

Washington, Dec. 4th—The disarmament conference is in recess until Wednesday, but for most of the delegates there is no rest from the increasingly prominent informal consultations in which individuals and small groups exchange views on important phases of the negotiations. For the present these interviews are concerned chiefly with collateral elements of the situation, while progress on the all important subject of naval ratio awaits further word from Tokio. The Far Eastern discussions are to be resumed on Wednesday but it may be late in the week before the Japanese have received instructions from their Government warranting a further step in the naval exchanges. The long delay in carrying forward the naval discussions is explained by the time required for the Japanese delegates to communicate with Tokio, as well as by the importance which the Japanese attach to the present stage of the negotiations. It is in Japanese circles here, that the home officials doubtless will not desire to forward a definite statement of the National attitude until they have very thoroughly canvassed sentiment throughout Japan. The Japanese delegation yesterday declared before the committee on Far Eastern questions, that Japan has no intention at present of "relinquishing the important rights she has lawfully acquired" in Port Arthur. This decision, it was explained, was based on rights acquired from Russia, with the virtual consent of the United States, France, and Great Britain at the time of the formation of the International consortium. As to Kiaochoy, the Japanese Govt. has already declared on several occasions that they would restore that leased territory to China. The Committee had listened to an exhaustive plea by Dr. Wellington Koo, one of the Chinese delegates, when the French delegation announced willingness on the part of their Government to release the territory leased from China by the Republic. The French delegation