

I can never learn New York dialect. Wanting to go to Chinatown, I asked a subway agent at what station to get off. "Woyt st." he replied. "White st.?" I inquired. "Woyt—Woyt st.," he insisted. My better half, being quick at analysis and knowing the stations, suggested "Worth st.," which was correct, but I was left in a state of stupid amazement.

C. F. HUNT.

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## NEWS NARRATIVE

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The figures in brackets at the ends of paragraphs refer to volumes and pages of *The Public* for earlier information on the same subject.

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Week ending Tuesday, October 24, 1911.

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### The Chinese Revolution.

The fighting before Hankow, imminent last week, after a two days' battle left the situation to the revolutionists, and by the 20th the Imperial troops were reported to be in rapid retreat northward along the railway line to Peking. The Imperial fleet of twelve warships in the Yangtse opposite Hankow and Wu-Chang, shattered by the insurgent batteries, had steamed away down the river. One vessel was sunk by its crew which deserted to the enemy. The troops which were being rushed from Peking to support the Imperial vanguard, were halted on the way, as the men refused to make front against the insurgents. A further defeat of 20,000 Imperial troops at Kwang-Shui, in the mountain passes north of Hankow on the lines of the Hankow-Peking railway, was reported on the 22d. The Peling mountains cross China from west to east between the central provinces where the revolution is rife, and the northern provinces in which the Manchus are more numerous, and where is the capital city of Peking. The revolutionists claim to control a large number of the mountain passes, and they appear to be dominant in a large part of the Yangtse valley. The Imperial government admits the loss of the important city of I-Chang, above Hankow, and of Hwangchau, fifty miles below Hankow. Changsha and Nanchang, provincial capitals, south and southeast of Hankow, respectively, were reported as being in the hands of the revolutionists on the 23d. Changsha is a city of 300,000 population, on the railroad between Hankow and Canton. Dispatches of the 23d also stated that the revolutionary spirit had spread to the northern provinces. [See current volume, page 1075.]

Early in the revolution came reports of the slaughter of Manchus—men, women and children—in Hankow and other places by mobs in sympathy with the revolution. The slaughter began

in Hankow and Wu-Chang when it was learned that Imperial troops were approaching the city. It is said that the Manchus were singled out by their pronunciation of the Chinese word for "six" which the Manchus pronounce slightly different from the Chinese. The revolutionists are requiring that all queues should be cut off. The greatest care is being taken by the revolutionists that no foreigners shall receive injury to life or property, fearing that if this should happen the foreign powers might support the Imperial government against them, or might allow Japan to interfere on the pretext of producing order.

The Chinese National Assembly (or Imperial Senate), dismissed last January, was opened for its second session on the 22d, by Prince Shih-To in place of the Prince Regent. The Prince urged the members to turn the knowledge and experience which they had gained at the first session, to account, in order to assure the well being of the nation and to give expression to the wishes of the people. No mention was made of the revolution. [See current volume, pages 61, 84, 295, 318.]

The flag of the new "Republic of China" was displayed in New York on the 22d at a public meeting of 500 Chinese held under the auspices of the New York branch of the Young China Association. It is red with a blue field similar to that of the American flag, and in place of the stars has a white sun. There also was a "Union Jack," all blue, with a white sun in the center.

### The Fight for La Follette.

Following their conference of last week at Chicago the Progressive Republicans launched the La Follette campaign within the Republican party at a mass meeting on the 17th in Orchestra Hall. The auditorium was crowded. Speeches were made by Senator Clapp of Minnesota, Senator Crawford of South Dakota, Charles E. Merriam of Illinois and George L. Record of New Jersey. State Senator Walter Clyde Jones, the Progressive Republican candidate for Governor of Illinois, who presided, gave the impersonal key note of the meeting in his demand for the Initiative and the Referendum and the election of United States Senators by direct vote of the people. Headquarters are to be opened at New York and Chicago. [See current volume, page 1077.]

### National Convention of Woman Suffragists.

In consequence of the woman suffrage victory in California, exceptional importance attached to the forty-third annual convention at Louisville,