

of the Washington conventions and loyal support of their aims and purposes all the Central American republics will find means of valuable co-operation.

[See current volume, page 900.]



The Partition of Persia.

Persia's sad effort to preserve her independence, with Russian and English "spheres of influence" hovering over her like two grim shades face to face waiting for spoil, came to a practical end when last winter the useful and successful American Treasurer-General, Mr. Morgan Shuster, was driven forth by Russian influence, backed by cosacks, against the courageous and heart-broken protests of the Persian Assembly, while England watched in silence. [See current volume, pages 37, 62, 83, 109, 206.]



During the present week Sergius Sazonoff, the Russian Foreign minister, has been in London in conference with Sir Edward Grey, British Secretary for Foreign affairs, with the future of Persia as chief topic of discussion. The Associated Press dispatches assert that the practical division of Persia between Great Britain and Russia appears almost assured. The necessity of preserving order in the interests of trade is the principal reason advanced. The Manchester Guardian, in opposing the project, says: "The Foreign office, although not ordinarily oversolicitous about trade interests, knows well how to quote them for its own ends." The dispatches of the Associated Press continue:

Since the signing of the Anglo-Russian convention of 1907 for the maintenance of Persia's independence and integrity, and incidentally for the division of the country into British and Russian spheres of influence, there has been a steady growth of this influence and a corresponding shrinkage of independence in Persia. The exact division of territory will not be easy. The Russian papers claim Teheran. If the Emperor gets the capital Great Britain's share will be decidedly the smaller value. Some of the Liberal papers bewail the disappearance of Persia as the "buffer" state and foresee a great increase in the British military establishment when the British-Russian boundary is drawn across the middle of what is now Persia.



China.

In spite of the "Six-Power" disapproval of the \$50,000,000 loan from a union of London bankers to the Chinese government, a portion of the loan has already been paid over, namely, \$2,500,000. It was stated from London on the 20th that the remainder of \$25,000,000 would be paid this year, and the second half of the loan in 1913. [See current volume, page 899.]



The China Society of America, of which Louis

Livingston Seaman is President, Andrew D. White, honorary President, and President Yuan Shi Kai of China one of the honorary Vice-Presidents, on the 22nd addressed an open letter to President Taft, appealing for prompt recognition of the new Republic of China on the part of the United States. The letter says in part:

The China Society of America, impatient of your protracted delay in formally recognizing the Republic of China—a delay that not only prevents the prosperity and development of the country but that menaces its very life by threatening the maintenance of the integrity of its territory—now appeals to you again promptly to grant the recognition its people have so honorably won. Months ago Congress passed a joint resolution without a single dissenting voice, urgently recommending the immediate recognition of the Republic. If it is not granted the friends of China must appeal to public opinion.



The Dalai Lama, the antiquated priest-ruler of Tibet, who left Lhasa after the desecration of that sacred city by British invasion in 1904, and wandered helplessly in China, finally taking refuge in Darjeeling in British India, has recently returned to Lhasa. The British government is now protesting against China's supposed intention of incorporating Tibet as a province of the Republic, on the basis of the suzerainty exercised over Tibet by the former Chinese Empire. The British government recommends that China should limit herself to advising the Tibetan government upon foreign policy through her representative at Lhasa, and British recognition of the Republic is refused until a new agreement upon the subject of Tibet shall have been drawn up between China and Great Britain. [See vol. xiii, p. 232.]

NEWS NOTES

—The 19th universal Peace Congress opened at Geneva, Switzerland, on the 23d.

—The 15th international Congress on Hygiene and Demography opened at Washington on the 23d.

—The fourth National Conservation Congress is called for October 1, 2, 3, and 4 at Indianapolis. [See vol. xiv, p. 1031.]

—Hernando DeSoto Money, United States Senator from Mississippi since 1899, died at Biloxi, Miss., on the 18th at the age of 74.

—Governor Deneen of Illinois has issued a proclamation calling for the general observance of Oct. 9th as "Fire Prevention Day."

—The National Conference of Catholic Charities, in biennial session at Washington, resolved itself into sections on the 23d, to discuss charitable work and organization.

—At the municipal election in Fairhope, Alabama, on the 16th, the Socialist candidate for Mayor, J. F. Johnson, was elected with 23 votes, the Singletax can-