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NANKING INTERNATIONAL RELIEF COMMITTEE

5 Ninghai Road

March 3rd, 1938.

China International Famine Relief Commission,
Shanghai.

Gentlemen:-

Attention: Mr. John Earle Baker.

Since Dr. M. S. Bates wrote you on February 17th, the possibilities of getting scouts out into the surrounding country have improved somewhat. Consequently, I have set up an agricultural survey of the six hsien around Nanking commonly known as "Ningshu". This survey is simplified from Dr. Buck's technique used in the war area around Shanghai in 1932.

The purpose of this survey is to ascertain conditions in farm areas around Nanking that affect winter crops, spring planting, and the farmer's welfare. The problems involved for spring planting center around seed, work animals, labor and food supply. The plan is to send two investigators out across a hsien following the main roads and then come back on a course zigzag across this to secure conditions off the main roads. They will secure a village schedule for every third village, a farm schedule for every tenth farm family present in that village, and a price schedule for every market town. On the basis of the tabulated results we hope to be able to estimate the areas most seriously affected and the needs especially for spring planting. Chinese copies of schedules and instructions are enclosed herewith. Investigators expect to start March 4th.

Dr. Bates and myself are now working on an economic survey of Nanking which I think is clear from the enclosed outline

CIFRC. March 3rd.

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of problems and techniques. We are starting on this survey right away and will let you know results as soon as possible.

The agricultural survey is set up to do the field work in less than two weeks and then tabulate results in another week. So we hope to be able to give you some preliminary results by telegraph in about three weeks.

Any suggestions you have regarding these matters will be greatly appreciated.

The real problem comes when we get the results, what can we do to relieve the situation? For that, ^{the agricultural,} we will have to depend upon aid from you because relief funds here are so far only scaled to take care of the city population.

Thanking you for your help, I am

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Lewis S. C. Smythe". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Lewis S. C. Smythe, Secretary.