

Y. W. C. A. Notes

News from Shanghai

The following extracts are taken from the first letters which have come to the Foreign Division of the Y.W.C.A. in New York from the American secretaries in Shanghai since the beginning of the military operations there.

From Margaret MacKinlay and Florence Pierce:

"The World seems crashing about us and we are soaked in a sense of human misery, human treachery, and injustice; many people we know have been taken by the Japanese and not heard from since; others, subjected to terror and indignity. Mr. Chen, our bookkeeper, lost his best friend. He was shot at point blank as he attempted to come out of his house. Mrs. Mei's lovely home is gone, completely wiped out by gunfire. Our treasurer, Mrs. Woo, had to flee from her home and the whole Li was then set on fire. My chairman, Mrs. T. M. Li, had to come out of her home with her family and had terrible experiences getting through to safety. It is all like a terrible nightmare. The guns of the Japanese warships are still booming but they are less and less frequent and further away, an indication that the Chinese defense forces have been pushed back.

"We have faced great financial anxieties in relation to our reserve building funds as well as current account, but for the moment things are adjusted. I had to convey 2,000 huge silver dollars from the bank; paper notes worth their value were exhausted. Lily Haas, Pearl Pollock and I did it in two relays, but my arm muscles are still sore. Yesterday I paid \$1.95 for coolies to transfer \$25,000 in silver from one bank to another! An unique experience!

"What a tragic world it has become to people here this week! I haven't time to describe the horrors of what has been happening, even in the Settlement area north of Soochow Creek. All of us who lived here had to become refugees, and of course those who lived beyond Range Road, the Settlement boundary, have little chance of finding much left when they get back. But material possessions come to be of little importance, and personal relations loom large.

"We—meaning Miss Ting, Jo Brown (of Grand Island, Neb.), Mildred Owen (Topeka, Ruth Hill (Dallas, Tex.), Cornelia Eckert (Kansas), Pearl Pollock (College Springs, Ia.), (Kansas City, Mo.), Margaret MacKinlay (New York), Hazel Myers (Dayton, Ohio), Cora Teng, May Bagwell (Milledgeville, Ga.) and myself, and six "outport" Chinese secretaries—all come down to No. 22 Nanking road (the International Branch of the Y. W. C. A.) last Friday, Jan. 29. We slept on all the floors except the lobby and hallway, but now that the situation promises to be prolonged we are gradually moving out and off. Miss Kao went back to Tientsin with Mabel Danuser last Sunday. Ruth Hill and I are the Magill's, Margaret at Lockwood's, and Mildred goes back to Hangchow Monday. I can't get a sailing for Tientsin until Feb. 11 or 13.

"Welcome in every day, have staff meeting at 9:30, and then back at something or other until 4:00, when we close. . . . We have a big refugee center started now on Nanking road in a big new bank building to accommodate 3000 people, and students are doing loyal service there. If only the airplanes would stop flying so low over the settlement our nerves would all be in better condition. The fighting was worst of all last night, with many big guns used. How did the people stand four years of it?"

Nation-Wide Banquet

Business girls in more than 500 Y.W.C.A. clubs of the country are making plans to take part in a nation-wide banquet which is to be held March 29. This will be the fifth annual dinner to be served in this way, by the association business girls' clubs which now have a membership of approximately 125,000. Programs with similar theme will be featured. The banquet theme is "Pioneering." Lake Forest and Waukegan will be guests of the Highland Park clubs. Mrs. Elizabeth Tolles of Chicago will speak on "A Challenge in Pioneering." Over 100 girls are expected to attend the banquet in Highland Park. Marion McManus and Alice Marks will have charge of the programs and decorations. Vera Whitcomb and committee arrangement of the tables, Ethel Kreh Hecksweiler, arrangement of programs. Lydia Hutton and members of the board of directors, the supper.

Easter Breakfast

The Easter Breakfast given by the business and industrial girls is open to the public. Breakfast will be served at 6:30 o'clock, followed with a program. Dorothy Simpson is chairman of the program arrangements. "Judith," a cantata will be given. Readers will be Edna Schneider and Alice Marks. Special solos and duets will be sung by members of the three clubs. Harriett Marks will be the accompanist.

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"LIKE A MIGHTY ARMY"

The War Against Depression

1932



Fight Fans Pray for Return of Lindbergh Baby; Racket Stilled

Almost five years ago, the bellowing showman voice of Joe Humphries stilled a shouting, cheering mob of prize fight fans with a request of silent prayer, says a story from New York.

The prayer was for a stranger from the west who had taken off some hours before, unannounced, unsung, unknown to most of America, on a solo airplane flight to Paris. The boy carried with him some sandwiches and a letter of introduction.

Last night under the glaring lights in the prize ring of Madison Square Garden, announcer Joe Humphries stepped to the center of the canvas, resin coated squared ring, held up a hand, shouted for silence, then lowered his voice:

"O Lord," he said, "we beseech

you in this moment of prayer to return Baby Lindbergh to his heart broken mother and grief stricken father. If it is thy will, thy will be done, Amen."

The 15,000 fight fans gathered to watch blood spilled in a boxing match between Bat Battalino and Eddie Ran, were silent during the prayer. The silence turned into a murmur over the great hall—and within a few moments the shouting, booing, jeering and cheering crowd was itself again.

Red Cross to Handle Flour for Needy in North End of County

The distribution of tons of baking flour to needy families in the ten northern townships of Lake county through the local Red Cross chapter became a certainty last week through an act of congress authorizing the Federal farm board to release surplus wheat and flour in

emergency areas throughout the nation.

Southern townships in the county not included in the Waukegan and North Chicago Red Cross chapter's district are to be served through the Chicago Red Cross organization.

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