real warm-water port. This is done by ice-breaking ships that keep the harbor open.

Open Nearly All Year

As the effectiveness of these ice-breakers has been increased, Vladivostok has come close to being an all-year port. According to advices at the Soviet Union information bureau, in Washington, the port now is closed only a few weeks in the year, and the prospect is that it eventually will be kept entirely free of ice.

Still the port problem is far from solution. The Chinese-Eastern rail-

Tough Loot

Discovering that his loot was a fourteen-inch alligator, a thief abandoned it shortly before 1 this morning in a restaurant near 418 East South street, where a truck from which the alligator was taken was parked. The thief also took a coat.

Bernie B. Morgan, Muncie, Ind., told police he was returning from Florida in the truck and was carrying the alligator, which was in a lard can.

way, which Russia built across north Manchuria as a short cut to Vladivostok, is in the zone of Chinese-Japanese skirmishes.

The upheaval in Manchuria, where China, Japan and Russia all hold stakes in the important railroads, has given Japan new strength. Two new ports are being developed in northern Korea.

Russia, holding aloof from the argument, is faced with the unpleasant prospect of finding her commerce on the Pacific more restricted than it has been, as regulations over railroads and seaports tighten against her. Such a situation is not likely to be permanent.

"Vladivostok," says Dr. Bowman, "is a key point in Russian policy, today no less than yesterday and tomorrow. 'Imprisoned Siberia' won't be even more shut in than at present if the eastern part of that vast nation were deprived of a port."

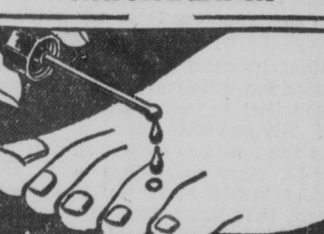
"How to develop that port and its hinterland, and yet persuade Japan that Russia is aiming no snear at her, is one of the most acute of the problems that vexes Russia in the far east today."

Chickens Die in Fire

Twelve chickens perished shortly before midnight when fire destroyed a garage at the home of A. E. Clayfoot, 954 Adams street. Origin of the fire has not been determined. Loss is estimated at \$50.

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BARES DANGERS LURKING IN U. S. GOLD STANDARD

Marott Says It Will Wipe Out Our High Degree of Living.

"The gold standard will wipe out the high standard of living in this country," George J. Marott, Indianapolis merchant, asserted Wednesday night at a meeting held in the Marott hotel to further bimetallicism.

"There is not enough gold in this country, or in any other, with which to transact business," Marott declared.

Marott was the final speaker on a program which included Fred T. Loftin, bimetallic organizer; Walter C. Reese, Shelbyville attorney, and Dr. C. S. Wikoff of Wichita, Kan.

Wikoff pointed out that banks are allowed to lend many times more money than they actually have in their vaults.

"This creates many times more money in the United States. But in times such as these, that created money is no good because almost nobody can borrow money, Silver,

coined at 16 to 1, would create more money which people actually could get," he asserted.

"Three-fourths of the world's population lies across the Pacific ocean," Dr. Wikoff said. "Those peoples are on the silver standard today as they have been for hundreds of years. Right now four and one-half Chinese dollars are needed to buy one American dollar's worth of American goods."

"That is why China is switching a lot of her trade to England, which went from the gold standard to the silver standard recently."

Dr. Wikoff pointed out that it commonly is believed that the federal government controls the Federal Reserve bank.

"The government at Washington does not own a share of stock in the Reserve bank," he asserted. "It is owned privately and controlled privately."

Dr. Wikoff charged that congress never passed a law putting the United States on the gold standard.

"Congress," he claimed, "passed a law to have the number of grains in each silver dollar stamped thereon."

"The clause demonetizing silver was forged into the bill by the secretary to the President and the assistant secretary of the treasury after the bill had been passed and before it had been signed by President Grant. These men were sent to the penitentiary, but congress never has corrected the error."

"England benefited by this de-

monetization. She bought up silver in the United States, where its value fell greatly, and sold it in India, a silver standard country, where its value still was high."

Marott announced at the close of the meeting that a similar meeting will be held in the Marott hotel ballroom next Wednesday.

50 TO BE INITIATED

Ritualistic Degree Slated Friday by Order of Mechanics.

Fifty candidates will be initiated into the Junior Order, United American Mechanics, at a district meeting Friday in Maywood. Three degree teams will exemplify the ritualistic work.

Indianapolis council, No. 2, and Indianapolis council, No. 57, Daughters of America, will hold a card party Wednesday in the hall, 210 East Ohio street.

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ROBBER IS IDENTIFIED

Alleged Bank Bandit Named as Man Who Held Up Consul.

Earl Northern, alleged bank bandit and ex-convict, has been identified as the bandit who robbed Dr. and Mrs. Vincent Lapenta and their daughter in their automobile at Twenty-second and Meridian streets,

several weeks ago, Detective Chief Fred Simon said today.

Dr. Lapenta, Italian consul in Indianapolis, and Mrs. Lapenta identified Northern Wednesday as the gunman who took their money and jewelry, but was foiled in an attempt to steal the auto, when Lapenta's daughter threw away the keys.

Northern, arrested recently, is

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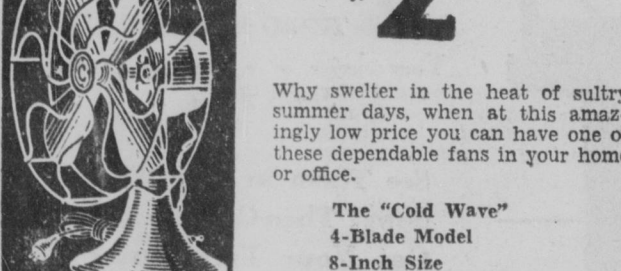
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