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Washington, D. C.—After more than a decade of petty political bickering over the control of China the whole country now bids fair to break out in war to determine if unification can be effected by conquest. From Peking, the ancient capital in the north, to Canton, the vast river city in the south, troops are afoot. There are marchings and counter-marchings and the sound of firing is heard in many places, chiefly along a 25-mile front in the vicinity of Shanghai.

Gen. Chi Hsieh-yuan, anfu-tuchan or military governor of the province of Kiangsu, has flatly declared that the time has come when, if China is to be unified again into one great nation, it must be done by the sword. Whether the war which now is in progress will, in fact, be fought out to so bitter an issue or whether it will in a few months break up into minor conflicts between rival provincial governors remains to be seen. The immediate fact is that a million men are under arms.

The trouble started over the rivalry of two provincial governors. The city of Shanghai, with well over a million population, is the New York of China. It is the great port of foreign trade. Geographically it lies in the province of Kiangsu. It is commanded by Gen. Ho Feng-lin, the defense commissioner. To the southward of the province of Kiangsu and the city of Shanghai lies the important province of Chekiang. Its military governor is Gen. Lu Yung-shiang. Although the city is outside his province he claims control over Shanghai. The defense commissioner is friendly to him and admits his claim.

Likened to New York's seizure. The situation may be put into American terms as follows: New York city lies in New York state. Connecticut is just over the border. The governor of Connecticut claims the right to rule and tax New York city. The mayor of New York city is willing to side with the governor of Connecticut. The governor of New York decides he will, by force, take charge of the city and oust the mayor.

That is the immediate situation, but what makes the situation one of world importance is that larger factors are entering. Marshal Tsoo Kun is president of China with his capital at the ancient Imperial city of Peking. His greatest general is Marshal Wu Pei Fu who, in reality, is the stronger man of the two and dominates the president. These two are taking the side of the governor of Kiangsu who is attempting to take Shanghai. This might be compared to the president of the United States taking the side of the governor of New York in the imaginary American case being used as a parallel.

But China occupies a position now somewhat similar to that in this country at the time of the Civil war. South China has seceded from the rest of the country and has set up the South China republic, with Dr. Sun Yat Sen at its head. He makes his capital at the great city of Canton. He has taken sides with the defense commissioner of Shanghai and the governor of Chekiang. This may be compared to the president of the southern Confederacy at the time of the Civil war taking sides with the governor of Connecticut in the imaginary American comparison.

Now, in addition, there is far to the north the great Marshal Chang, the dictator of Manchuria and eastern Mongolia. He has taken the side of the governor of Chekiang. This might be compared to the governor of Michigan, in our imaginary case, joining with the governor of Connecticut. So there exists the alignment: President Tsoo Kun, Marshal Wu Pei Fu and Governor Chi of Kiangsu on one side with President Sun Yat Sen, Marshal Chang, Governor Lu and the defense commissioner of Shanghai, Ho, on the other.

General Believed a Traitor. There is another highly interesting military factor. General Feng is commander of the garrison of Peking. While nominally under President Tsoo and Marshal Wu he is strongly suspected of having sympathies with the other side. At any moment he may throw his strength to it.

From 800,000 to 1,000,000 men are likely to participate in this war. The North China side apparently has the superiority in numbers. Marshal Wu Pei Fu, it is estimated, commands 880,000 men. General Feng, supposedly his ally, has 30,000, and General Chi somewhere near 100,000; Marshal Chang has about 150,000; Doctor Sun, 130,000; Governor Lu about 50,000, and the Shanghai commissioner a garrison of some thousands.

Blasphemers' Fines Pay for British Clubhouse
Durham, England.—Fines collected from blasphemers have paid for a handsome clubhouse opening recently at Newbrancepeth, a Durham colliery village.

The club was first suggested at a dance, where some men's "language" caused offense to a group of miners, who agreed, there and then, to stop swearing and to fine themselves if they broke their promise.

They formed the nonswearing club to receive the fines, and, strange to relate, new members were added with surprising rapidity. Everybody kept a sharp ear out for blasphemers, who were called upon frequently to pay fines, and the infant club's exchequer soon waxed prosperous.

Notice today how you, yourself, watch another person's teeth when he or she is talking. If the teeth are liable. Listerine Tooth Paste cleans teeth a new way. As fast as chemists have discovered polishing ingredients that really clean without scratching the enamel—this dental problem finally solved. A large tube of Listerine Tooth Paste is only 25 cents; at your drug-gist's.—Lombert Pharmaceutical Co., Saint Louis, U. S. A.

CHINA'S FIGHTS MAY OPEN TERRIBLE WAR

Sleeping Giant Is Believed to Be Awakening.

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