

HAY'S NOTE RAISES COMPLICATIONS.

Baron Hayashi Says if U. S. Contemplates Manchuria's Neutrality, Case is Serious.

CANNOT REGARD IT AS NEUTRAL

Reason for This is That Russian
Troops Are There and Japan Will
Go After Them.

WILL WAGE AGGRESSIVE WAR

In France it is Not Regarded as Probable That There Will be an Accord of the Powers.

London, Feb. 10.—Dealing with Secretary Hay's note to the powers on the subject of preserving the integrity of China, Baron Hayashi said:

"The neutrality of China was first suggested by my government and we received assurances that Chinese neutrality would be observed. Japan will certainly agree most heartily to Secretary Hay's proposition which appears chiefly to be due to the suspicion that Russia might find a pretext for military action against China. If, however, the United States and other powers contemplate the neutrality of Manchuria, the case becomes very complicated. So long as there are Russian troops in Manchuria Japan cannot regard it as neutral territory. I scarcely think the United States, Great Britain or any other power would be willing to drive the Russians out of Manchuria, however much they might insist that Manchuria is part of neutral China. So while we are anxious to insist on assuring the neutrality of China proper, we have every intention of waging an aggressive land campaign in Manchuria itself. Having resorted to arms we shall probably go further than our modest demands made during the negotiations."

HOW REGARDED IN FRANCE.

Paris, Feb. 10.—The overtures of the United States government to the powers for preserving the neutrality and integrity of China during and after the hostilities between Russia and Japan are attracting widespread attention.

United States Ambassador Porter conferred with Foreign Minister Delcasse yesterday and again today. The result has been made public, but the general situation is still obscure. It does not appear probable that an accord of the powers can be reached at the present time owing to differences of views and the concentration of attention upon the actual events of the war. France will not take any action which could possibly be construed as embarrassing to Russia, or as seeking to coerce her concerning the integrity of China. The French authorities appear to be well disposed to have Russia declare her neutrality, and to decide to have the least possible interference in international shipping in far eastern ports and so will seek individually and collectively to confine the area of hostilities so as to reduce the danger of a general spread of the conflagration. But relative to the integrity of China it is not likely that any step will be taken, if the term "China" is intended to include Manchuria. It is held that this is consistent with the principle of the maintenance of the integrity of China, which was construed to be entirely distinct from the provinces of the Chinese empire, including Manchuria, Tibet and Mongolia. However, the foregoing is only the general impression of the situation, and must be open with the prospect of their rather lengthy continuance.

GERMANY IS FAVORABLE.

Berlin, Feb. 10.—Secy. Hay's note to the powers concerning the neutrality and integrity of China was delivered to the German government yesterday by Foreign Secy. Von Richthoff. The Associated Press understands that latter has already conveyed an intimation to Secy. Hay that his proposals are likely to be acceptable to Germany because they tend to localize the war and avoid fresh subjects of international dispute. The step taken by the United States is regarded by the foreign office here as being an able move.

CASSINI SEES HAY.

Washington, Feb. 10.—Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, called on Secy. Hay about noon today and left with him the announcement of the ear de-

This action is said at the state department to constitute a formal declaration of war. It is now for the president to determine whether he will issue

a neutrality proclamation. The count's communication with the department was in writing. It was a dispatch from the Russian foreign office to the ambassador and was substantially as fol-

"During the night of Feb. 8 a detachment of Japanese torpedo boats unexpectedly attacked the Russian squadron lying at anchor in the outer road.

stead of Port Arthur. This attack being the beginning of military preparations, obliged the imperial government to take immediate measures to reply by armed force to the challenge issued

There was no discussion between the ambassador and Sen. Hay of the state

The department's proposition to the powers looking to the neutralisation of China. The department, however, is satisfied though upon what grounds cannot be known.

earned. But Russia is not disposed at this stage to oppose the execution of its plans. Some answers already have been received to Secy. Hay's note, but it is not yet deemed proper to make

The United States legation at Tokio
