

PEACE OF FAR EAST FACES UPHEAVAL IN WITHDRAWAL OF JAPAN FROM TREATIES

Status Quo Ante Would Renew Impetus for Perilous Naval Race and Add to Danger for Philippines.

BY WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS
Scripps-Howard Foreign Editor

WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Japanese withdrawal from the treaties of Washington and London may dynamite the whole uneasy foundation of peace in the Pacific.

Withdrawal by one power, Article 23 of the Washington treaty provides, terminates the treaty for all the powers, thus throwing the balance of the Far East back where it was when it had the world so badly scared in 1921.

Not only would it almost inevitably renew the perilous naval race which began shortly after the World war, but it would come at a time when international nerves were already so shell-shocked that they might snap under the strain.

Free Hand for Japan

Withdrawal would give Japan a free hand to fortify the Kurile Islands, the Bonins, Loochoos, Formosa and the Pescadores.

Also, it is feared, she might see fit to convert the whole swarm of mandated islands lying between Hawaii and the Philippines into submarine bases and hideaways, completely barring all Pacific trade routes to China.

"It is assumed abroad, and sometimes even here," said Captain Gumpel Sekine of the Japanese Imperial navy, now attached to the navy department in Tokio, "that an armament race would ruin Japan, strategically or economically, or both."

Whole Nation's Support

"That is not true. In the first place, the Japanese government would embark upon such a competition with the support of the whole nation. Now would a united will be our only asset. For with restrictions removed, Japan would concentrate on tactical armament based on her own conditions and characteristics."

"In other words, she would build and equip the kind of ships she needs. Success is not always guaranteed to the longest purse."

Some indication of what Captain Sekine meant is seen in reports that Japan is now experimenting with a "mystery ship" which is said to be an armship-carrier, yet capable of submerging like a submarine.

Philippines Future Doubtful

Termination of the Washington treaty of 1921 would automatically release the United States from its pledge not to fortify the Philippines, Guam, the outlying islands in the region of Hawaii and the Aleutians.

However, the future of the Philippines becomes more doubtful than ever owing to lapse of the Hawes-Cutting independence act. On Wednesday the islands revert to the status quo.

Should Japan denounce the naval treaty, these possessions would have to be extremely heavily fortified else put under international protection. Otherwise they would be at the mercy of any of the heavily armed powers of the western Pacific.

Great Britain Alarmed

Japan's supposed intention of scrapping the naval treaty is particularly alarming to Great Britain. Her whole far eastern policy would have to be changed. She would have to renew the old Anglo-Japanese alliance to get "protection" for her interests in that quarter of the globe, or vastly strengthen her defenses.

Australia and New Zealand would not only demand a bigger show of strength from Britain, but they themselves would increase their armament.

France has recently taken over some islands between the Philippines and her possession of Indo-China with a view to turning them into submarine bases, it is said. And Holland is uneasy for her petroleum deposits in the East Indies.

GOLF BALL EXPLODES

Fluid in Sphere Expands, Cover Bursts Injuring Man.

By United Press

CALDWELL, Idaho, Jan. 13.—A man, then literally no golf ball held by Clarence Endicott, exploded, causing serious injuries to his hands and face. The fluid contained in the ball apparently expanded when exposed to heat from a stove near which Endicott stood, bursting the cover.

WIFE SAVES ROYALTIES

Song Writer Nearly Sold Popular Hit for \$25.

By United Press

WEYMOUTH, Mass., Jan. 13.—Billy Hill, Weymouth song writer, was prepared to accept \$25 for all rights to "The Last Roundup," current Follies hit, if his wife had not demanded a royalty clause.

Now, four horse-drawn, rubber-tired schooners make the routes, picking up the children each morning and bringing them home each afternoon.

Wounded: Sentenced

By Times Special

SHELBYVILLE, Jan. 13.—Fred Clevenger, 32, Rushville, shot in an arm and side while resisting arrest, is under sentence of one to ten years in the Indiana state prison, following a plea of guilty in Shelyville circuit court to a charge of assault and battery with intent to kill.

Clevenger was wounded by Sheriff Elisha Crosby, who fired twice after he had been threatened.

Clevenger escaped from jail in August, 1933, and was captured a month later.

Poet's Friend Dies

By Times Special

SOUTH BEND, Jan. 13.—The Rev. Daniel E. Hudson, 84, a close friend of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, is dead here.

Father Hudson was ordained in 1875, at which time he joined the University of Notre Dame faculty.

Born of Methodist parents, he became a Catholic convert early in life. He was editor of the Ave Maria, a leading Catholic weekly, and held this position until 1930.

He was an occasional contributor to secular and religious magazines and the publisher of numerous books.

Heart Disease Fatal

By Times Special

GREENFIELD, Jan. 13.—Funeral services will be held tomorrow for Charles Mitchell, 61, living east of Greenfield, who died of heart disease.

Novel but Wrong

By Times Special

DANVILLE, Jan. 13.—Sidney Sebastian, 23, convicted of a novel method of stealing, is under sentence of four months at the state penal farm, imposed by Judge A. J. Stevenson of Hendricks circuit court.

Boarding a truck between Indianapolis and Plainfield, Sebastian unloaded part of the cargo which was picked up by confederates who made their escape.

Sebastian was caught because the door of the truck was blown shut, locking it as closed.

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