

Bates

NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

Copy

No. 4 Tientsin Road
Nanking, May 28th, 1938
Revised June 11 & 13, 1938
JUNE 20 1938

Dr. John Harle Baker
505 Honan Road
Shanghai

My Dear Dr. Baker,

Here is our attempt to answer the questions you asked Dr. J. C. Thomson about our work here:

1. Name: Nanking International Relief Committee.
2. Office Address: 5 Ninghai Road, Nanking (At present)

From June 1st, 4 Tientsin Road, Nanking

3. Number of refugees being cared for:

At the outbreak of hostilities in December, 250,000 people crowded into the Safety Zone in Nanking. Of this number about 70,000 were cared for in 25 refugee camps. From the beginning of February the number in the camps has been gradually reduced, and all camps will be closed by May 31st. The relief work has thus purposely been shifted from an emphasis upon large concentrations of people to work for individuals and families in the places to which they have moved or been transferred.

During the period from February 7th -- May 31st, our Rehabilitation Commission has given aid, after investigation, to 17,536 families including 84,403 persons. In the nature of the case due to limited resources, the aid given has been small. It should have been extended and increased much beyond what we were able to do.

For the summer period, June through August, the International Committee, in cooperation with the Red Swastika Society, is planning to distribute free food to about 15,000 persons. In addition, Ginling College, with the help of the Committee, is planning to care for about eight hundred girls whose parents are unable to provide for them and who cannot now return to their homes because it is unsafe for them to do so. A further refugee center for a few hundred women with dependent children is also contemplated for this period, but it is hoped that this center can be operated without expense to the Committee.

Looking towards the future, the Committee is conserving such resources as it has for work next autumn and winter, and it fears that the relief problem then will be in many respects even more acute than it has been this past year. Furthermore, it should be pointed out that the above statement applies only to work within the walled city of Nanking. The areas outside and especially the six contiguous haich have as yet received little assistance, and the Committee desires, if possible, to extend its assistance to the people there also.

4. Cost of Relief per month.

In the six months since December 1st to May 31st we have given relief as follows: (See attached statements)

From cash resources	\$174,036.74
From commodity gifts	32,723.96 - see p. 6
Total - - - - -	\$206,760.70
Average per month	44,490.12

5. Principal Material Needs.

For the three summer months present plans will call for about 1,000 bags of rice per month and 500 bags of wheat for the free food we expect to distribute. Any wheat used for work relief or aid to other groups will be in addition. Fuel will be very low this summer but next winters will be a problem with the depletion of local supplies. We have used about 200 tons a month this winter. Clothing probably will have to be provided for about 5,000 persons next winter.

Medical Care:

The only adequate medical care available for a large part of the civilian population is that provided by the University Hospital, which had done remarkable work throughout the emergency period. In addition to its 160 beds with emergency supplements and its regular clinics, the Hospital has, with assistance from the Red Cross, inaugurated three out clinics. The Hospital staff has also conducted a preventive campaign with 16,265 vaccinations for smallpox, and over 12,000 inoculations against typhoid and cholera.

But the financial problem of the Hospital is acute. Only 3% of the patients are now able to pay first and second class rates. Of the third class patients, only 30% can pay, while 70% must be free. The clinics are likewise conducted at a heavy loss. In recent month the free patients figured at third-class rates have cost the Hospital on average of \$5,000 per month, of which a large but now diminishing share was paid by the Red Cross from a fund soon to be exhausted.

A further fundamental is that of general operating costs. Since the cash receipts are so small (about \$4,000 monthly, a small fraction of the income in normal times), the budget deficit for complete operation is over \$5,000 monthly -- even when the special Red Cross receipts have been used.

In terms of financial requirements, this means that outside sources, in addition to the ordinary support of missionary societies, must be found to provide for \$5,000 monthly on behalf of poor patients, plus \$4,000 to \$5,000 monthly for staff and general operation.

6. How much supplies are on hand now? (See attached statement p 9)

May 31, 1938

Rice	772 bags
Wheat	4,473 "
Flour	211 "
Beans	57 "
Salt	23 "
Gasoline	2,039 gallons
Lubricating oil	1,014 "
Diesel oil	20 "
Coal	76 tons
Powdered Milk	345 pounds

7. How much money is now on hand?

Cash balance as per statement	\$153,483.53
Less: Unpaid items	<u>10,946.83</u>
Net cash resources May 31st	\$142,536.70

8. What is the "overhead cost" per month? (See financial statement p. 6 & 7)

Six months: Staff	2,981.64
Expenses	<u>2,703.46</u>
Total Overhead	5,685.10
Average per month	1,114.02
Percentage of total expenditure for relief (\$266,760.70 see 4 above)	2.5%

9. Plans for rationing.

This last winter we worked on the basis of 300 persons per bag of rice (215 lbs.) or .716 lbs. per person per day.

For this summer's free grain distribution, we are planning as follows:

.52 lbs. of rice per person	(0.4 shen)
.25 lbs. of wheat "	"
.77 lbs of grain per person.	

(This agrees with the grain allowance in Shanghai approximately, .75 lbs of rice and wheat combined.)

10. What are your plans for employment? and

11. What other rehabilitation plans do you have?

All plans for relief, employment, and rehabilitation in Nanking and the adjacent Kiangsu area, must be viewed against the background of economic ruin. The International Committee has made careful surveys of the situation, the results of which are almost ready for publication. Nanking was economically based in high degree upon the direct and indirect payments of the National Government and all the complex interests related to it; and secondly upon the many educational institutions formerly conducted here. These economic foundations were torn away by the course of war. But that was only the beginning of misery.

In Nanking some 31% of all buildings were destroyed, and a further 46% were seriously looted, leaving only 23% to suffer lesser robbery. The average loss per family was \$202.35 and this among the relatively poorer groups remaining in Nanking. Total losses, including the buildings and property of those not now resident in Nanking, are very much higher than this figure suggests. Comparatively little property on the main business streets remains in usable condition and in local hands. Recent investigation showed 9.2% of the population now employed, as against 26.2% for the same families in normal times; and with present average earnings of \$0.14 a day per family, as against \$1.23 before the war. Aside from carriers and peddlers, there are no large groups making any income whatsoever; and there is no prospect of free communications or of considerable resumption in trade and in manufacturing of any type.

Under the circumstances, Nanking is markedly dependent upon adjacent rural areas. But they have suffered comparable catastrophe. In the nearby basin of Kiangning, Kuyang, Lishui, Kiangpu, and half of Laho, our surveys show average losses per family of \$385.64, covering only the ^{crop destroyed} five items of buildings, labor animals, stored grains, and farm implements. Just over 40% of farm buildings were totally destroyed. The winter crop of this area should normally supply food for about four months; present reports are that the winter crop will provide one-and-a-half months food. Rice planting appears to be seriously short in the worst areas near main roads, but it is not safe to make estimates until June. The practical absence of government is connected with critical insecurity of property and even of life. The remaining fraction of animals are subject to acute risks.

The external conditions of earlier months and the limited funds recently in hand have prevented the International Committee from attempting large-scale enterprises for employment and for rehabilitation. However, a number of successful relief projects, some of them running to several thousands of work-days each, have accomplished tasks of the following types by paying refugee labor food production, grading, dyke repair, drainage, sanitation, making of bedding for refugees, collective burial. A vocational school for young women is already provided for the near future. The Committee is convinced that such undertakings should be multiplied many times, during the coming twelve months if resources can somehow be found; and that it could supply competent supervision for the effective use of two to three hundred thousand dollars in work relief.

The International Committee secured from Shanghai and distributed among market gardeners some \$1,000 worth of vegetable seeds. A special fund of \$5,000 is being loaned to cooperative societies (several of which have perfect credit records in the past) and to farmers' associations in Kiangning hsien. Just now there have been made available two first-class Chinese experts in rural cooperatives and rural organization, both practical men with training in scientific agriculture. The Committee has done exploratory work on the problems of farm implements (in which it has remarkable technical aid) and of seed for the soybean planting. Aside from present and future needs for relief in rural areas, one hundred thousand dollars could be expertly used in a manner that would increase food supply for this region and raise the whole economic level.

12. What general advice or suggestions have you to give?

The best of our information is that we are still living upon the remains of this region's large crops in the past two autumns, recently low in price because there is so little buying power and because no one is able and willing to hold supplies. City production is almost nil, and farming prospects are obviously cramped. There are no banks, and only trickles of commercial transport. The present months are poverty-stricken, but mild. They are likely to be succeeded by greater severity in the fall and winter, we suggest that all programs of relief, while trying to meet urgent needs of the moment, should look forward to winter requirements.

Thanking you for all your help, I am

Respectfully and cordially yours,

Lewis S. C. Smythe

Lewis S. C. Smythe, Sec. - Treas.

June 16, 1938.

NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE
Preliminary Summary as of May 31st, 1938.
(Detailed)

RECEIPTS

Contributions	307,171.55*	
Less: Check uncollected	<u>100.00</u>	307,071.55
Sales: Rice and Flour		22,126.71
Kitchen receipts		4,530.98
Gross Receipts		<u>333,729.24</u>
Less: Exchange loss		302.37
Total Net Receipts		<u>333,426.87</u>

EXPENDITURES

A. Items entering directly into relief:

1. Food and Fuel		86,421.47
Food Purchase	69,277.28	
Fuel	9,607.30	
Food and Fuel Transport	5,701.46	
Food Commission Expense	287.31	
Kitchen Expense	384.82	
Field Staff	410.60	
Laborers	752.70	
2. Housing		10,709.85
Refugee Camp Expense	2,518.37	
Field Staff	4,983.06	
Laborers	3,208.42	
3. Health and Sanitation		3,885.43
Milk and codliver oil	674.15	
H & S Expense	414.46	
Field Staff	583.80	
Laborers	2,213.02	
4. Cash Relief		56,562.10
Cash relief paid out	54,148.10	
Loan funds	400.00	
Field Staff	1,945.00	
Servants	69.00	
5. Work Relief		7,048.45
Work relief paid	6,890.45	
Field Staff	150.00	
Servants	8.00	
6. Special Projects		2,028.66
Seed	78.50	
Bedding and Clothing	492.26	
Survey	1,457.90	
7. Agricultural Loans		1,911.68
Loans	1,840.00	
Field Administration	59.08	
Agricultural relief	12.60	
Total items entering directly into relief		<u>168,567.64</u>

Totals carried forward

168,567.64 333,426.87

* This total for "Contributions" assumes N I R A will pay full amount of \$14,750.00 due on wheat purchase.

Total brought forward		168,567.64	333,426.87
B. Overhead items:			
8. Staff		2,981.64	
Office Staff	2,096.04		
Police & Servant	885.60		
9. General Expenses		3,702.46	
Office expenses	757.06		
Inspec. & flags	663.30		
Transport exp.	2,282.10		
Total for overhead		<u>6,684.10</u>	<u>6,684.10</u>
Total for relief		175,251.74	
Less: accounts payable		<u>1,215.00</u>	
Grand Total Expenditures		<u>174,036.74</u>	<u>174,036.74</u>
Balance of Cash on Hand May 31st.			159,390.13
Less: advances on payments		1,155.00	
Accts. rec. -- auto parts		202.18	
Suspense -- supplies for summer		<u>4,546.37</u>	<u>5,903.55</u>
<u>NET CASH BALANCE MAY 31st</u> - - - - -			<u><u>\$153,486.58</u></u>
Less: unpaid items \$10,946.83 leaves \$142,539.75 for summer and fall.			

31st
May 30th, 1938.

NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

Commodity Gifts Received

		<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Value</u>
Rice	9,076 bags	\$11.25	\$ 102,105.00
Flour	1,000 bags	5.00,	5,000.00
Salt	350 bags	5.50	1,925.00
Coal	70 tons	15.00	1,050.00
Gasoline	6,085 gal.	1.00	6,085.00
Lubricating oil	1,190 gal.	1.00	1,190.00
Diesel oil	605 gal.	0.33	<u>201.67</u>
Total value of commodity gifts - - - - -			\$117,556.67

Balance May 31st of Gift Commodities

Flour	122 bags	5.00	\$610.00
Salt	23 bags (large)	15.00	345.00
Lubricating oil	993 gal.	1.00	<u>993.00</u>
			\$1,948.00
			115,008.67
<u>Less: Sales of food stocks</u>		22,126.71	
Sales of gasoline and oil*		<u>758.00</u>	<u>22,884.71</u>
Used in relief - - - - -			<u><u>\$92,723.96</u></u>

* In financial summary deducted from Transport Expense included in "Expenses."

May 23th, 1938.
Revised June 11 & 13, 1938.

NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

Commodity Summary

For six months, December 1st, 1937 to May 31st, 1938.

Food Stocks in Bags

	<u>Rice</u>	<u>Wheat</u>	<u>Flour</u>	<u>Bean</u>	<u>Salt</u>
Receipts	11,887	6,500	1,090	1,122	350
Sales	1,886	-	816	-	245
Distributions	<u>9,229</u>	<u>2,040</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>1,065</u>	<u>20</u>
On hand	<u>772</u>	<u>4,472</u>	<u>211</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>85 small or 23 large</u>

Oil Stocks in Gallons

	<u>Gasoline</u>	<u>Lubricating oil</u>	<u>Diesel oil</u>
Receipts	8,694	1,215	655
Sales	753	5	-
Used	<u>5,902</u>	<u>196</u>	<u>365</u>
On hand	<u>2,039</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>90</u>