

Minister would guarantee that there were no Bolsheviks among us the accusation would lose all force. General YANG nevertheless required detailed particulars concerning all the German members of the expedition.

FURTHER CONFERENCES WITH THE CHINESE

In Peking things seemed to be brightening somewhat. I received a polite note from the opposition, couched in the friendliest terms, in which they declared that they would be content if I took ten Chinese scientists and students with me. Professors LIU FU and SIU PING-CH'ANG sent me clippings from »Huang Pao» (The Yellow Newspaper) and »Yin Shih Pao» (The Newspaper for Social Problems), where in kindly written articles it was explained that the expedition might be useful to the Sinkiang authorities and that its aims were just and loyal. Here was a splendid piece of evidence of the importance of intimate collaboration with the Chinese.

On a visit to Professor SIU PING-CH'ANG I reminded him of the promise that had been made me at the meeting of April 2nd concerning a written guarantee that duplicate sets of our finds should be reserved for Sweden. He explained that this had been found impossible, but that I could rely upon the opposition's word of honour in the matter.

Dr WONG WEN-HAO told me that SIU PING-CH'ANG would probably be my co-director, as he was the dean of the university. He would be one of the four Chinese scientists. This choice was rather curious, for he was professor of history and philosophy, two subjects which had little enough to do with a scientific expedition like ours. Dr WONG advised me to sign the contract that would be submitted for my approval without hesitation, for any remaining points of difference could be resolved as they came up in the course of the journey.

RESIGNATION OF MAJOR DEWALL

On April 10th Major V. DEWALL, who suffered from diabetes, asked to be allowed to resign. Unlike the rest of us, he had been unable to take out a life insurance, and as he had a family he was unwilling to expose himself to the risks of a long journey. I was deeply sorry to lose the services of this very capable and distinguished man.

REPORT FROM PAO-T'OU

The same day I received from Major HEMPEL a report saying that the Chief of Police in Pao-t'ou had informed him that he had a telegram from the Federation to the effect that our expedition stood under official Chinese protection.