

Will United States Go to War with Japan ?

At the present time, many of the world's ablest diplomatists are busily engaged in finding solutions to the many problems which are hindering the financial and social progress of the world. No doubt, in due time these problems will be solved, the world will emerge from its shackles, and through the peace and concord of its nations, again be launched into a new era of prosperity. Nevertheless, we Canadians, with due regard to our sister country, United States, should be keenly interested in the great problem of the Far East.

It is our opinion that war between United States and Japan is inevitable. Whether the outburst will happen in a few weeks, or months, or even years, we do not know; but we do know that Japan is ready for war and is provoking it, while United States is not prepared and wishes to avoid war.

In order to discuss chronologically the causes that might lead to such a struggle, we must begin with the year 1917.

On November 2nd of that year, Secretary of State Lansing signed an agreement according to which United States acknowledged some special interests of Japan in China. Baron Motono, Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs, realizing some future misunderstanding in the interpretation of this agreement, stated that he did not feel in a position to press the Japanese point of view until such time as Japan should have the power to dictate her own interpretation. These words explain the attitude of Japanese diplomacy in the Manchurian question of today. There is no doubt that Japan considers herself prepared for war with United States and is acting accordingly, for, when she was questioned by other nations concerning the Shanghai episode, what was her answer? "For every European or American soldier we have four ready at hand."

Since war with Japan is inevitable the great question in America today is,—shall it be now or later? "

In "A memorandum of Practical Politics" submitted to the Emperor of Japan during January 1932, are to be found the plans of Japan for world supremacy. The first step in the subjection of Manchuria, to be followed

by the conquest of China, India, Asia, United States, the Pacific, and ultimately of the whole world.

Such dreams may seem absurd. We might ask ourselves how could a country so small as Japan conquer such large countries as China and India. Rome and Macedonia were small. Witness their conquests! Japan is at present in a position to conquer all of Asia, and if she does so, according to her plans her attentions will then be directed towards America.

Now, on the other hand, the Soviets regard America as their main enemy, because America will never allow the natural right of property to be replaced by Communism. Consequently, having in America a common enemy has united the interests of Japan and the Soviets. Stalin, an Asiatic of whom we have read much, had from his boyhood years an intense hatred of Europe and United States, which he claimed were exploiting his native country. He then turned to Socialism as a means of overthrowing the culture of the world, but especially of Russia. Having ruined Russia, he thought to use Communism as a means of engendering hostile relations between Asia and Europe. Here he encountered the indirect influence of American Capitalism which prevented the spread of Communism in Asia and consequently a world-wide revolution. Thus was intensified his hatred of America, and thus were united the interests of the Soviets and Japan.

At the present time the Americans may be misjudging the strength of Japan as did the Russians during the years immediately preceding 1904. Due to the natural cunning and secrecy of the Japanese, the Russians were not aware of the extensive preparations that Japan was making, the development of an immense army and navy, until it was too late. Also too late they realized how well informed were the Japanese concerning the extent of Russian preparations, of the political degradation, and the work of Russian radicals. Japan may be ready today to give the same surprise to America.

During the Russo-Japanese War England was friendly with Japan, but United States remained neutral. Japan feared that her growing power might be realized by United States, so, in order to prevent or minimize any possible help that United States might give Russia, she resorted to spreading Anti-Russian propaganda throughout America. It was not until after the war that America fully realized how badly she had been duped.

The question now is—if war be the issue, will America have an ally in Great Britain? If Germany had known that Great Britain would enter the World War, would she have been so precipitous in provoking war? If Japan fears that America will have an ally in Great Britain, will she attack America? In case of war, Germany will supply Japan with ammunition, and the Soviets will transport it via the Trans-Siberian railway. Thus, while apparently remaining neutral, the Germans and the Soviets will be actually aiding Japan. Can America overcome Japan single-handed? The public conviction today is that she certainly can. If war be the issue, she will not be able to conquer Japan by main force of arms, but she will eventually exhaust her. It will be a cruel war, and it is sad to think that our hopes since 1918 have been shattered,—hopes that the nations would settle further disagreements by arbitration rather than war,—a useless strife which takes its toll of millions and leave the countries engaged weltering in bloodshed and in the throes of depression.

Every day we read new tales of Japanese terrorism and cruelty in Shanghai and Manchuria. Should not some powerful nation such as Great Britain or United States step in and aid China? But consider! China has been corrupted by Russian Communism. Germany and the Communists are controlling Russia. America can never offer herself as an ally to the Communists. The sympathies of the Russian peoples are with those who are against the Soviets. Japan is using the Communistic propaganda and the Soviets but is at the same time showing her hatred of the U. S. S. R. She has the sympathy of the White Russians among whom she is spreading her propaganda. She is doing this in order to win the sympathy of the oppressed population, of which the White Russians are the spokesmen.

Nevertheless Russia realizes that Japan is her natural enemy, whereas America is her friend. Russia has never carried out any propaganda against America. Moreover, America does not recognize the Russian Socialistic Government which is the oppressor of the people's natural rights.

Only in the advent of an alliance between America and a Nationalistic Russia, would Japan sense her danger, and only thus can war between American and Japan be

avoided. Deliver Russia from her oppressors, and she will be a faithful ally of America forever. Then will Japan withdraw to the seclusion of her isles in the Orient, then will peace be restored, and only then will the equilibrium of the international and political balance of the world be on the road to restoration.

—J. W. H., '33.



Hang sorrow ! care will kill a cat.
And therefore let's be merry.

—George Wither.

So, naturalists observe, a flea
Has smaller fleas that on him prey;
And these have smaller still to bite 'em;
And so proceed ad infinitum.

—Swift.

A man that blushes is not quite a brute.—Young.

To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual
means of preserving peace.—Washington.

