

"Blue Sky."

MAY PUT CHINA ON THE MARKET.

PERHAPS YUAN SHI KAI IS A
REAL ESTATE MAN.

Retired United States Naval Officer Says President of Republic Is Willing to Sell Tibet, Mongolia and Manchuria at a Bargain, Asks Three Hundred Million Taels.

[BY DIRECT WIRE TO THE TIMES.]
WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE
TIMES, Jan. 23.—[Exclusive Dispatch.] Capt. A. M. Barber, U.S.N., retired, who is temporarily living in China, in a letter published in The Navy here today, declares that China is trying to sell part of her dominions.

"The latest information that I have," he says, "is that Yuan Shi Kai really wants to sell Tibet, Mongolia and Manchuria to England, Russia and Japan, for 300,000,000 taels, and the deal hangs fire only because Japan has no money. The gentleman who have the information says he has often heard it discussed among the stockholders of the China Merchants' Mutual Steamship Company who are the most influential men in China.

"They think it 'good business' to get rid of everything outside the great wall. I instance this only as a comment on the so-called patriotism in China. I do not think the open door is worth the expense it would be to us to form an alliance with so decaying a concern as China," he declares.