

Chiang's Gov't Nears Desperation

By JOHN RODERICK

SHANGHAI — China's deteriorating military-economic situation is reaching a point where neither United States money nor arms will have much bearing on the struggle with the Communists, a survey of foreign neutral opinion in widely-separated Chinese centres reveal.

Attempting to find the answers to questions often raised both here and in Washington, Associated Press correspondents in China have questioned neutral residents on whether the present Nanking government faces collapse, whether American aid can save it, and, if so, how much aid would be required.

The general Shanghai reaction is summarized best in the words of one foreign business man: **NO STABILITY UNTIL BASIC CAUSES ATTACKED**

"The Nanking government probably will be able to hold on for many more months to come. Whether American aid is given or not, it will affect this condition very little. However, sta-

bility never will be realized, either by this government or a future one, unless the basic causes of instability are attacked. These find their roots in civil war-shattered communications, millions of dollars wasted on the military budget, and speculation."

From China's capital, Correspondent Harold K. Milks reported:

"The opinion here includes little expectation of a government collapse but rather a gradual loss of power and control over a period of the next year or more. There is general agreement that the situation is rapidly reaching a stage where American assistance in any practicable amount will not solve the situation, but will merely bolster the administration temporarily.

"The belief is growing among informed sources that the time is nearing when the possibility of military settlement of the Communist problem will be definitely past, with or without American assistance, with the only remaining recourse a political compromise giving the Communists equality in the government or new, uncontrolled elections on such a broad basis that the Communists and other leftists would be willing to participate.

"Most sources say any esti-

mate of dollars required to solve the China problem would be a foolish guess."

NOT ENOUGH MONEY TO RESCUE GOVERNMENT

From North China, Correspondent Joseph Burke reported:

"Peiping opinion questions whether there is enough money in the world to pull the government out of the hole far enough to save it for any length of time.

"Lack of reforms, corruption, failure to pay public servants a living wage, economic exchange, import-export restrictions, lack of land reforms are deemed more pertinent than military reasons for the government's position."

In Hong Kong, Correspondent Wayne Richardson sampled opinion in South China and reports:

"Foreign and neutral Chinese opinion generally is agreed that the Chinese government is in danger of collapse in the near future, equally due to military and economic reasons.

"American aid could save China but it would take at least \$500,000,000. Less would do little if any good.

"Supervision of expenditure of any loan seems advisable but poses a delicate diplomatic problem, as Russia might swing openly to support of the Chi-

R. J. COLLISON HEADS GUN CLUB

SMITHERS — Members of Smithers and District Rod and Gun Club have elected R. J. Collison president, chosen Dick Heggie as vice-president and named W. J. Watson secretary-treasurer.

The organization will urge the British Columbia Game Department to provide a bounty of \$5 on coyotes, the year round, and also to pay a hunter to destroy predatory animals now depleting wild game and stock in the district.

A shipment of 60,000 trout eggs will be asked for the hatchery at Lake Kathlyn.

BACK IN ST. PAUL'S

LONDON — Christopher Wren's model of St. Paul's Cathedral, approved by King Charles II in 1670, returned to its pre-war place in St. Paul's Cathedral after wartime "evacuation."

NEW YORK RECRUITS

British occupation forces during the American Revolution recruited almost 25,000 servicemen from New York.

nese Communists in the event of substantial American aid to the Nationalists."

No Eels on Pacific Seaboard? Sez You!

Elizabeth M. Whitlow of Vancouver, in a recent issue of Maclean's, asserts that Placide Labelle is dead wrong in maintaining there are no eels on Canada's Pacific seaboard. He lives in Eastern Canada. Says Mrs. Whitlow: "I would like to say that I have seen eels which were caught in Lakelse Lake, the outlet of which is the Lakelse River, a tributary of the Skeena River which flows into the Pacific near Prince Rupert. I sampled some of the eels made into a dish called eel pie. It was very good."

BRADWELL, Essex, Eng. — A layer of oyster shells discovered during excavations has revealed that an oyster fishery operated here during the 12th and 13th centuries.

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RETIRE AFTER NEXT FIGHT—The scars of battle have disappeared. Heavyweight Champion Joe Louis came out to meet the press. He is shown with Sol Strauss in New York. The latter is showing the champ the famous photo, by remote control, which shows the champ with his pants on the ground when Jersey Joe Walcott seemed to draw the heavyweight crown in his grasp. Louis said that win or draw, he'll quit the ring after the return bout with Wal-

SPUD CHANDLER NAMED AS BEST PITCHER

CHICAGO (AP)—Spud Chandler, 35-year-old New York Yankee, was officially named as the American Baseball League's most effective pitcher of the 1947 season, which was a hitting rather than a pitching campaign.

Despite a siege of arm misadventure which kept him inactive for much of the term, Chandler topped the circuit in the earned-run average department with his work was based on 123 innings during which he won and lost five.

Chicago's Joe Hayns in a span of 22 frames posted a 2.42 for a record but was not qualified since he failed to pitch 10 or more full games.

Philadelphia's Bob Feller was the 20-game winner, compared with five moundsmen who pitched or bettered that mark.

Philadelphia's Feller was rocked for 645 percentage points placed him sixth in that category. Frank Shea, New York, led the percentages with 14 wins and five defeats.

Chandler was second to Chandler in earned runs by limiting his teams to 2.68 per game. He was followed by Ed Lopat of Chicago and Dick Foler of Philadelphia with 2.81 apiece.

Newhouse of Detroit, who pitched to 2.87 after topping the junior circuit the previous seasons; Joe Dobson, Boston; Shea, 3.07; Walt Masar, Washington, 3.13, and Reynolds, New York, 3.20.

Chandler-Shea-Reynolds line gave the world champion Yankees the circuits team with 3.39.

In addition to winning the games, Feller topped the circuit in strikeouts with 196 and twirled the most innings.

Following Shea in won-lost percentages among pitchers pitching 10 or more games Reynolds with a 19-8 for; Dobson with 18-8 for; Marchildon, Philadelphia, 17-9; and Bill McCahan, Philadelphia, 10-5, .667.

BASEBALL LEAGUE TO ADOPT FIVE-PIN TOURNAMENT BOWLING RULES

Prince Rupert's mixed bowling club plans to operate under the rules of the Greater Vancouver Five-Pin Association after New Year, thus becoming the first league in the city to be under recognized tournament procedure.

According to Al Matheson, the secretary, the mixed group will adopt the Vancouver rules handbook for scoring, tapping and foul-line play. The rules are inter-ally accepted.

So things up properly, the club has made application for membership in the Greater Vancouver Five-Pin Association, but whether or not it is accepted, members will play according to tournament rules after Janu-ary, according to Mr. Mathe-

SELLING NAVAL TIMEPIECES
MONTREAL—Navy chronometers, precision portable timepieces, are offered to the trade by War Assets Corporation in branch offices at Halifax, N.S., and Vancouver. The chronometers are the 8-day winding type and although known as watches in shipping circles, suggest a clock to the layman because of their 3 1/2-inches diameter.

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Why "Bill 39"

IS LABOR'S BILL OF RIGHTS

NO ONE THINKS WE SHOULD GO BACK TO "SHOW-OF-HANDS" VOTE IN POLITICAL ELECTIONS

The old days of open voting in public politics are long since past. But many thousands of employees in British Columbia have seen strike votes taken which affected them directly but gave them no chance of expressing their wishes secretly as in political elections.

British Columbia's Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, 1947, (commonly known as 'Bill 39') brings our labor laws up to date. It gives employees the right to a government-supervised secret ballot to determine their actual wishes before a strike can legally be called in their name.

What's wrong with that?

Yet certain labor leaders have raised an outcry against granting employees rights which have been an accepted part of voting procedure in every kind of political referendum for generations.

Note: "Bill 39" is not perfect legislation. No one claims it is. Where necessary it can be improved by orderly and democratic action in the legislature. The public approves its basic provisions.

WHY SHOULD ANYONE OPPOSE THE SECRET BALLOT?

COMMITTEE FOR INDUSTRIAL PROGRESS

(Representing industrial and commercial organizations in B.C. having a stake in industrial peace and progress along with the 225,000 men and women on their payrolls.)

net Hull has been appointed line judge.