

NEWS FROM PAO-T'OU HEADQUARTERS

On April 8th NORIN arrived in Peking. Everything in Pao-t'ou was quiet; the military authorities were aloof, the civil authorities obliging and polite. FENG YÜ-HSIANG was said to have troops at Wu-yüan, to the west of Pao-t'ou. It was expected that a front line would be drawn over Ta-t'ung; I was still in danger of being cut off from the expedition, which might have entailed the most undesirable complications.

Also LARSON visited me to ask if he might not move the head-quarters northwards from Pao-t'ou to Inner Mongolia, where the camels were to be purchased. I had to adjure him to patience, however, till everything was settled in Peking.

ARRIVAL OF ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS

ROY CHAPMAN ANDREWS had just returned from America to Peking. He lived in the delightful house that had once been the palace of a Manchu prince and afterwards the residence of Mr MORRISON, the famous *»Times»* correspondent. ANDREWS and I were no strangers to each other — we knew each other through the travel-books we had published. From now on we became close friends. Speaking of the obstacles that had been put in our way by the Chinese nationalists, ANDREWS remarked: *»I'm afraid it is I who have spoiled your prospects.»* I assured him that if one of us had complicated things for the other it was certainly myself. But in reality we were in the same boat, for the agitation against foreigners hit us both equally hard and would undoubtedly meet all travellers from the West for some time to come.

ANDREWS offered to sell me sixty-five of his camels, that were grazing at Tabun-ul (Tabu-ol) north of Kalgan. He did not need them himself, as he had decided to lie low for the time and not undertake any new campaign that year. He thus did me a great and valuable service, firstly because the camel question was one of our most urgent problems, and secondly by diminishing the amount of silver that I would have to take to Mongolia.

NEW RUMOURS

The following day we were told that from some obscure, unknown source it had come to the ears of General YANG YÜ-TING, the marshal's chief-of-staff, that there were Bolsheviki among my party and that the expedition was in reality something other than it pretended to be. The general had instructed WANG YIN-T'AI to investigate the matter, afterwards explaining that if the Swedish