

"To lift a man or a province or a nation is better than to impoverish, enthral or destroy them."

From the Chinese.



"As the intellectual acquisitions of a people increase their love of war will diminish."

From the Chinese.

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DANGER SPOTS TO WATCH

Indian Troops Sent to China.

"For countless ages China and India have been neighbors and have never yet been at war with each other. But now, alas, England has dispatched Indian battalions to China to fight the Chinese Nationalists if disorder arises. Without the consent of the Indian people these battalions are being sent. The Legislative Assembly at Delhi brought forward a motion protesting at this action but the British Viceroy refused to allow the motion to be considered. Said Mahatma Gandhi, speaking of this situation:

"Our helplessness becomes never so apparent as when Indian soldiers are shamelessly used to crush other people's freedom. Indeed, India is the key to the exploitation of Asiatic and other non-European races of the earth. She is held under bondage not merely for the sake of her own exploitation, but that of her neighbors, near and distant. Let the struggling Chinese know that our soldiers go to China only because we are, if possible, more helpless than they."

"Unity" April 4th.

War Vessels in Shanghai.

By March 1st the total number of foreign war vessels in Shanghai port was 35. Two weeks later they had increased by 14. The Japanese had 13 armed ships, the British 9, the U. S. 6, France 3, Italy 2, Holland 1, Spain 1.

On April 11 there were 172 fighting ships representing 8 nationalities in Chinese waters. The number at Shanghai was 45.

Philippines Cannot Vote for Independence.

President Coolidge has vetoed an Act of the Philippine Legislature which provides for a plebiscite of the islands on the question of Independence. In a two thousand word message Coolidge says the result of a vote at this time would be unconvincing. Will Rogers, America's famed comedian, remarks on this situation:

"See by the papers today that the Philippines wanted just to vote to see if they wanted independence. But we told'em 'No, you can't even vote to see if you want it or not, and furthermore we urgently request that you don't even be seen thinking about it.'

"What was that slogan the whole country was shouting just exactly ten years ago today? Does this sound like it, 'Self determination of small nations'?"

U.S. Militarists Act as Censors.

"The American militarists are getting so frightened at the progress made towards elimination of war that they are attacking every organization that dares say a word against war and advocates the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

They are accusing such conservative bodies as the Carnegie Endowment, the World Peace Foundation, the Church.

"They are accusing such conservative Peace Union, the World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches, of being supported by Soviet money. (!) They are even black-listing the churches. "Patches", a Baltimore magazine, prints twelve indictments against the Federal Council of Churches.

"This frenzied militarism will destroy itself by its own ridiculousness but meantime they are frightening timid souls and preventing the discussion of International problems and that is serious. What right have military officers, officers of defence societies and members of the American Legion to set themselves up as censors of speech in America? I have seldom heard more radical utterances on military training than those uttered by President Coolidge before the American Legion two years ago. It made the militarists all over the country frantic. But any man who even proposes to discuss compulsory drilling of children in our public schools is liable to have eggs thrown at him by these censors."

March News Letter "World Alliance."

GLAD TIDINGS FOR PACIFISTS.

Missionaries Stay at Posts.

Only 100 of the 500 Methodist missionaries in China have moved into the Shanghai safety zone, the balance are believed to have remained at their posts. 100 American missionaries in the Yangtze Valley refused to leave their posts in spite of the advice of the American authorities. "The American Protestant Missionary forces do not contemplate for a moment the abandonment of their program in China whatever the opposition may be" says Dr. A.L. Warnshuts, the secretary, and adds:

"Nobody suggests that commercial interests should abandon the further development of Chinese trade. Neither will the missionary forces contemplate for a moment the abandonment of their program whatever the opposition may be.

"This seems to be a time when real sympathy ought to be expressed to the Chinese people regardless of party politics."

Safe with the Chinese.

A Y.W.C.A. secretary writes from the Chinese City of Hankow: "We have been all day in the native city. Queer how utterly safe I feel in that mass of non-foreigners, while so many of the foreigners here stick so close to the concession. I am deeply thankful not to be burdened by fear."

Rapprochement Between French and German Artists.

Max Reinhardt, the renowned German theatrical producer, has been enthusiastically fêted in Paris. At a banquet on March 15th, given to Reinhardt by the committee of organization for international festivals, M. Gémier, the president, in inviting Reinhardt to give a series of performances in Paris in June, said: "How many of us said heated words during the war, which were wounding to other nations, how many signed declarations which they had probably hardly read. It is our business to get rid of the hatred of war. We all know, only too well, how frightful a fate war is, and we can only have the one thought to spare future generations this disaster. It is the business of artists and especially of actors to serve peace, to preserve friendship among themselves, to revere all greatness that appears in other countries. In brotherly affection, in devoted admiration we greet Max Reinhardt on French soil."

LIVE IN PEKIN

Madeleine Z. Doty

In 1917 I made a trip to North China. I was on my way to Russia. I stayed in Peking only two weeks. But China and the Chinese made a profound impression upon me. Perhaps I can not do better than to print what I wrote then, for the events of to day are so logically the outcome of my interpretation of China in 1917. I have picked out the points in my article which show this:

"From the car window life is crude and ugly in China. The worst side is put first. The Chinese town is a mass of grimy walls. The buildings are of one story. The streets are alleys between stone walls. But in the walls are doorways. Once inside these doorways there is a surprise. If it is a private home there is a courtyard with a fountain and flowers and opening on the courtyard are big, airy rooms.

"It is easier for a European to live in the modern Chinese than Japanese home. There are couches to recline on, chairs to sit on, tables to sit at.

"It is true a Chinese woman may not see her husband before marriage. The man may have as many concubines as he pleases. One half the women still have bound feet. Legally, the woman is everywhere the inferior of man. But in practice these things are becoming obsolete. There is a new attitude towards women. In the train was a young married couple. The woman talked and flirted gaily with her husband. He lighted his cigarette and gave it to her and she smoked. There was no attempt to keep this lady in the background.

"There is as yet no organized woman's suffrage association. Most women cannot read or write. But as individuals women are thinking and acting. A handful of women copying their sisters in England one day marched on the Chinese Parliament. They threw stones, smashed windows and demanded suffrage. There was no power behind this little group. It did not win the vote but it shows the freedom and democracy of China.

"On the surface the civilization is that of the Dark Ages. The law courts are primitive. The court room, perhaps, is hardly more than a cellar in the basement, but the judge frequently drops words of wisdom.

"One day I visited an orphan asylum. It is one of the few in China. For as yet there is little organized social work. The place would have horrified a modern Charity Organization Society. There was no medical examination. Sick and well were thrown together. Children with frightful skin diseases were spreading their maladies. Once a week all bathed together in a big tank. The children slept in a row on a raised platform. Those who were old enough were put to work. Children of eight and over were weaving from 7 to 11 A.M., from 2 to 5, and from 6 to 10 P.M. Physically the conditions were atrocious, but actually the children were better off than in many of our up-to-date institutions. No one scolded them. They talked and played and laughed. They were not becoming cogs in a machine.

"China's needs are material. The land needs sewers, scrubbing brushes, schools and railroads. But when these physical problems are mastered China will shine forth. She has the capacity for freedom and always has had.

"Even in the days of the great Empress Dowager of China, when heads

were being indiscriminately cut off, there was a democracy and freedom unknown to Japan. The Empress Dowager was familiarly called "The Old Buddha". That lady herself, in spite of her belief in divinity, was extremely democratic. On her last appearance in public, when she was passing through one of the great gates, she looked up and saw some friends on the wall, and she not only waved but called out gay words of greeting. No other monarch could have so behaved without loss of dignity. But the Empress Dowager's dignity rested on something more secure than appearances. She possessed real power. She, like so many other Chinese, had an open mind. At the close of her reign she began to make reforms. There were no halfway measures. She had seen the light and did not hesitate to say so. She denounced the old methods of education. Said she: 'The ancient system of arguing in a circle has hypnotized us for hundreds of years. We must change if we are to progress. Our empire is clogged by the fatal word precedent.' It was she who pointed out that the government should represent the people, saying, 'The essential feature of European civilization lies in the fact that real sympathy and understanding exists between rulers and people. Ignoring our real needs we have so far taken from Europe nothing but externals.'

"If a monarch who believed herself God-sent could talk thus, it is small wonder that the seeds of democracy are to be found in every Chinaman.

"There is a serenity of soul and a largeness of vision in the Chinaman that is extraordinary. Perhaps it is due to the greatness of the country, for China is built on a magnificent scale. There is no miniature loveliness about it. There are great arid deserts, treeless valleys, stony river beds and ragged brown snow-capped mountains. The country opens out and up before one.

"As I walked on the great wall around Peking the city stretched at my feet. The narrow streets swarmed with myriads of hurrying rickshaws, blue hooded carts with their donkeys, an occasional automobile or a passing camel from Mongolia, and from this moving, seething, picturesque mass rose the shrill cries and chatter of the Chinese. Nothing is static. All is life and action and out of this eager life rise the serene temples and palaces of China. Their roofs glisten in the sunlight. The yellow tiles of the Palace shimmer like molten gold, and out beyond the city towers the Temple of Heaven. Its tiles are a deep, deep blue, a blue that came straight out of the skies. Close to the temple is dingy and shabby. The wood is warped, the paint is chipped from its walls, but its beauty of outline and the color of its roof dazzle all beholders. This is true of all the temples and palaces. minutely examined one wonders at their cheapness. But at distance the largeness of design, the beauty of color, is extraordinary. China has grasped the thing beneath, the spirit, and given it expression. That is why China will live and grow. She has kept the beauty of spirit of the past and is uniting it to the new beauty of spirit of the future.

On the surface the land wallows in filth. But even as the blue, yellow and green tiled palace and temple roofs rise so resplendent and dazzling in the clear blue sky, so does the human, democratic, freedom-loving spirit of the Chinese break through its bonds of ignorance, superstition, and precedent."

OUR DELEGATES TO CHINA

Every W.I.L. member will want to know about the delegates we are planning to send to China. We have said in our letter to the Chinese women:

"We women of the West desire to establish closer contacts with you, women of the East, so that we may share with one another whatever knowledge and inspiration we may each have won from life. We are therefore arranging to send to you two messengers, members of our organization."

One of our delegates is to be either an American or an English woman and has not yet been chosen the other is Camille Drevet, Acting Secretary for the French Section and editor of the French feminist paper "La Voix des Femmes".

Camille Drevet was born at Grenoble. She is the daughter of a University professor. She herself went to the University of Grenoble and later to the College Seveque and the Sorbonne in Paris. After taking her degree of Doctor of Letters, she fell in love and married. Then in 1914 the war came. Her husband, Captain Drevet, was wounded near Arras and was one of the men reported as "missing". All through the war Madame Drevet nursed the wounded, waiting but getting no news from her husband. He was never heard from.

If she has a great love for peace it is perhaps somewhat due to these years from 1914-1918 when she came in contact with every form of human suffering and misery, that of others as well as her own.

Since the war Madame Drevet has divided her activities between teaching and journalism. Her work is essentially international. She tries in all she says and writes to foster the universal spirit, which she believes is the only possible basis of a real peace.

Madame Drevet is most enthusiastic about her trip to China: she writes:

"I am very happy and profoundly touched to be your delegate to the women of Asia. I shall go to them with an open mind and with a heart reaching out to their hearts and minds. I want to see and understand everything and bring it all back to you.

"The old Asia of Buddha and Confucius was the cradle of wisdom and inner light. The Chinese women today, although they may adapt themselves to modern civilization, have undoubtedly kept in themselves the Oriental tradition of peace and love. We must search with them in the past and the present for those forces which will make a better future.

"The women of the Occident cannot work for peace without the help of their sisters of the Orient. It is indispensable that we should know each other better.

"Help me with your sympathy and understanding. I am a limited and imperfect being, but my goodwill is immense, and fully conscious of the mission you have conferred on me, I shall try to carry it out with energy and love."

Camille Drevet has appealed to us for help and we must give it. We must give her our encouragement. But first and foremost, we must make this trip possible by financial aid. It will take at least 250 pounds. This looks big but it isn't if each will help. Don't be afraid to send small contributions. Send them at once to W.I.L. Headquarters, 12 rue du Vieux-College, Geneva.

The Chinese Situation In Brief

In the following extracts from various newspapers and periodicals we have attempted to give a brief general picture of conditions in China. We felt our W. I. L. members would wish this since we are planning to send two of our members as delegates to Chinese women. The facts given have been culled from every available reliable source.

Foreign Settlements

It is a shock to anyone visiting the large cities of China for the first time to find what a prominent place the International Settlements hold in these cities. At Peking for instance you get out of the railway station, pass under the great wall, and find yourself not in a Chinese city as you expected, but walking down paved streets lined with modern European buildings. You realize why the Chinese possess anti-foreign feeling. Of course it is true that these foreign cities were built up out of foreign capital and some times even on unused or even waste land.

The foreign settlements in China were originally acquired rather by habit and circumstance than by treaty. It was only after the foreigners had been in China some years that little by little they drafted laws and regulations which they expected the Chinese to accept. As Lewis Gannett, in the Nation, April 13th, says of the Foreign Settlement in Shanghai "it 'just grew'! The 'rights' which the foreign troops are defending today have been acquired by use not by negotiation". The International Settlement (in Shanghai) is governed by a Municipal Council and this Municipal Council is elected by the foreigners. It consists of nine members, six British, two Americans and one Japanese. The population of the settlement numbers 850,000 and of this number 97 % are Chinese, for many Chinese live in the International Settlement. They pay 80 % of the taxes but cannot vote, or enter the public parks in this area. In 1925, after the disorders, 3 seats on the Municipal Council were offered to the Chinese but they refused to accept anything short of equal representation.

Many theories have grown up as to the powers and rights these International Settlements should enjoy. One is that the area of the settlement is neutral territory and that China if engaged in civil or in international wars must keep all belligerent troops out. There is also the assumption that the foreigners may bar or expel from this area any Chinese they dislike. Then there is the Mixed Court consisting of a foreigner and a Chinese judge, which tries not only cases involving foreigners and Chinese but those involving Chinese only. Formerly the foreign consular assessors sat only in the first class of cases and acted as a junior judge to see justice done their nationals. Since the revolution in 1911 the Chinese magistrate has been the junior judge and the foreign assessors have been senior judges even in cases concerning only Chinese.

Of course it is easy to understand that foreigners, who have been used to all these rights and privileges, look forward gloomily to a life in China very unlike the old. At the same time one cannot help but feel that they have had a long and profitable inning, and it is time that China came into her own.

The extraterritorial rights have not been founded on justice and they must go, the existing treaties must be revised and China given tariff autonomy.

The Looting of Nankin

The following facts concerning the looting of Nankin are taken from "Time" April 4.

Nankin is a 2000 year old walled city with 400,000 inhabitants. It was the capitol of China five centuries ago. At the end of March the Nationalists captured this city. The strategic railway running northward from Shanghai was cut. The effect of this was to bottle up the Shantungese troops trying to escape northward leaving them at the mercy of their Nationalist conquerors.

Under these circumstances very marked disorder and looting broke out. It is not sure that the insurgents were predominantly of one faction or the other. It is corroborated on many sides that the disorders occurred during the day, that the Commander Chang Kai-Shek did not arrive at Nankin until late in the afternoon and that after his arrival there were no further outbreaks.

But during the day the International Settlement was invaded. One American, two British and one Japanese were killed. The U. S., British and Japanese consulates were looted. All the foreign houses except Ginling College were robbed. The College escaped because a young Nationalist soldier who had a sister studying there arrived with a detachment to guard the campus.

The Japanese suffered most. Several Japanese women servants were abused. But during the day a Japanese officer ostentatiously, without arms, landed from a Japanese gunboat in the harbor and with great coolness brought 160 Japanese citizens in safety from the city.

The one American killed was the Rev. Dr. John Williams, Vice-Chancellor of the Nankin University. The story as told by an eye witness, the Chancellor of the University, was as follows: "We were walking across the campus when we noticed what we thought were Northern Shantungese troops looting and burning the house of Dr. Daniels. We walked towards Daniel's house when we were accosted by some soldiers wearing the Nationalist uniform. Dr. Williams who spoke Chinese like a native stepped up and protested. One of the soldiers immediately shot Dr. Williams through the temple killing him instantly after which they robbed him, even taking his clothing." After the killing of Dr. Williams, the Chancellor and other members of the faculty succeeded in boarding a U. S. gunboat. The U. S. Consul and his wife and children with other refugees set out for a hill known as the Purple Mountain or Socony Hill, the name formed from the initial letters of the Standard Oil Company of New York. The story goes that the Consul with 11 U. S. marines and refugees managed to gain Socony Hill under a running fire from Chinese snipers. Arrangements had been made that the U.S. and British warships should lay a barrage to protect the valuable property on Socony Hill if a signal were given. The U. S. Consul sent up a rocket, the signal for the barrage, and then the shells began to whine over Socony Hill. Under cover of the barrage the refugees succeeded in getting to the harbor and on board ship.

What ever the truth may be about these stories, it is certain that after Chang Kai-Shek and his entourage had arrived and installed themselves and the red, white and blue Nationalist flag erected, the looting and disorders ceased.

Chinese Regret Disorder

Eugene Chen, Nationalist Foreign Minister, in a statement received by wire expressed regret at the disorders in Nankin but protested at the British and U.S. bombardment of the city and its civilian population.

He asserted that the disorders were the work of reactionary and counter-revolutionary elements.

Reparations Demanded.

As a result of the looting of Nankin on April 11th Great Britain, France, Italy, Japan and the U.S. presented the Canton representatives identical notes. Their demands in brief were three, namely, adequate punishment, an apology and reparations. The note concludes:

"Unless the nationalist authorities demonstrate to the satisfaction of the interested governments their intention to comply promptly with these terms the said governments will find themselves compelled to take such measures as they consider appropriate."

Ultimata like this one sent to China are intended to serve first as a warning and then as a possible basis for reprisals. It is precisely such ultimata which have made the turbulent history of modern China.

In November 1897 two German missionaries were murdered in Shantung, and Germany sent an ultimatum to the Government of China saying unless adequate satisfaction was given appropriate action would be taken. The result, as the world has excellent cause to know, was that Germany seized the harbor of Tsingtao and the Shantung mines thus creating the "Shantung question". Similarly Britain seized Hongkong as a reprisal; the system of extraterritoriality was introduced as a reprisal; the foreign settlement at Shanghai was a reprisal; the whole history of foreign intervention in China since '97 has turned upon reprisals. And it is against this foreign intervention in the form of concessions, extraterritorial rights and one sided treaties that the nationalist movement is now directed.

The question now is will the great powers act in the present situation in a similar fashion or has a lesson been learnt since that time. The reply of Mr. Eugene Chen, the Nationalist Foreign Minister, to the Five Power Note on the looting of Nankin was unsatisfactory. Mr. Chen expresses regret for what has occurred but proposes that the demand for an apology should wait until an adequate investigation has determined the question of guilt. The United States has refused to send a more peremptory note to the Nationalist Chinese Government. The other powers virtually agreed on a text for a new note but the appointment of a new cabinet in Tokio necessitated reconsideration leaving the matter temporarily in abeyance.

The Chinese Situation In Brief (continued)

Split in the Nationalist Party

At the present moment of writing there are three groups in China, the Northerners, with headquarters at Peking, the Canton or Nankin Nationalists with General Chiang Kai-Shek at their head representing the militarist group of the Nationalist Party and the extreme left or civilian section of the Nationalist group with headquarters at Hankow. Lewis Gannett in the New York Nation of April 20th says: "There is a split in the Kuomintang, the Chinese Nationalist Party but it is not so much a split between 'moderates' and 'Bolsheviks' as between militarists, who would be satisfied to have the Nationalist movement stop when it has put the generals of the Southern Party in the places of power previously occupied by the generals of the Northern Party, and the civilian democrats who want to put an end to military despotism and extortion and really create a new China.... In the past when one Chinese general defeated another he put his own friends in the chief revenue bearing offices but accepted and retained the old subordinate officials. The old channels of graft flowed on unchanged. But the Kuomintang generals are subordinate to the civilian councils of the party. When a loyal Kuomintang general conquers a province he does not stay to exploit it, he turns the administration over to the party committees and moves on to fight new battles. The so-called 'moderate' split threatens because some of the new-found allies of the Kuomintang, perhaps even Chiang Kai-Shek himself, looks longingly upon the flesh-pots of the old system."

Russia's Aims in China

Arthur Ransome in an article in the Manchester Guardian of April 22nd says: "The propaganda of business men and war lords aided by that of embittered white Russian refugees has obscured the real issue in China by continually creating the idea that the nationalist movement in China is engineered by Russia.... It is urgently necessary to get a clear idea of Russia's aims.... Russia's aim or policy in China is to help as far as she can in the development of a united China not subject to the caprice or ruined by the greed of military sartraps. The notion that Russia will do all she can now to prevent peaceful agreement between ourselves and the South is demonstrably idiotic. It was not Russia's own policy as a weak republic to invite quarrels with nations more powerful than herself. On the contrary Russian policy has been consistent in refusing challenge after challenge. Hoping that the Chinese nationalists will sometime control China, Russia would be mad if.... she urged the nationalists while engaged with a struggle with war lords to take on at the same time a war with Great Britain. It was assumed in the English press that the Russian advisor at Hankow, Borodin, opposed the signing of the Hankow agreement. I have the best reasons for knowing that such influence as he had was used in the opposite direction.... What precisely has Russia done to support the movement of Chinese nationalists? I do not believe she has given much in the way of money for the simple reason that she has not much to give.... Russia's most obvious contribution has been to help the nationalists to organise a revolutionary as disting-

nished from a purely mercenary or feudal army.... A large number of instructors was not necessary. Canton contented itself with 40. Russia was rightly afraid lest the presence of these men should lead to jealous murmurings that Russia was forcing her own dominance in China.... Even this small number is likely to decrease as more young Chinese officers are able to replace them. Nothing is more likely to weaken Russian influence than the obvious presence of Russians and from the Russian point of view the sooner these instructors can be removed the better."

The Alarm of Bolshevism.

Senator William E. Borah of the U. S. says in speaking of the Chinese situation: "It is often too true that wherever a people may be found seeking to throw off foreign domination, to establish their own government and protect their own interests, some strong government discovers a Bolshevistic conspiracy and thereupon a benevolent desire with the army and navy to assist weaker nations to maintain free government."

"For nearly a hundred years China has been hobbled with signally unfair treaties. Her territory has been from time to time parceled out and her ports and trade controlled and dominated by foreign nations. Many years ago it became apparent that the Chinese were harboring a deep feeling of resentment against these conditions.... Sixteen years ago a revolution took place, and since that time the nationalistic spirit has strengthened and spread until now an entire nation seems, whatever its differences may be about other things, determined to be rid of foreign domination. Immediately the cry was raised that there was a Bolshevistic conspiracy, that Russia was at work stirring up trouble in China. It mattered little that the nationalistic movement long preceded the appearance of the Russian Revolution. I venture the opinion that had there never been a Russian revolution, the program in China would not have been materially different from what it has been and now is."

Industrial Conditions in China

Industrial conditions in China are said to be very bad, even the labor strikes and the extremism of the radicals in Hankow, it is said, have only secured for the coolies who received \$1.50 a month a raise to \$3.75 and a twelve instead of a sixteen hour day.

Dame Adelaide M. Anderson in extracts from her articles appearing in the Woman Leader presents the following conditions:

"Coming and going to the cotton mills in Ningpo the procession passed up and down between settlement houses that had been built by the firm for a considerable portion of the workers.... For some reason which we were unable to explore, sub-letting is evidently generally present. There is apparent over-crowding and I heard that there had been some serious epidemics.... The looks of the inhabitants of the settlement did not cheer us. It must be remembered that the hours and other conditions of work were those customary in the Chinese and foreign cotton spinning mills of the whole country, that is to say they worked in two shifts of 12 hours each without definite pauses for meals or rest either by night or day... We heard of the early morning patter of children's feet going to the mill for the day shift and of the tired children leav-

ing at the evening change of shift. For the greater part of the workers live outside the mill settlements. The number employed at this mill was over 2000, sometimes nearly 2500. Of these approximately 2/3 were women and children with an average of two women to every child. The earnings of the women was said to be five or six Mexican dollars a month and of the children two or three dollars....

"In Ningpo, Changsha and Human we studied the rapidly changing smaller industries such as hosiery. In the latter town there are 300 hosiery knitting establishments employing not less than 300 women and girls and perhaps 200 men, the hours being 11 daily with additional overtime and holidays allowed only on the national festivals and at New Year. The workers it is said can turn out 5 or 6 dozen hose a day earning 12 coppers per dozen....

It was almost startling to find the degree of resemblance between the current Chinese stage of industry and the phase of it I first saw in England about the year 1895."

Freeing Girl Slaves

The Kuomintang, the Southern Nationalist Government, has ordered a thorough investigation of the girl slave evil. A group of feminists under the leadership of a woman lawyer, Su Han-Sang, has pledged itself to drive slavery out of Canton. While the Municipality of Fatshan, a town twenty five miles from Canton, has already passed a set of laws forbidding the buying and selling of women. Not even the name "slave girl" is to be permitted within the town limits. From now on there are to be only "adopted daughters".

All the girls now owned must be registered. Names, birthplaces, and two photographs must be filed with the courts.

For many of the "adopted daughters" these regulations will involve little change. Generally the girls have been decently treated and have shared the food and home of the family. But there have been cases where the girl has been made to work 12 or 13 hours a day, she has been flogged, half-starved, denied education and forbidden to marry.

To such girls the new law will be a liberation. Food, clothing, a decent place to sleep, spending money of her own and education in a workers' or vocational school, the right to marry, these things have been given slave girls by the new law of Fatshan.

Even this, however, does not mean that these girls will be as free as European or Anglo-Saxon women or as their Chinese sisters. They will still be bound to give reasonable service to their masters. They cannot leave the master's house without permission nor buy their freedom except by his consent. Together with most of the other Chinese women the slave girl must resign herself to restrictions concerning marriage. She will not have the right to choose her own husband except by the special leniency of the head of the house.

But in one way she will be better off than the real daughter of the family. The law states that she is not to be the victim of "blind marriage". She is to be allowed to veto the men who are offered to her. Also she cannot be sold as a concubine. Fatshan figures by these new regulations, that the town will be entirely free of slave girls within 15 years. "Canton Gazette", China.

WORK OF NATIONAL SECTIONS ON CHINA

The British Section

This section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom has felt a special sense of responsibility in regard to China for a considerable time and has just sent the following letter:—

"The British Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom send greetings to the Federation of Feminist Organisations in China.

We hold out to you*the hand of friendship.

Perhaps you do not know us and we therefore introduce ourselves to you by sending some of the Resolutions in which we have expressed our policy in regard to the relations between our country and China.

We stand for Peace and Freedom and we believe that without freedom there can be no peace.

Therefore we have rejoiced in Young China's movement for Freedom; the abandonment of militarist rule; better conditions for the workers; the abrogation of the Treaties forcibly imposed upon China and of all special privileges and immunities of foreigners in China. More particularly do we rejoice in the movement for the liberation and education of women.

The days to come are full of danger and anxiety, but also of hope. We pledge ourselves on this side of the world to do our utmost to restrain the use or the threat of force, and to induce our Government to negotiate or arbitrate on matters of dispute between your country and ours.

We cordially invite your cooperation with us in the endeavour to spread the truth, to resist the war spirit and to make men realise that the only way to protect women is for men to cease from fighting each other and firmly resolve to settle matters by reason and goodwill." Signed by the British Executive Committee.

Irish Section

On March 18th this section organized a public meeting at which Mr. Tan Sin Wan, a member of the Kuomintang, delivered an address on the present situation in China. The speaker dealt with unequal treaties and stated that foreigners who lived in China when taking any legal action were not amenable to Chinese law but could bring it before their respective Consular Courts. Another unequal treaty was that which placed control of Chinese tariffs in the hands of Foreign Powers. China was essentially an agricultural country and to have a strong central government it must have enormous revenue which must be derived from taxation of the rich people living in big towns. They could not tax the peasants because the peasants could not pay, and they were not allowed to tax rich merchants — Chinese or foreign — if they lived in the Treaty ports.

Mr. Tan Sin Wan also dealt with the principles of the nationalist movement; the economic situation and the present factory law. He gave it as his opinion that in a few months the Nationalists would be in control of the whole country.

U. S. Section

Dorothy Detzer, the Executive Secretary of the U.S. Section, sent the following

letter regarding China to the President of the U.S. in behalf of that Section.

"Mr. President: March 31st.

The Washington Post of this morning carries a cable dispatch from London, which states in part:

'Important interchanges are now going on between London, Washington and Tokio on the policy to be adopted in the Chinese crisis and it depends on the attitude taken by America and Japan whether the Powers will withdraw altogether from China... or hold the present concessions by force, imposing on the Chinese respect for the flags, persons and property of foreign nationals.'

May we earnestly petition you as President of this great country to use your good offices in opposing all methods of force or violence or coercion which may be urged, either by Great Britain or Japan in determining a policy to be adopted in the Chinese crisis. Thousands of citizens in this country and abroad are having faith that you will give concrete meaning to your fine and courageous utterances — that our country has discarded the old methods of force and violence and will depend in the future on new methods of conciliation and arbitration.

We urge not only a policy of non-violence but a spirit and temper which will be imbued with patience and sympathy for China in this crisis. We recognize fully the responsibility laid on you for protecting American citizens in peril, but we are keenly conscious that there is a difference between evacuating our nationals who are in danger and a definite policy entered into with Great Britain and Japan in order to 'hold the present concessions by force, imposing on the Chinese respect for the flags, persons and property of foreign nationals.'

Canadian Section

The main preoccupation of the Vancouver Branch of the Canadian Section has been China. A letter from Mrs. Jamieson, their secretary, reads as follows:

"China is the centre of interest here as elsewhere, and as Vancouver has a large Chinese population, the interest is more intense. Added to this is the fact that as business interests in China are injured by the present conditions many British business men leave there and come to Vancouver as the nearest British port to the Orient. Most of these men, by the very reason which forces them to leave China, are much prejudiced against the Chinese and in favor of the foreigners in China. So each of these men becomes the centre of reactionary propaganda which is listened to by the man in the street because the propagandist can say: 'I know, I have been there.'

"Already a number of bodies have passed resolutions favoring immediate deportation of all Chinese in British Columbia. "For this reason peace groups such as our W.I.L. and the International Club are trying to have both sides of the Chinese question presented and are trying to build up a sane public opinion.

"Last week we had a luncheon for women with 105 in attendance at which Dr. Chen, an educated Chinese, spoke on 'The Situation in China'. He brought home to them all the injustices China has suffered and is still suffering. Many of the women were quite unenlightened

and although they found some of the facts about their own country very hard to accept, yet they realized that such facts have to be faced and that China must be given self-determination, and further that she cannot be frightened by a display of force.

"A 'Hands off China' Committee has been formed in Vancouver for the purpose of organizing anti-war sentiment, spreading information and influencing our Government not to send troops to China. A resolution has been passed by several bodies. As soon as our W.I.L. has passed it I will send you a copy."

German Section

The Executive Committee of this section endorses the plan to send two delegates to China and is willing to help to raise money for the cause. This section went to see the Chinese Consul, Mr. T.H. Fong, in Hamburg, who showed great interest in our campaign. He gave this section two letters of introduction, to the National Government in Canton and to Mr. and Mrs. Hsing Hsi who are living in Peking. These introductions will doubtless be very valuable to our delegates.

National Sections Please Take Notice.

It is important that the National Sections of the W.I.L. should face the fact that many lies are being told about conditions in China and that many of these lies are based on atrocities to women and children. If war comes it will be largely due to feeling that has been stirred up by these lies. One of the great things the National Sections can do immediately is to combat atrocity stories about China. The following letter appeared in the New York Nation for April 20th:

"A recent issue of the New York Mirror depicted on its front cover a Chinese villain seizing a white woman by the hair with one hand and threatening her with a huge and wicked looking knife in the other. Certain American correspondents write indignantly of Chinese carnage and fiendishness....

"In China on the other hand newspapers picture foreigners in much the same way. A Chinese poster shows a foreigner stabbing a Chinese girl.... Those of us who are old enough to remember those mythical years 1914-18 and the obscene pictures that the belligerents drew of one another, need not be reminded what effective weapons 'innocent women and children' were in carrying on and winning the war....

"Wang Chi-Chen."

Lies such as the above described by Mr. Chen are the sort of things we must combat. In reading stories about China ask yourself the following questions:

1. How long has your favorite correspondent been in China?
2. Does he speak Chinese?
3. Does he have any friends among the Chinese or does he spend all his time in the foreign settlement?
4. Where does he gather his news? How often does he give the viewpoint of the European, how often that of the Asiatic?
5. Have you ever heard of the British correspondent in Peking who for years wrote his dispatches on the basis of the gossip which his Chinese cook picked up in the street? How many of the present correspondents use equally poor interpreters?

A Missionary in China

A Methodist Missionary in Kiangsi writes: "Perhaps you know that in China the Foreign Powers reserve the privilege to themselves of patrolling the waters of the rivers with gunboats. I understand this is for the protection of their nationals and for the purpose of keeping the indigenous population in proper respect of the civilization and power of the West. Now I am an ordinary, plain, garden variety of missionary. I find that my work is seriously affected by just those things mentioned above.... May 30th, 1925 was a day of big things in China. (This referred to the shooting of students on Nankin Road in Shanghai.) At that time I was teaching in the American School in Kuling. I had to take two children from the mountains across the plains for ten miles and bring them into the Kiukiang concessions and return. It was a few days after there had been trouble in the concession. The feeling against foreigners was intense. We were guarded all the way by police. As I started back from the settlement I was warned not to risk my life. I went through the city in spite of that, escorted by two police who took me to the railroad station. A student looked me over with a hostile glance. Then suddenly his face changed. He smiled. He turned around to the crowd and said: 'I know this man. He is a missionary teacher. He is a good fellow.' What a change followed! Someone guided me to a seat, another brought me a cup of tea. The coolies who carried my chair up the mountain assured me that I needn't fear anything, and they waved off all hostile groups of people by the remark: 'We know this man. He is an American teacher; he is a good friend.' One of our lady teachers was escorted up the mountain by a group of students in order that she might not meet any annoyances. Our mission compound, half an hour from the concessions was untroubled. Meanwhile the concession doors were guarded by groups of machine gunners and the streets patrol-

led by the marines of different nations. I imagine they did not sleep nearly as well guarded by their gunboats and marines as we did out in our compound where we were at the mercy of any group of people bent on mischief.... Now all I have to remark is this: I am not a diplomat or the son of a diplomat but it looks to me from where I sit, that the presence of gunboats and marines in China today constitutes a greater potential menace to the safety of Americans and Europeans than would possibly ensue if they were withdrawn."

Chinese Loyalty

"Miss Lulu Golisch, president of the Methodist Girls' School, described how during the looting of Nankin, when the Cantonese soldiers came to attack her, the Chinese girls of the school made a circle three deep around her declaring: 'To kill her you must begin with us.'

"The soldiers threatened and were abusive but the girls refused to move and the mob was forced to leave without doing any damage.

"The Chinese dean of the same school held the compound gate against the soldiers during the entire day. Finally they came to kill him but the girls saved him as they had saved Miss Golisch. The dean continued to remain at his post although his home was looted and burned and his family driven into hiding.

"Without this experience," Miss Golisch said, "we would never have known the depth of Chinese affection for foreigners who have come to help them, nor the loyalty of the Chinese Christians to their faith."

"The experience of Miss Golisch is typical of practically all missionaries in Chinkiang and Nankin.

"Out of the wild rumors it is becoming now apparent that the outrages on foreigners were a part of a well-planned scheme of the Communists to discredit General Chang Kai-shek and the moderates of the Kuomintang."

"Christian Science Monitor", March 28th.

The Right Attitude Towards Ch.

Dr. Harry T. Silcock, secretary of the Friends' Foreign Mission Association, says in an article:

"The first thing of importance is the right personal attitude towards the Chinese. It is needless to labour the point that hatred and illwill, contempt and distrust are wrong, but it does seem necessary to stress the undoubted fact that the Chinese are men and women very much alike in all fundamentals to those of other races. If ordinary people in the countries of Europe can think of their Chinese brothers and sisters as similar and equal in the great experiences of life, much practical good will result. In this connection, many Westerners can testify to the great stimulus derived from acquaintance with Chinese art and literature, even if this be acquired only through the medium of reproductions of their pictures and translations of their classics and poetry. It is impossible to know even a little in this way of the treasures of Chinese culture without realising that the Chinese are equal to the people of the West, and, indeed, in some points superior."

The True Pacifist Spirit

At the state capitol of Pennsylvania is a picture by Violet Oakley called "The Beginning of the Legend of Peace". It illustrates a legend of the Quaker faith in non-resistance. Two Quakers living in the wilderness always left the latch of their door out. Alarmed by reports of Indians near by, they one night pulled it in. But neither could sleep. Finally the husband rose and put the latch string out once more. Before dawn a band of Indians surrounded the house, threw open the door and then mysteriously disappeared. Years later these same Friends met one of these Indians and asked why they had been spared that night. The Indian told them that his chief had said: "These people shall live; they will do no harm for they put their trust in the Great Spirit."

"Woman Citizen" January 1927.

Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Jane Addams, International President

International Headquarters 12, rue du Vieux-Collège, Geneva

Secretary: Madeleine Z. Doty

WHAT THE W. I. L. P. F. STANDS FOR:

It aims at uniting women in all countries who are opposed to every kind of war, exploitation and oppression, and who work for universal disarmament and for the solution of conflicts by the recognition of human solidarity, by conciliation and arbitration, by world co-operation, and by the establishment of social, political and economic justice for all, without distinction of sex, race, class or creed.

The work of all the National Sections is based upon the statements adopted and the Resolutions passed by the International Congresses of the League.

International Dues \$ 5.00 or £ 1.00 a year

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