

wishes, this state of affairs will continue. The only remedy is to have Chinese officials strong enough to enforce discipline, and to have foreign professors who can feel they are strong enough to see their orders are obeyed without the risk of losing their posts. Unluckily, nothing is done, the scholars get more and more out of hand, and the foreign instructor becomes more and more an object of un pitying contempt.

Of course, the worst evil of all is corruption. This has always existed, but under the Manchus it was generally organised on fixed rules. In those days every one, excepting the highest, was underpaid, and he made up for it by recognised system of "squeeze". Sometimes new and ingenious forms of squeeze were invented by more enterprising and astute men, but generally if an official exceeded the recognised rules there was a riot, and the culprit suffered. Under the Republic, corruption has increased beyond all bounds of decency, the country has been broken up into countless factions, and each leader of a small faction has generally only thought of enriching himself. To carry out his orders each leader has had to raise soldiers, and these have at last realised their power. In many cases the leaders have committed the blunder of not paying their men, whilst thinking only of making their own fortunes. Sometimes, to remedy this, they have led their men to pillage a rich city or town to make up their arrears of pay or to keep them in a contented frame of mind. Sometimes when they found there were no such hopes, the soldiers have gone off with their rifles, driven by necessity for a means