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POLITICS OF CHINA IN STATE OF TURMOIL

LACK SENSE OF LOYALTY

Province is Highest Political Authority Recognized. Government at Peking is Bankrupt

a foreigner to understand.

the truth than to suppose that the and in others even the salt tax is civilization nearly 3,000 years ago. government is organized and adminis- diverted for provincial uses and the "I am sending you under separate tered by the people and for the peo- Peking government which still supknow under what sort of a government they are living, and what is they are undisturbed in their ordinary occupations.

The Chinese people have many adrecorded history the nation has seldom been at peace, and only for brief periods have the eighteen provinces been united under a single ruler, and yet them for self government and renotwithstanding all these wars and revolutions the peaceful, orderly life publican institutions. of the people has gone on without What the outcome of the present President Scott has given it a place serious interruption. If it were not chaos is to be no one can predict, of honor in his office in University for this fact the present state of con- The thing that is most urgently need- Hall, Evanston. fusion would seem more desperate ed today is the disbanding of troops than it really it.

ese people is that they have no sense of nationality, they do not think in the control now exercised over the peasant is passionately loyal to the al service. This would effectually terms of the whole. Every Japanese lacking in this sense of national pride cal one is in the nature of things pos- Mr. Adams' official appointment came and loyalty, few of them know and sible, but since China is dependent from Washington last Thursday. fewer care what goes on in Peking, upon foreign loans for the developthe important things are those which ment of its national resources such ception and smoker at his home to affect their own little circle of in- a measure would be effective.

of Chinese society, if a man commits at Washington are demanding, a crime he involves his whole family would probably compel the withdrawin the consequences and so the whole al of every foreign corporation from family is responsible for the individ- business in China. ual. Every family has its patriarch and every village its head man, and Changsha, Dec. 6, 1921. over every patriarchal group is a magistrate who in turn is subject to Germany is working with all her generally only nominally, is subject to central authority. The province as matter of fact, is the largest political unit which the common man recognizes and he is very little concerned in what goes on outside its boundary. It is quite natural this should be so in a country so vast as China, where the means of communication have been so difficult, the natural barriers so formidable and racial and linguistic differences so marked.

The province of Hunan in which we are at present living has always been a distinct unit in the empire and some years ago it declared its independence. It pays no taxes to Peking and it is ruled by General Chao-Heng-Ti, who is both civil and military governor, he levies taxes and exactions quite regardless of the modern provincial assembly which makes admirable laws but is powerless to enforce them, he has relations offensive or defensive with neighboring barons with whom he is waging war or with whom he is in alliance. Changsha, the capital is under military rule and its merchants have been compelled to contribute such large sums for military expenses that they are all on the verge of bankruptcy. Notwithstanding all this the troops are seldom paid and are almost always ready for mutiny, in fact at the present time there is a serious mutiny in the central part of the prov-

That the people as a whole are peaceful and orderly is evidenced by the fact that in Chinese cities and villages there has never been, unless in very recent times, such a thing as a municipal code of law, in fact the only Chinese code is that which treats of crime. In the conduct of their ordinary affairs the people are governed by their immemorial tradition and by their native sense of justice and fair play. They allow every magistrate and official a moderate amount of squeeze and they are all as greedy as the daughters of the horse-leech, but when their patience is finally exhausted the rebel and that is the

The government at Peking is bankrupt' and tottering to its fall, it would not have lasted as long as it has were it not for the fact that it is the only government which is recognized by the foreign powers and through which foreign loans can be negotiated. The real authority in the north is divided between Chang-Tso-lin in the war lord of Manchuria, an ex-bandit, perhaps I ought to leave out the ex, who is said to be hand and glove with the Japanese, and Wu-Pei-fu, a military leader of the old school said to be personally an honest man but surrounded by a hungry and avaricious band of satellites who grind the people for their own profit. When the present Peking government dies of ination and the end is not far off, one or the other of these leaders will probably become dictator.

Although the government is bankrupt and without money to pay the

police force or to keep schools open, NORTHWESTERN HEAD GETS ANCIENT VASE yet China is a rich country and its revenues if honestly administered

The great national sources of rev- Alumnus Sends President Walter Dill Scott Relic Evacuatenue in the order of their importance are the land tax, the salt revenue, the ed Near Bierut, Syria customs duties, the likin, or internal

revenue on goods in transit and the tax on wines and tobacco. The land A vase at least 2,500 years old has taxes in most places has been collect- come to Evanston from far-off Syria ed for a year or more in advance and from an alumnus of Northwestern squandered for military purposes. University, who sent the relic as a The salt revenue and the customs are New Year's gift to President Walter honestly administered under foreign Dill Scott. The alumnus is Charles supervision, but they were long ago I. Graham, a graduate of Liberal The political situation in China at indemnities and yield but little sur- a resident of Beirut. In a letter the present time is one of great con- plus for current governmental ex- which reached President Scott a few fusion and distress which is hard for penses, the other taxes are not under days before the vase arrived, Mr. foreigner to understand.

China is a republic in name only, atically looted by the Tuchuns or evacuated from an ancient Phoenician and nothing could be further from military satraps. In this province grave and represents the art of the

cover by parcel post," wrote Mr. Grsple as in our own country. I doubt ervises its collection is powerless to ham, "a sample of old Phoenician people who know in whose hands the supreme authority is vested, who tion in China at the political situasupreme authority is vested, who tion in China at the present time. in excavating, they accidentally open There is a government at Canton up old graves of the Phoenicans. which exercises jurisdiction over a Most of the coast cities along here more, few of them care so long as limited district in the south and is were old Phoenician towns, such as under the direction of Sun-Yat-Sen Sidon, Tyre and Acre and date back and Chen-Chung-ming, governor of 2,400 or 2,500 years. This vase, in progressives and idealists who are all likelihood, is at least 2,500 years mirable qualities, they are industrious backed by the student body who have old. The iridescense of the vase is frugal and peace-loving, and yet in imbibed foreign ideas and are deteral a product of the particular soil in mined to introduce them into China, which it was buried, acting upon the but it will be a long time before glass."

these ideas permeate the mass of The vase is about six inches high renders the vase very attractive.

The primary trouble with the Chin- lection and expenditure of the reven- ADAMS WINNETKA'S NEW POSTMASTER

customs, the salt gabelle and the post-Elmer E. Adams, Winnetka postempire and would gladly give his life curb the greedy bandits who now master during the Taft administrafor the honor of the Emperor, not so keep the country in an uproar. No tion, resumed his duties at the Winthe Chinese, they are almost wholly foreign intervention other than a fis- netka post office Monday morning.

Last week Mr. Adams gave a rethe employes of the post office at which time suggestions were invited The family and the clan is the basis toriality, which the Chinese delegates that would result in improved post-

> Many men have secretaries, but how many really have private secre-

Twelve thousand legal executions higher powers up to the governor of might to spend money so fast that the province, who nominally, but she can't pay her reparation install-

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