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## DOWAGER CALLS IMPERIAL CLAN

Manchu Princes Will Discuss Proposals for Republic Sent by Conference at Shanghai.

## PREMIER MAY RESIGN SOON

Some Factions Profess to Doubt Loyalty of Yuan Shih Kai.

## COURT WILL GIVE UP THE FIGHT

Advisers of Throne Realize Resistance Will Be Fruiteless.

## MIGHT HOLD FEW PROVINCES

Without Foreign Loan, Which is Impossible to Get, Sections in Revolt Could Not Be Conquered.

PEKING, Dec. 27.—The empress dowager, Yu Ho La, has summoned the leading princes of the imperial clan to meet Premier Yuan Shih Kai to discuss the proposal made at the Shanghai conference.

It is considered not improbable that Yuan Shih Kai will endeavor shortly to withdraw from active politics in which case the power of the Manchus will not last many weeks.

The attitude of the imperial delegates to the Shanghai peace conference, coupled with the discontent with certain Manchu factions which profess to doubt the loyalty of Yuan Shih Kai, are the motives given for the possible retirement of the premier.

Representative members of the imperial court, according to information from an authoritative source, have signified to Premier Yuan Shih Kai their willingness to agree to an abdication. The court, the same authority states, realizes that there is no hope for it in the retention of three or four detached sections of the country and semi-loyal provinces, and hopes to obtain better terms by agreeing to the proposed referendum on the question of the form of government.

Yuan Shih Kai fully realizes that the republican spokesmen gathered at the peace conference at Shanghai are not likely to accept his proposition for a carefully elected assembly representing the entire empire. He is of the opinion that the republicans know the throne will favor his (Yuan Shih Kai's) plan.

The premier is certain that he could win several battles with the modern army at his disposal, which is being equipped and is greatly superior to the rebel forces, but as he is unable to obtain any loans he would be unable to re-conquer the lost provinces.

Yuan Shih Kai will probably resign his office after making the best terms possible for the throne.

Yuan Shih Kai regrets what he considers to be Tant-Shao Yai's desertion. He suggests that Tang-Shao Yai might become president of the republic, which is an office he himself would not accept.

Yuan Shih Kai also regrets that foreign nations have withheld their financial support with the help of which he could have re-conquered the country.

## WILL ELECT PRESIDENT TODAY.

SHANGHAI, Dec. 27.—It is reported that the delegates of the eighteen provinces of China proper intend to meet at Nanking on December 28 to elect Dr. Sun Yat Sen as president of the provisional government of the United Provinces.

An informal meeting between Wu Ting-fang and Tang Shao Yai, the leaders of the revolutionaries and imperialists respectively, at the peace conference took place today, when Yuan Shih Kai's proposal to submit the future form of government of China to a special national assembly was considered. There is reason to believe that while in principle the revolutionaries agree to this proposal, they are not ready to consent to the delay that Yuan Shih Kai urges because they fear that the imperialists will take the opportunity to strengthen their forces and finances.

**FIREMAN THROWS OUT HOT COALS.** YANKTON, S. D., Dec. 27.—(Special)—Miss Sarah Loffler of Beresford, attending school here, was very seriously burned in the face yesterday by passing an engine at the Milwaukee yards just as a fireman threw out a shovel of red hot coals from an engine. The glowing coals struck Miss Loffler full in the face and permanent scarring is feared.

## The Weather

For Nebraska—Rising temperature. For Iowa—Fair and not so cold.

## Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.

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