

Mr. Forster's Letters.

Jan. 24th: Just have time to write a little before the broadcast comes, of which we type notes and send them around to our friends who have no other chance to get news. Mr. Kroeger should have reached Shanghai last night. He left here yesterday at 7:30 a.m. The best accommodations offered were on an open box car. At least his view was not obstructed and he probably got two eyes full along the way/- Yesterday I went out with the Chinese manager of the Metropolitan Hotel who is a member of our rehabilitation Committee to deliver questionnaire forms at five of the refugee centers. On getting back we had a service at 10:30 at #25. We heard at the Old Language School which serves as a refugee center that a woman had been taken from there by J. soldiers during the night. Our service was well attended. We had shortened morning prayer which I took which was followed by Holy Communion which Dr. Tong took. He also preached. After service a group of us were invited to a Chinese dinner given by Mr. Lowe (Liu) the manager of the Hotel. It was his wife's birthday and also George Fitch's. Mrs. Lowe is in Shanghai but we had a bang up feast lasting from 12:30 to 3:30. Then John and I went to the English service led by Mr. Mills.

Today had another full day. I had to be at the Embassy at 10:00 to meet some Jap. military police who had come on Sunday afternoon when I was out, to have me look at a piano, thinking it might be the one taken from our parish hall. Since I was not home yesterday they made an appointment for me this morning. Mr. Espy of the Consulate also had an appointment to visit the Texeco Installation from which a lot of gasoline and other things had been taken. So he went off first and I went to Ginling to deliver the news sheet and have a chat with Miss Vautrin and Mrs. Twinem. They told of a man who was carried off by the soldiers on Dec. 18th and who returned a day or so ago. He was taken to Changshing in Chekiang and made work for an officer for eight days; while he was very severe, he did not mistreat the man who was told he might return to Nanking. On the way he was taken at I-shing near Wusih by another group of men and again made to work for an officer who was very kind to him and treated him very well. They exchanged addresses and after 18 days of service they gave him some money and sent him home. He made his way back by small country paths and reached Nanking after 8 days travel. The country people treated him very kindly when they heard his story and helped him along the way. He said that over in Anhui the Big Sword Society is very active in protecting the countryside against J. and Chinese soldiers and against brigands so that the people there are prosperous and the food plentiful and cheap. That is very interesting. He had passed through many places; Huchow is deserted and ninety percent destroyed. Changshing, Kuangteh, I-shing, Lishui, Liyang, Chuyoung are also deserted and mere heaps of ashes and ruins. The piano we looked at was not ours and so we came back. We had just finished lunch when neighbors ran in to say that a soldier had tried to get a woman and had threatened her with a bayonet. The three of us, John, Kola and I, rushed out. The man took fright and ran away, but Kola and I caught sight of him and gave chase. I yelled and Kola yelled and we both ran, and the soldier beat it off as fast as his legs would carry him. But he left behind his bayonet which we are turning over to the Am. Consul to be presented at the Jap. Embassy with an account of the incident. The soldier came back the second time to get his bayonet which had been brought to us. We gave chase again through the mud and over ditches but he ran away. When the excitement died down I went to \$17 and then to make an appointment with the Univ. architect to build our parish house to have him give me an estimate of the damages to our property at St. Paul's. I also have to lead a Bible class tomorrow afternoon at the University. Incidents are still happening. That is, on Sat. night, just after our Consular people had finished dinner, a servant came to report that some J. soldiers were in one of the Embassy garages. He found two playing majong with some Chinese. He asked them to leave promptly which they did. But then as he was wondering whether he ought to have put them out, another servant came to say that a Jap. soldier had taken off his older daughter. While the two had gone into garage No. 3 to play majong



2.

older daughter. While the two had gone into the Garage No.3 to play majong this fellow had gone into No.5 and insisted on taking the older girl along. So Allison and some of the others rushed out on the street to find her. They met her returning and she said that just as her abductor was trying to force her into a motor car, his two cronies who had been chased off the premises came along and told him that since they had been trespassing on the Am.Embassy property, that he had better send the girl back or there would be the devil to pay. There have been cases which did not end so happily, however. We have heard of two very sad ones which seem to be authentic. A young woman was raped by a J.soldier who forced an empty beer bottle into her and then shot her. The other case was seen by a member of the British Embassy staff. A woman was raped and a golf stick rammed into her. She was found dead in that condition. It hardly seems possible that such human devils were in existence. But instance after instance can be mentioned. A young boy was brought into the hospital with a bullet in his jaw the other morning. A Jap.soldier had told him to catch a pig and when he was unable to do so shot him in the jaw. We know of another instance of a boy who was unable to produce a pig for a soldier was disemboweled and thrown into a pond. Another instance in the same neighborhood was that of a man who had been carried off to Wuhu by the soldiers. He succeeded in making his way back to find his home gone and his womenfolk in hiding. Tired and hungry he had just prepared a bowl of cabbage when a J.soldier came along, demanding money and women. When the man could produce neither, the soldier urinated into the bowl of cabbage and went off. Allison and the British and German Consuls are not standing for any nonsense. When their protests, etc. are tabled by the J.Embassy officials, they get into direct communication with Tokyo through Washington London and Berlin. This has made the J. awfully mad here, as you may imagine, and they are being told that our Gov'ts do not consider a small and unimportant matter to have the property of their nationals looted and people living on those premises for protection carried off by troops whom their officers will not control. One of the J.Consular police is very angry because Allison reported to Washington that he came to the Univ.of Nanking to get women to wash clothing, but when he refused those who offered to go and demanded others who were young and beautiful, he placed his motives under grave suspicion. He came to our house the other day also, and asked Kola to supply him with Chinese girls. Kola asked him what the hundred Jap.and Korean girls they brought here were for. He replied that he did not want them, but Chinese girls from good families. Now he is trying to find out what Chinese reported his visit to the Nanking Univ. to the authorities, and today they seized a pastor in charge of the Univ.Middle School refugee camp to try to get information from him. So we live from day to day, never knowing what a new day is going to bring forth. Since Allison communicated directly with Tokyo through Washington the local J. officials here have been more tractible, though still not all they should be. Guess they would like to kill us, one and all. We are looking forward to mail perhaps tomorrow or the day afterward by the H.M.S.Aphis. Please ask Bp.Roberts and Bessie Sims to send me as soon as possible an inventory of the things which they left in their houses so that I can check the things that have been taken. Also get a list from Miss VanVoast. The Consul wants us to file preliminary claims as soon as possible. Our Embassy now has a wireless sending set with an operator from the Navy. The J.refused at first, but Allison won out. More power to him! He is awfully nice as are Espy and MacFadgon, the two vice-consuls. Tell Dyer that the wife of one of the Wusih Christians named Li died in the hospital yesterday of blood-poisoning, I suspect. They refugeed with us at Hsiakuan and here. They have one little girl. The woman had been ill for some time with dysentery. If possible get from Mr.Kuo the number of his piano and that in the parish hall for identification purposes.

Jan.25th After supper I am going over to #17 to spend the night. I began the day with a bath, not in a tub but standing in the bathroom to the tune



of two oil stoves. As John said afterwards, I looked quite respectable again. I certainly feel that way. He was tempted to take one, too, but couldn't bring himself to it, even though he needed it more than I. After breakfast went to the Committee Headquarters of the leaders of the various refugee centers. It was a typical meeting, much time being spent over the question, and realizing at the end that the question had no concern with us. The meeting lasted till after 12, when I came back for lunch and prepared for the meeting at the Univ. of Nanking. There was really an evangelistic meeting rather than a Bible class, even though we used Mt. XIX as a basis, since most of the people who came were non-Christians. One of the Professors of the Univ., a Hsiakuan Christian, told me he counted more than four hundred people in the audience and that it was the biggest attendance they had had. The Meeting was held in the science lecture room which was certainly packed, and the people listened very attentively. So you see God has not lessened our opportunities. I believe there will still be a rich harvest over this trouble and sorrow. As I walked back I passed an open field where many many coffins were placed awaiting burial. I saw a man weeping by the side of a child's coffin that had apparently just been placed there. Immediately the thought came to me that I ought to try and comfort him and ask him to turn to the Lord Jesus for comfort. I walked on a little way but soon turned back and spoke to the man. He said that the child was his little girl who had just died. He told me that he had heard the Gospel in various preaching halls from time to time and he seemed to take some comfort as his tears stopped flowing. But suddenly as he saw a group of people, including a policeman coming along the nearby street, he left me very abruptly and hurried away. But I am glad I followed my impulse and spoke to him. On the way another man offered me a part of a Russian tea brick. He said he had bought it which may be true, but I politely declined to accept it, as I thought he would appreciate it more than I. The people certainly seem grateful for what the Committee has been trying to do to help them. As I mentioned in a previous letter, a new set of troops has come, so women are again having a pretty hard time of it. I was glad to learn the protest which Ambassador Grew had made to the foreign office in Tokyo, and we all hope it will bear fruit. We heard that a J. soldier got into the Ministry of Foreign Affairs which we tried to organize into an International Red Cross Hosp. for wounded soldiers, of whom a number had been left there before the J. entered the city. John had installed some "doctors" and dressers in there to look after these men, but when the J. took over the building, we foreigners were no longer permitted to go in. Nor can we get permission even now. We get word occasionally from people inside about conditions there. This J. soldier went in last night and murdered one of the coolies with his bayonet when he refused to take him to where the girl nurses were sleeping. Then he threatened another coolie who finally led him to a room in which five girls were. They realizing what was threatening dressed quickly and when the door was opened, three of them rushed out and escaped. The other two led the woldiers through a series of rooms to where a Chinese doctor was staying and by playing for time managed to foil the soldier's plan. He was very angry of course, but, having murdered one person, he had accomplished enough mischief for one night. The wind is blowing strong from the north so it will be a very clod night, and I am to sleep at No. 17.

Jan. 26 It has been very clod today as a result of the strong wind, but the sun has been shining most of the time and moderated the cold. I am glad for the people as the cold is so hard on them with so few means of keeping warm. I could spend some time this morning making notes from Headlam's Christian Theology, an excellent book with much material useful for preaching to non-Christians, especially the educated class. Then I conducted a preliminary burial service for Mrs. Li, the wife of one of the Wusih Chrisy-ians who died in the hospital on Sunday.



We placed the coffin in a bamboo grove, near No.17 alongside of that of Evangelist Lu. I used practically the same service. I lunched at the Buck house where most of the American men are living, because they wanted to use the occasion to discuss some plans for our rehabilitation committee. This lasted until after two, when I came back to No.17 to investigate the shooting of a fourteen year old girl yesterday afternoon very near our house. She and her mother and brother are in Wusih and are living in one of the refugee centers. The girl and her brother had gone to a nearby field for some turnips when a J.soldier appeared. He tried to get the girl but she became frightened and ran away, whereupon the soldier fired his gun and shot her through the head, killing her almost immediately. We have been plying the J.Embassy with case after case of outrages which the soldiers are committing. They are making a pretense of investigating them, but so far as we can find out, none of the guilty persons are punished as they deserve, and as they would be in any western army. I'll tell you something that happened today. Mr.Allison, our Consul was slapped in the face by a J.soldier, and Mr.Riggs of the Univ.man-handled. A girl had been taken by soldiers from one of the Univ.buildings and raped. On her return, the case was reported to the consul and he and Riggs accompanied the girl to the place where she had been taken. It was no less a place than the military police headquarters. Some Military police, Japanese, had accompanied the Consul as they do when he goes out. The girl was asked to enter the building, perhaps to identify her assailants. but Allison and Riggs were not permitted to go along in. They stood about two feet inside the gate. A soldier tried to push them out, and when an officer came along foaming with rage and shouted that they were Americans, a soldier reached over from behind and slapped Allison's face. When one of the Military Police who had accompanied Allison said to the others that he was the American Consul, another soldier grabbed Riggs and shook him by the overcoat collar until he tore it. They waited, however, until the girl was delivered back in their hands. Allison does not know yet whether to report the incident as he is afraid it may have serious results, as far as the relations between the two countries are concerned. Technically he was wrong in being inside the gate of the military police headquarters, but that does not excuse the conduct of the soldiers and the officer. The latter was the same who slapped Riggs' face once before, and they think it is he also who pushed Dr.Bates down stairs when he had gone to intercede for a middle school graduate whom the J.had forced to act as an interpreter. The boy sent back a note to his wife that he was going to be executed, and he probably has been since he has not returned.

This morning they fished out the dead bodies of a big group of men who were machine-gunned soon after the J.entered the city and their bodies thrown into a pond just at the end of the street where we are living. They are mostly civilians but were all taken and executed on suspicion of being ex-soldiers. John went today to a house in which fourteen occupants were killed by the soldiers soon after their entry into the city. Eleven were women all of whom had been raped and then killed. The bodies are still there. John has adequate evidence of that. A woman came into the hospital this a.m.who had been carried off to the southern part of the city more than a month ago. Her husband was carried off at the same time and has not yet returned and probably never will. They had been married four years and had had no children. J.soldiers raped her from seven to nine times every day and finally released her when she could no longer be used. She has three forms of venereal disease in their worst state as a result of her experience, but of course the J.army never does such things and it is we foreigners that invent these lies to encourage the Chinese! So you see we are not exactly popular. But you can imagine what is in store for the Chinese if Japan has her way. After I had investigated the case of the girl who had been shot yesterday, I attended another meeting of our rehabilitation committee which lasted until five.



Jan. 28th It was a great treat to receive the mail and packages which came by the Aphis this morning and to know how you were all faring. I have not yet seen the socks, letters and \$30 which you say you sent I presume by Japanese. The last consignment coming through Domei arrive O.K. as you know by now. I wonder whether you sent the other things by that J. merchant. He was to have come back in 2 wks time with a fresh load of supplies but has not yet appeared. Kola ordered milk and a radio tube by him and another person entrusted him with \$50 to be delivered in Shanghai. We wonder whether he has absconded, has not had a chance to return or was hindered on the way. I have found my pipe very useful and comforting these days while doing police duty. I find it very useful to have cigarettes to give J. soldiers on occasions. We do not need cash sent to us as we can get it from the International Committee and John has a considerable cash supply on hand. Yesterday I did not get a chance to write as I was busy preparing for Sunday's services at which I am to preach. Then I was invited to a Chinese dinner. One of the men at #17 celebrated his 30th birthday and as it is so near the Chinese New Year, they prepared a special meal for the occasion. In the p.m. I and Kola, one of the Chinese teachers and the Chinese architect of Nanking Univ. (he built the St. Paul's parish house) rode down to St. Paul's to look over the damage. When we got there we found that nearly all of the remaining portions of the Kung Kuan had been burned down. Some of the timbers were still smoldering on the ground, and the bricks and tiles were hot. It happened on Wednesday a.m. since one of our servants spent Tuesday and Tuesday night in our day school building on the Roberts compound, and the Kung Kuan was burning firecely at about seven o'clock on Wednesday morning. Allison had visited the compound on Tuesday and the building was still intact. We went through all the houses, though nothing much seems to have been touched in them since my previous visit. Soldiers had started a fire in the Church sacristy as there were evidences of the red festival scrolls having been burned and the door and other parts of the wardrobe in which they had been stored were charred and scorched. Fortunately the fire did not gain headway but it indicates that soldiers still wander through the buildings at will. We are trying to get passports for some of our servants to go there to live. It is still a risk without such a passport, as they might be impressed and carried off. Their money and clothing and bedding might be stolen or they might be injured if they are asked to provide women and cannot do so. It's hard to know what to do but we will try to think of a good plan. With soldiers irresponsibly starting fires in buildings there is a chance for anything to happen. Bessie Sims sewing machine is gone, that is the machinery. I retrieved a small box full of extra fittings for it. Her piano, if she had one, is also no more. The Roberts piano was still there yesterday, but their victrola is gone and the records strewn over the floor in fragments. Their rug and camphor chest (emptied of contents) are still on hand. I'd like to gatherup everything and bring them here, but we can't get transportation, and if we could, I do not know where we could store the things safely. If we can get some servants down there we may be able to get everything into one house and nail it shut. There is no use to do that now, that is without someone staying on the premises. In a few minutes I've got to go the Univ. to lead the meeting. We shall study St. Mt. xx today. I hear the Aphis is going back tomorrow a.m. so all mail must be at the Embassy by nine tonight. John and I are both well. So is Kola though the latter has been laid up with gripe for a few days. I was pleased over the surprise party for Gilmore. He has certainly done valiant service. The news about Yangchow isn't happy, but we'll be patient and see. Things do not matter so much. To be acceptable to Him we have to be content with much or little.... Had a good meeting at the Univ. today. John is ready to start for the Embassy now with the letters. We understand there will be another chance to send on Tuesday.



Jan. 28th John took the letters to the Embassy this evening but came back with a whole carload of mail which I have been reading until now and it is nearly 11 o'clock. He also said we could have as late as 9 o'clock tomorrow to get mail all in. The mail we got this evening has been stacked up in Nanking somewhere and has just been retrieved by the J. It includes your letters from Hankow and from the family at home. I also had letters from K.P. Steve, and a letter from you written last Sunday. I do not understand why the J. are so insistent about not letting anybody come to Nanking, if they are letting them go to other places. Geo. Fitch is desperate to get down to Shanghai as all his teeth and filling are falling out. But while he can get permission to go down, he can't get permission to get back, so he is trying to be patient. I hope Steve can get back to Yangchow. A Britisher from the Int. Import and Export Lumber Co. Hsiakuan, has been back for several days but Kola reported this evening that he had received an ultimatum to clear out by tomorrow a.m. The Britisher said that would be impossible since his car was out of order, so they told him to get it fixed and go. According to the radio broadcast at 1 today the J. have issued statements about the slapping of Allison. The meeting at the Univ. was very good this afternoon and the people listened attentively. Prof. Chen told me that every evening he has a group of young men and girls studying the Bible for two hours, and he hopes that John and I may eventually baptize them. I had an amusing experience this afternoon. Just as I was about to turn in at the Univ. gate a youngster spied me and said in approved Yangchow fashion "Foreign devil, Oh, I mean Mr. Foreigner"! We certainly are glad to get supplies from time to time. We are enjoying the candy ever so much, and the two tins of tobacco will keep me well supplied for the old pipes have been a great comfort in these tumultuous days.

Jan. 30th. Yesterday I also didn't get a chance to write. The mail which came on Friday was such a treat that I went through it all over again yesterday. In the a.m. I took one of the servants to the Hospital, the old gateman whom Mr. Schultze had left on the place to look after things. As I had to wait for the doctor to examine him to find out what was wrong, I went to the Hospital office where Miss Bower was holding an indignation meeting. Thinking she would give the nurses an extra treat on account of China New Year, she sent the cook out to buy some pork, which he did, 9 lbs of it for which he paid \$4.50. On his way back he was accosted by J. soldiers who demanded the meat. He protested that he had bought it for the hospital and was responsible for it, so they took the meat and gave him about sixty cents for it. Such things are happening all the time, so you can understand why people are afraid to go outside the refugee zone, albeit this happened in the safety zone itself, which the J. are trying to force the civilians to leave. In fact they have issued an ultimatum through the "self-Gov't society" that they must leave the refugee centers by Feb. 4th or they will be driven out by force. While I am on the subject I'll tell of another incident that happened. The wife, or widow? of that Univ. Middle School student who was taken by the J. to interpret for them, and was put through the third degree by one of the Consular police and, we believe executed for he has not yet returned, the woman was going to buy some things at a district outside the refugee zone which has been designated by the Japanese as safe for civilians to live in. She and about 19 other young women were taken into a truck by passing J. Soldiers and brought to a building used by officers. A Chinese man who had been impressed to work for the officers whispered to her that her only chance to escape was to force herself to vomit several times, which she did. She was thus released from a fate which would have been worse than death. You can easily understand why the people do not feel encouraged to go back. Yesterday a girl was forced into a straw hut opposite #17 by three passing soldiers who defamed her for over an hour. Imagine what is in store for the J. women when their men come back having contracted every sort of disease,



Yesterday a.m. I rode down to St. Paul's with Mr. McCallum. Everything seemed much as it had been when I was down there the previous time. There are rumors that this will be in the special area reserved for soldiers, so we may not be able to go back. On our way back we passed the Kiangsu bank in which Kola and Mr. Sangreen lived and had their office. A truck was being loaded with furniture from the building. I told Kola and he went down in the p.m. to look-see. He found that many of the offices and rooms had been stripped bare of furniture and that two over-stuffed chairs of theirs had been taken too. Second-hand shops in Hongkew and Chapei must be doing a thriving and profitable business! We had a heavy snow-fall all day yesterday. I spent a comfortable night at #17 coming back at seven for breakfast and to change my clothes. I preached at No. 25 and took Morning Prayer while the Rev. Mr. Chiang celebrated the Communion. We had a good attendance. After lunch I went back again to No. 25 to be present at the Sunday School which we have started for the smaller children. About 16 came. Miss Shao told them the story of the infant Moses, Paul Tong conducted the worship and taught them several children's songs. The other day I retrieved in St. Paul's parish hall the hymns written on cloth that had been used for the children previously. Also the wooden standard for hanging the hymns. And from the dayschool building we rescued some more hymns and some picture charts. So we feel quite well equipped. John and I were invited to a New Years' Supper along with the refugees from #25 and #17 who get their food from our common kitchen. (There are a good many who cook their own.) The food was placed in circles on the floor of #25 and we sat around on kneeling cushions to eat it. In order to save rice and money, the people have been taking only two meals a day and they are chiefly vegetarian with thick rice congee. The managing committee asked for permission to serve dry cooked rice and an extra bowl of food. John readily agreed. In addition I contributed \$5 as from you and me and John contributed \$5 as from himself and Faith, so they were all able to have two extra dishes of meat. It was a grand party, about fifty people and everybody ate to his heart's content for once. Fortunately we have not had any very serious illness so far among the people. The fifteen refugee boys from Tsingpoo look well and have rosy cheeks, reminding me of Daniel and his three friends preferring the beans and pulse to the wine and rich viands from the King's palace. But we must not let the young people become undernourished. That will be one of the great dangers unless a larger and more varied food supply can be procured for the people. Everything that they are accustomed to is scarce and the price very high. One egg when procurable costs eight cents and meat, varying much in quality, around fifty cents a pound. Fish around 70 cents, chickens and ducks around \$1.50 depending on the size; besides these things are all scarce. Gradually however, some of the people outside the city are managing to bring more in, but if they carry in or buy much, it is very apt to be taken by J. soldiers. Each day brings its incidents, but God has been wonderful in caring for his people, and we are deeply grateful for His many mercies.... Tell the family they can use any of the news bits provided they are careful about using my name in connection with anything that the J. might find unpalatable reading. Not that I am afraid to back up anything I have written, but I should hate to have my usefulness here endangered by such publication. I have typed some of the extracts from Father's letters about the reaction of the people and press toward the banking situation. Bates suggested this as he said some of the foreigners needed some encouragement under the strain of life here. Geo. Fitch left on Saturday for Shanghai by the H.M.S. Bee. He has been having tooth trouble, and as somebody else remarked, needs a change of scenery for a while. He hopes to come back on the Oahu next week. He did not get a military pass, as the J. civil authorities felt he had more chance of getting back by going to and from the boat



with the Am. Consul when he takes the mail, etc. down to Hsiakuan. John hopes to go down to Hsiakuan tomorrow in this way. The news does not look too good for Japan, does it? They are finding Chinese gorilla warfare and the activities of the Yellow Spears and Big Sword Society not only decimating for their troops, many of whom have been killed and wounded in such encounters, but also hard on the morale of their troops who, I have heard on good authority, are scared to death of these outlaws whom they regard with superstition, since they claim to make themselves invulnerable by a magic formula, and who in reality work themselves into a frenzy in which they fear neither God, man nor the devil. Also this continual harrasing makes it necessary to deploy many troop units and thus delay and make impossible many times a concerted action against a definite objective. It also allows the Chinese troops to reform their lines and consolidate their position. It is very excellent strategy and may prove the undoing of J. arrogance. I wonder what experience Lee will have at Wusih and Steve at Yangchow if he is permitted to go there. I take it that Lee has recovered from his recent operation and I hope he is strong enough to rough it for a month.

John and I contributed a similar amount to the refugees from the Model Village. They have no common kitchen, however, so I do not know how they used the money for all.

Feb. 1st. Just heard that the mail must be in the Embassy by four o'clock this afternoon. My cold, fortunately was much better and it was not necessary for me to stay in bed yesterday. About eleven a J. Consular policeman and a Military Police came to ask me to look over some pianos they have collected to see whether the two from St. Paul's were among them. They weren't which apparently did not please some of the military police who said among themselves that I was trying to hold out for new pianos. Kola went with me and understood their conversation. They wanted me to select two pianos and call it quits, but I refused to accept what obviously did not belong to me. When they started on their piano search after I had reported our loss, they were most insistent that I should know the exact number of the piano, their make, etc. They are certainly a double-tongued gang of thieves. John was able to get down to Hsiakuan yesterday with Mr. Bishopric (an American from the China Imp. and Exp. Lumber Co. who got permission to return to Nanking) to look over the mission premises there. He found them in pretty good condition. There has been some looting, but not as much as he feared. Some of the rooms and closets have not yet been broken open, as has happened everywhere else. Our two arm chairs were still there. Also the corpses of two Chinese soldiers in the trunk room of John's house, and another corpse on the compound. Since it was Chinese New Year, some of the J. soldiers apparently decided to celebrate, too. They came to #17 and #25 in the morning while John was there and were "too happy" to be trusted very far. It was much milder yesterday, so I went over, but no soldiers came in, fortunately. Last night I slept at #10 and am feeling fine today. This morning there was a meeting of the managers of the refugee centers which I attended. At present there are about 58,000 people being cared for in these centers by the International Committee. These centers are all located in the Refugee Zone. It is interesting to see how they are distributed. 36,271 or 62% in American property; 601, or 1% in German property; 17,900 or 31% in Chinese government property; 3,139 or 6% in private property, Chinese. The Japanese are insisting that the people must move out of these centers by Feb. 4th or they will be driven out by force. Notices to this effect have been posted in all the centers and some people have begun to move back into the areas designated as safe by the J. authorities. But at the meeting this a.m. practically every camp manager have reported incidents which have caused people to come back into the refugee centers. Women suffered from raping and men from robbery by the soldiers. Ginling college alone has more than forty authenticated cases which have happened since Jan. 28th when the people started moving



back. Other certers also had many cases to report. All these will be presented to the J. as an indication that they are not carrying out their promises to protect the people if they go back to their homes. Just 5 min. ago John and I were called to a neighboring house where two drunk J. soldiers had locked a girl into a room and raped her. We broke down the door and drove them out, turning one of them over to some J. soldiers on guard in a nearby street crossing. We hear that the high military official dispatched from Tokyo to investigate conditions in Nanking arrived today. He will be here about two days but representatives of the three Embassies are hoping to confront him with all the evidence that has been accumulating of their outrages and atrocities. We were interested to hear over the radio that J. has already expressed regrets over the slapping of Consul Allison, which means that they were confronted as in the case of the Penay incident with irrefutable evidence. Perhaps they will believe some day that their army isn't quite so nice in the opinion of the world as it is in their own. Now John wants me to type some notes for him about the atrocity cases which came to the Univ. Hosp. and of which he took movies. I will send a copy along with this letter.

Feb. 3rd This is just a short note before I go over to #17, which I hope can go down by Mr. Bishopric tomorrow. I have quite a letter ready to go but think it safer to find some other way, as Mr. B. is driving down in his car and there is no telling what might happen on the way. I just wanted to send something to let you know that we are safe and well. Many of the people are returning to their homes in pursuance of orders that have been issued from above but we are not breaking up our group yet since it is still uncertain whether we shall be able to live either at Hsiakuan or in the southern part of the city, the one being in the outside of the city and the other in the section set aside for the military. I was down at St. Paul's this afternoon to take four men servants for whom I received a passport from the American Embassy to the effect that they are servants sent to watch our premises. We had to make two trips down, since there wasn't enough room in the car for the men and their bedding too. When we reached the Church compound, I found a lot of military trucks lining the sides of the street for a whole block or so, and in our compound a group of from twelve to fifteen soldiers eating their food. They had built two fires on the lawn outside the parish hall and had dragged out one of the heavy teak clergy stalls to hold the iron bar upon which they had suspended their rice buckets. The chair has a piece hacked out of the back of one end and has also been whittled on one side in front. Some of the other soldiers were sitting around the fire which they had built on the floor inside the room or passageway which leads into the Kungkuan meeting room. There is only a small section of the Kung kuan still standing and it was in this that they had built the fire. Another soldier on my second trip was cooking his food over a fire in the room used by the gateman, the fire having been made on the floor also. I drove the soldiers all out and made them carry water to extinguish the fire which they did. But I have enough evidence to convince me how the rest of the building was burned last week. I reported the matter to Mr. Allison and he expected to bring it up at the J. Embassy this p.m. where he was going for dinner. I am also giving him a written report. While I was remonstrating with the soldiers around the fire, another came from behind the parish house with an armful of good chairs which I suppose were either to be carried off or to supply fuel for the fires. We have four servants there now, two on the Church compound and two on the residence compound. I found a J. soldier who had had a few drinks amusing himself on the Roberts piano. I escorted him to the door, too. I have told the servants to do what they can to block up the entrances into the compound, to gather up all loose things on the floors of the houses, and to store all the furniture into one or two rooms so that it will be easier to look after.



It has been a gray raw day. And this afternoon it began to snow very hard and the snow was very wet. I spent the morning taking women to the hospital for treatment and also called at Ginling and the Am. Embassy. I have heard that the new garrison commander is quite a different type from those who have preceded him. He was in charge of the district around Chinkiang and when the news of his transfer was announced the Chinese petitioned that he might be retained. Also Mr. Hidaka, who has come to replace the recently returned Ambassador Kawagoe, is also well-thought of by the Chinese. So let us hope that this will make a change for the better in the general situation. The socks, money and letters you sent last month have not yet put in an appearance, so I am afraid we must kiss them goodbye. The radio broadcast spoke of fighting at Yangchow on the Grand Canal. I wonder what that means. I asked Allison what the chances were of my getting permission to visit Chinkiang and Yangchow. He didn't give me much encouragement. My cold is much better so it is just a case of getting some exercise and working it off. I suppose you have had a chance to see Geo. Fitch and perhaps Kroeger. We heard that a business man recently returned to Shanghai from Nanking had told a small group of conditions here. Were you in that group? We understand that the next mail will not come until about the 14th. That seems a long time off, but is better than not being able to hear at all.

Feb. 4th This is just a chance for a p.s. as Mr. Bishopric did not leave today, which has been another wet snowy day. The morning started by taking a woman to the hospital, then coming back for another at #25 and stopping at the Am. Embassy en route to get certificates for the servants we are sending to Hsiakuan and the C.T.S. to guard the places against looting. While the people were being treated at the Hosp. I drove down to St. Paul's to find that the servants I had left there yesterday had had a good night and were unmolested. For noon today John and I were invited to a Chinese feast by one of the members of St. Paul's living at #17 which was not really a feast but a nice meal consisting mostly of a certain kind of patty popular at this time of the year. Some were filled with chopped meat, some with vegetables, some with sugar and chopped nuts. Some were fried, others were cooked. This was the day by which the people from the refugee centers were to have moved back to the other parts of the city. It was said that force would be used upon those who did not return voluntarily, but I am glad to say that there were no instances of it. We went around to the various centers to observe in case any was used, but everything was quiet.



Feb. 12. John has gone to a meeting of the International Committee, so while I wait for him to come home for supper, I have a little chance to write... Yesterday John and I were both busy all day, trying to get mail ready for Mr. Bos to take. We had been told that it should be at the Embassy by four, but John asked me to take a letter to Mr. Bos personally authorizing him to get a copy of John's films in Shanghai. John himself had to speak at a Bible class at the Univ. Mr. Bos was staying with Dr. Rosen of the German Embassy. When I got there they were entertaining Count ? the French Military attache who recently came to Hankin for a look-see. Mr. Bos said he would be glad to deliver the letters in person, as he lives on Yu Yuen Road, not far from your compound. I was awfully glad as it would give you a chance to meet him. We did not stamp any of the letters, as I thought you might want to add to some, and in any case read them. The letters for persons in Shanghai you can probably deliver personally. John came back from the meeting which Geo. Fitch attended. The Oahu got in about three o'clock, I think. All it brought me was a letter from Betty; since you did not read it, I wonder if there was some other mail which you did not receive. In your last letter you said you were sending by the Oahu. John was disappointed not to have any letter from Faith either in this batch or the one which came by H.M.S. Bee. We are having a chance to send mail tomorrow by Father Kearney who is going back to Shanghai on a French boat. He came only yesterday, I believe. We are mighty glad for every chance to send or receive mail. I have at last located the lists I made of our furniture, etc. which we left in Yangchow, and I am sending the black note-book herewith. The contents of the trunks are not listed, so I guess you will have to do that from memory. I have not had a chance to check up on Miss Sims' or the Roberts' things but hope to do that soon. Last night I spent at #17. This a.m. John and I have had a meeting with some of our Chinese staff to discuss the question of moving back. They did not seem awfully keen to do so, but I fear we will never succeed in getting other people to return to their homes unless we do so ourselves. The thought has been constantly in my mind lately that I should be willing to move back to St. Paul's with any who may be willing to go with me. Hsialuan being outside the gate presents complications. The question in my mind is whether if I move back I can be of as much service as by staying here. I suppose there is no answer except to try it out. I asked Mr. Mills today about it and he felt I could be of great use by keeping an eye on things at that end of the city. Our rehabilitation Committee will set up its first relief office in the Christian Mission building on Chung Hua Road which is not so far from our place. So I can probably be helpful there. Another problem will be that of transportation. I have my bicycle which will be o.k. in good weather, but for many reasons I think the experiment is worth trying. I hate to have the door of every church closed in the districts to which the people are returning. My going will certainly create confidence among the people who have gone back. What I think I shall do is to stay down there at night but still take my meals, or most of them with John at No. 10. That will give me a chance to size up the situation and see if it is worth while. I hope it will be possible for you and Bessie Sims to come back soon. Won't that be a grand day!

This afternoon we had a meeting of our Rehabilitation Committee at which we discussed a possible budget. We hope to have about \$100,000 for this work. It will be used for helping people to repair their homes, to go back to their native places, and for grants-in-aid for widows, orphans and other destitute persons. We'll need all we can get. It was sonderful to hear that Geo. Fitch had been able to get a fine sum in Shanghai for relief here. Have not had a chance to see him but hope to tomorrow. Did you see him in Shanghai? John is awfully pleased that his pictures turned out so well. A number of Embassy people want copies. Dr. Rosen is ordering a set to send to Hitler to see. Am sending down a roll of films which contains, I believe, pictures which Steve took of our house in Yangchow. If I can remember to bring my camera over from #17



(Feb.12)

I may send another roll which contains pictures of men who were killed in the Temple precincts across from No.17. Would you please send me some rolls of films because I can probably get some interesting snapshots. I am also sending down a few other personal things which I came across in suit cases. It is awful to have things tucked around in suitcases and drawers and then not remember where. I hope things will get straightened out some day...Kola and Sindberg came in from ChiHsiashan this morning and stayed for lunch and then went off again. Sindberg knows Sangreen and Mr.Suhr. It seems a long time since we made that trip, doesn't it? (Nov.2nd from Shanghai to Yangchow) This afternoon Chinese planes paid us a visit. The J.fired off a lot of anti-aircraft and made a lot of noise but widely missed their mark and did no damage. Spring will soon here and I am wondering if it will not be wise to have some vegetable seeds to start a garden at St.Paul's. It may be useless to do so, and also it may be a very wise move. Will you get some seeds and send them. I don't think that we can get them from the Univ.here. I have just typed out the news from tonight's broadcast. Those to whom I give it are crazy to receive it and almost mob me when I appear. Tomorrow I am to preach for Mr.Chen's Christians next door so I must be getting to bed.

Feb.13th. Just a postscript which will have to be sent out in less than an hour. We had a good service this morning with fine attendance despite the rain, and with reverent attention all through. I preached to them on the Epistle, running the race that is set before them, etc. I talked over, with John again the question of moving back to St.Paul's, and he thinks it a very good idea. We shall still take most of our meals together. He will stay on at Mr.Schultze's house until the Hsiakuan situation becomes clearer. So I expect to move this week, which reminds me that you might send me several tins of cigarettes which I can hand around to the soldiers who might chance to drop in. They do not have to be the most expensive brand. John and I are both well and busy. I'd like to drop in for a Yangchow Old Home Week. Give my best to all the folks.