

ROW OVER CHINA RAILROAD REOPENED

White and Red Russian, French, Chinese and Jap are all involved.

Jeking, Dec. 3.—The first round of the international railway struggle has begun with the convening of the board of directors of the Chinese Eastern Railway. The claimants to ownership are "White" Russia, backed by France, the Soviet and the independent Chang Tso-lin backed by Japan. The principal referee is an American, John F. Stevens, who, as chief of the Interallied Technical Board, has fought desperately to secure fair play and the honest utilization of the railroad revenue. The stake is the controlling link between the Far East and Europe and, incidentally, the main artery to Russia.

First fruits have thus far been borne off by the "White" Russian group, who, by virtue of a managing director appointed by them and a Chinese president whom they managed to place on the pedestal without power, now control the railway administration and funds. They have also strengthened their position by making a through traffic agreement with the Japanese roads whereby Dairen secures preferential rates, which, it is believed, will eliminate other Northern Chinese and Siberian ports, including Vladivostok.

This was bitterly opposed by the Soviet, as well as by China. Stevens virtually accused the directors of selling out to Japan for the latter's political support. He also attacked the policy of the managing director, Oustroumoff, as wasteful and deliberately detrimental to the best interests of the road. It is openly alleged that Oustroumoff received a fee of 300,000 yen from Japan for negotiating the traffic agreement.

The line has been a source of continual intrigue since its construction and, while strategically located, has been run at a loss, due to the absorbing political interests which are attached. The means by which the "White" Russians have kept control, although deprived of both financial and government support, is in itself an amazing history of acrobatic diplomatic intrigue.

The original purpose of the road was to promote the Russian economic invasion of the East. Construction was begun in 1896, when a concession was wrung from the Chinese government. The Trans-Siberian railroad was extended thereby southeast to

Porth Arthur and northeast to Vladivostok. The stock of the company was held by the Russo-Asiatic bank, but the money was advanced by the Russian government, which took in return debenture bonds and reserved a certain interest in the management.

After the Russo-Japanese war Japan secured the southern half of the line and has since then always looked with greedy eyes upon the remaining half. Inasmuch as the line also provides for the policing of the areas traversed, for the public utilities of most of the cities touched, and, in addition, maintains schools and special settlement its ownership amounts practically to the possession of an important part of Siberia, including many thousand squares miles of rich territory.

The Russian collapse in 1917 gave Japan her chance, but she was blocked by the Interallied Technical Board, which was created for the purpose of maintaining the Russian railroads. Its activity unfortunately was limited to the Chinese Eastern railroad. John F. Stevens, the American engineer, was made chairman of the board, while Japan, being only one of several members, lost her coveted control.

In 1920, with the rise of the Soviets, China claimed the right to all Russian properties within her territory and proceeded to take over the Chinese Eastern Railroad. But the stock was held by the Russo-Asiatic Bank, whose headquarters had been moved to Paris and whose stock is now 60 per cent French owned. Thus France stood China off, and there was a compromise which ceded half of the control to China. With the Technical Board under Stevens still active and a complicated array of claims and counter-claims arising out of troop transportation charges, unpaid concession privileges, the situation became and is chaotic.

But the Russians have taken the aggressive and have held the whip hand by keeping in their managing director, Oustroumoff, and by isolating the Chinese president, Dr. C. C. Wang, in the audit board, where he has much "face" and no power.

China, however, wants the road and means to have it. She is determinedly challenging the power of the "White" Russians.

The Quinine That Does Not Affect the Head
Because of its tonic and laxative effect, LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE (Tablets) can be taken by anyone without causing nervousness or ringing in the head. E. W. GROVE'S signature on box. 20c.

GREENWOOD MAN BUYS LOTS OF MILK GOATS

Dr. J. W. Payne Says He Has the Best Toggenburgs East of the Rocky Mountains.

Index-Journal.

Dr. J. W. Payne of Epworth, Greenwood county milk goat breeder, has just received by express, ten very fine pure bred registered Swiss Toggenburg milk goats from one of the most prominent breeders in California, the state in which two-thirds of all the milk goats in America are found. These goats are from some of the best stock of America, some of them being descendants of world record animals, and related to a part of the famous herd of 72 head bought last spring by a group of Chicago millionaires for \$24,945.00. Dr. Payne values this lot of does at from \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00 and the express charges on them from San Francisco were \$235.00. They were in transit seven or eight days, but seemed to be in splendid condition after such a long journey. This shipment with what he already had on hand, makes the Greenwood county breeder's herd the finest and largest herd of pure bred registered Swiss Toggenburgs southeast of the Rocky Mountains, it is believed.

Dr. Payne has done much to introduce these valuable animals in this section of the country where they have been so little known and as a result, the masses are being educated as to the real value of their milk as an ideal food for babies, invalids, convalescents, old people who are ill nourished, tubercular and pellagra patients, as well as those who wish to stay well. "This milk is the most perfectly balanced easily digested and assimilated food known is being far richer in iron, calcium, phosphates and vitamins than that of the cow," Dr. Payne says, "and one of the most important features to be considered is, the fact that the Swiss milk goat is the cleanest and healthiest domestic animal in the world and immune from the dreaded disease, tuberculosis."

"They are thoroughly domesticated, very affectionate, fond of children, make the nicest kind of pets, and can be kept on a city or village lot to supply a family with this superior milk at a very nominal cost," declares Dr. Payne, "and while the price may at first seem prohibitive, after one owns one awhile and becomes thoroughly attached to her and knows the real value of her milk, the price doesn't seem to be bad after all." He and his

family use the milk altogether in preference to cow's milk, and he states that his goats would be priceless if he could not buy any more, as he never expects to be without a real milk goat as long as he lives.

He expects an exceptionally fine crop of spring kids from his herd. He is also flooded with calls for stock from people in all neighboring states as well as a few from the Northwest.

While Dr. Payne at first intended to breed purebred only, he is now preparing to raise grades to supply the demand for utility stock at moderate prices.

Visitors are always welcome at Dr. Payne's goat farm, which is located about ten miles south of Greenwood and he takes pleasure in showing his herd, as well as answering any questions one may ask concerning it.

TEAGUE REUNION

A happy occasion on Thanksgiving Day was the reunion of the descendants of the late Mr. and Mrs. G. W. L. Teague, held at the hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. G. Y. Hellams, near Barksdale.

A bountiful dinner was spread on the long table in the dining room, consisting of hash, Irish potatoes, turkey, dressing, gravy, cranberries, pickles, fruit salad, macaroni-pie loaf bread, coffee, custards, cake and everything that is needed to complete a Thanksgiving dinner.

Those present were Mr. and Mrs. G. Y. Hellams and family, Mrs. J. J. Graff, Camp Eustis, Va., Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Teague and family of Woodruff, Mr. and Mrs. G. O. Teague and family

of Laurens, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Teague and family of Laurens and Mr. and Mrs. Pat Todd, of Barksdale.

After doing justice to the laden table, the crowd lingered until late in the afternoon in pleasant conversation and joking. The only thing to mar the happiness of the occasion was the absence of some of the relatives.

We hope to have many more such happy reunions and that all the families will be present.

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OF LAURENS

Going Out of Business Sale Closes Saturday Night, Dec. 9th

This week is your last chance to buy good, dependable winter merchandise at the ridiculously low prices we have marked our goods to close out this stock. If you have not already taken advantage of this sale to supply your winter needs it will pay you to leave your business and come and buy everything you are going to need in men's and boys' wearables for the next six months to come. All unsold goods will be moved to our Greenwood store as early next week as they can be packed up.

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

WILL BE BIG DAYS

Let Nothing Keep You From Attending These Last Closing Days

WE WISH TO THANK the good people of Laurens and adjoining counties for their liberal patronage during the three years we have operated our store in Laurens, and wish circumstances were such that we could remain here.

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