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CHINESE

CHIMES



THE CHINESE CHIMES.

Paoingfu, China  
November, 1926.

Entered at the post office as a matter of course.

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WHY THE CHIMES DID NOT RING.

Somewhere we have read a Christmas story entitled "Why the Chimes Rang". (Perhaps you are more fortunate than we and remember the author.) We are reminded of that title at this time of year, but before we start out on a new theme perhaps you will want to ask "Why this long silence?" Here's the answer: During the month of August we were having a delightful time at the seashore and since September First, when we returned to Paoingfu, numerous duties have monopolized our time. The Busy Manager, besides carrying on the work she had last spring, has been helping with duties that Mrs. Galt had to lay down when she went on furlough and has also been doing some teaching for Miss Breck who had to go to Peking in September for a serious operation. While the latter is gradually improving she is not yet able to return to Paoingfu. The Cub-Reporter undertook to slide down the banister railing headfirst and consequently had to carry his arm in a sling for several weeks while two bones in the forearm knit themselves back together. As it was

his right arm he is fortunate in that he is left-handed. The Sport Editor is just learning to read and is so absorbed that he hasn't time for any "editorial work". The Treasure has also been putting in extra time trying to keep the amah busy. The Pretender hasn't done much except to keep the station accounts, teach six hours of English a week in the University, teach two or three Bible classes on Sunday, make a train journey to Peking and a bicycle trip to the country, but he can't make the Chimes ring without the aid of the rest of the staff. Hence the silence.

### WHY THEY RING NOW.

With the exception of the Cub-Reporter's arm, the above mentioned reasons for silence are still operative, but the power of the approaching Christmas Season is more compelling than all of these reasons put together. Like the Derkie's feet when the music began, the Chimes "just can't keep still" at this time of year. We want to make a "joyful noise" for several reasons:

Firstly, to offset some other noises:- the rattling of swords, the booming of cannon, the blasting of bugles, the weeping of mourners, the crying of the frightened and the downtrodden - all so audible in this land of peace-loving people.

Secondly, we want to be joyful for the comparative peace of our own region. Pactingfu, and the surrounding countryside, was never more overrun by soldiers, so far as we can recall, but fortunately they are not at present engaged in war, and our work can consequently go forward. Our boys' school is full to overflowing, and our country evangelists are busy starting Mass Education and Training Classes on a larger scale than ever before. The Pretender was in the country last week at a county where they were just beginning a campaign to raise \$1000 Mex. to build a new church in the county seat of that county. They got pledges for \$300 the first two days and the evangelist in charge was optimistic that they would be able to reach their goal. When we read of conditions in some other sections of of China where civil war is waging, where bandits kill and plunder, and where foreigners are shut up for weeks in cities that are besieged by warring generals we feel sure that it is time for us to be joyful and merry and glad.

Lastly, we know that all around the world there soon will be going up sounds of joy and songs of gladness. We want to join our frail voices with the singing multitude in this Yuletide music. May this glad throng ever increase, till every last one who knows not the meaning of this Great Event which we celebrate shall join with us, and the whole world shall sing of Peace, and on earth Goodwill.

#### OUR PRESENT PERSONNEL.

With the Prices and Galts away in America we are indeed a depleted group in our Pactingfu compound. Miss Breck has not yet returned from Peking and Mr. Hubbard is in the country much of the time so when we have a compound supper we number only six. Fortunately, Miss Phelps is back and is finding plenty to do. After her journey around the globe and her visit to many lands she is in great demand for talks on her travels. She was rather tired when she reached Pactingfu, after three months of steady traveling, but work seems to agree with her for she now appears to be in very good health.

#### A BOYS' BAND.

The Sport-Editor still keeps up his "promotion work", in spite of his interest in learning to read English and Chinese. Not long ago we heard him talking about "belonging to his band". On inquiry we learned that he was the father of an organization to which only those could belong who "dared" to cut their hands on a piece of tin so as to draw blood. We found that the "promoter" had several cuts on his hand and when we asked why so many he informed us that it was so he could be "captain of the band". Yes, boys will be boys!

#### GIRLS TOO.

Of course the Sport-Editor's "band" was primarily for boys, and "brave" ones, at that. But one of his little girl playmates was not to be outdone. Gladys Maude Hubbard, three-year old "Night Reporter" on the "Watchman", was recently heard to say, "James won't let me

belong to his band, Emma-Rose won't have me in hers and Elizabeth says I can't be in hers. But God told me "pu yao chin" (meaning in Chinese, that doesn't matter) I'll let you be in mine". As "Band Promoter" we vote first prize to Gladys Maude.

#### PAOTINGFU YMCA BUILDING FINALLY COMPLETED.

What with civil war, the lack of transportation facilities and the absence of a foreign secretary for some months, it has looked at times during the last two years as if the new YMCA building would never be ready for use. But patience has again won a victory. The formal opening was held October 16th and the following day at a dedication service the formalities were concluded which gave the building over to the local board of directors and marked the end of a long time of waiting. The money for this building was raised by Sherwood Eddy several years ago as a memorial for his friend, Horace Tracy Pitkin, who lost his life here at the Boxer Uprising.

The building is a two story edifice of red brick with bath tubs, shower baths, barber shop, moving picture outfit, hot and cold running water and other modern equipment such as found in an American Y.M.C.A. A membership and financial campaign is going on now and already the new plant is being well patronized.

#### PAOTINGFU STUDENT SITUATION.

Last year the government schools of Paotingfu, including Hopei University, were obliged to close in November and didn't open again until this fall. They are all open now, the running on a very narrow financial margin of an uncertain income. The opportunity for "student work" is very encouraging. The leading middle school of the city, Yu Te, which is a private institution with over 700 students, had an attack of anti-foreignism last year and no student was allowed to study the Bible. The ban has apparently been lifted this year and the reaction is quite noticeable. There is more demand for Bible classes among the students of Yu Te than the local supply of teachers. The Pretender has three such classes, Miss Phelps has one, the Salvation Army Captain has at least one, Mr. Wheeler has one or two and there are some more taught by foreigners in the Presbyterian mic-

sion. It looks as if the suppression of last year has only made the students more anxious to learn what Christianity really is .

No doubt the desire to get instruction in English is one motive but the questions asked by some students show conclusively that they are interested in more than English. In one of the Pretender's classes a student inquired if he might ask a question not in the lesson. "Yes, indeed", he was told. His question was, "How does one become a Christian?" Another student asked "Is it true that the spirit of Jesus is still alive in the world?" The way he acquiesced in the Pretender's reply seemed to indicate that he was not doubting the fact but merely wanted his opinion substantiated.

We have just been looking at some letters these students wrote as part of their Bible lesson. They were supposed to be letters to friends telling what they had learned of Jesus. Here are a couple quotations: "From this we know, that Jesus was full of pluck and spirit. We must be learn him (meaning, learn of him), love our mother country, an' down with the Imperialisms of our foe". Again: "Jesus wished to save his country, his neighbors and all the peoples of the world and without fearing died. So that we must honor and obey him. Is it right? I am no doubt of him. "These are not boys in a mission school, neither do they make any pretense of being followers of Jesus but we are confident that they are drinking from fountains that taste sweet to them and we believe that seeds are being sown that will eventually bear forth fruit.

It is no wonder that these students are seeking for some way to help their country. A few weeks ago some military authorities went to a dormitory where some Yu Te students live. They found there a student from Hupeh province with some Kuomintang literature. Evidently he was a "Red" propagandist and altho it was 2 o'clock in the morning he was taken out into the yard and shot without a sigh of a trial. A little later the same authorities took into custody a teacher from Yu Te and several students from other schools of the city, including some girl students. One of them proved to be from Hupeh and he was bound with a rope, put in a cart and while ~~the~~

screaming at the top of his voice he was taken thru the streets of the city to the execution grounds outside the west city gate where he was shot. Two others were imprisoned for two years and the rest were allowed to go without fine. No doubt the two Hupsh students believed that they were helping their country by acting as Cantonese propagandists against the northern militarists, but it is not surprising if the Paotingfu students quiet down in the presence of such suppression.

At the opening of the YMCA the principal of Yu Te school was on the platform and gave a very flowery speech in which he praised the work of the YMCA. The acting dean of Ho pei University also read a very formal speech after which he voluntarily gave a very laudatory testimony to the splendid work which the YMCA had done for athletics in the Paotingfu schools. He has been head of another Paotingfu middle school for several years and was in the Pretender's Bible class for teachers for a time. Of course complimentary remarks are natural at such occasions but it seemed as if this was from a really true appreciation and the man sincerely meant what he said.

Our contact with students sometimes seems rather transient and we have to ask ourselves whether the time is well spent. We don't see many come out and profess Christianity but we do feel that in these days of anti-foreign sentiment we may be able to form attitudes towards those of other nations which may offset some of the prejudice which is caused by newspaper reports and other sources. Friendly attitudes do not, of course, constitute the whole of Christianity but we are inclined to think that such attitudes are very essential in Christianity, so perhaps that is enough to hope for at present.

### THE PEKING MAN.

Many have said that what China needs most is a "Man", of course spelt with a capital M. Men, she has, and there is no dearth of them - such as they are - but they are all too much alike. China must have an "outstanding man". A few weeks ago Peking papers announced that a "man" had been found, 25 miles outside of Peking, a truly "outstanding man", too. Outstanding not only for all China but for all history, for this man lived half a million years ago, may be two half-million years.

The announcement was made during a visit of the Prince of Sweden to the Chinese Capital because the Prince is greatly interested in archeology. The discovery was made some time ago but the specimens found had to be sent to Sweden to be examined by experts before the discoverers were willing to make public what they believed to be a "find" of great value to the scientific world. In as much as the specimen consisted of only a tooth, or possibly a few teeth, some of us find it easy to believe that the discoverers would want to be rather cautious before announcing that the tooth was half a million years old. Even now we have to stretch our imaginations considerably to comprehend how such simple evidence can be so conclusive but since we are not archeologists we won't quarrel with the decisions of those who know. If this new "find" is as old as is now believed it means that the owner of this tooth lived near Peking ever before the "Java man", the "Heidelberg man" and other similar specimens lived on earth.

Of course this discovery makes even China seem old and it also helps to substantiate the belief that scientists have advanced that the human race had its cradle in central Asia. The "Peking man" may go down in history as a very important personage but until China comes to look to the future, instead of the past, for "The Man of the Hour" this old country will have to muddle along as she is now doing and as she has been doing for many years.

#### MORE GOOD NEWS FROM GENEVA.

Not long ago we had a most interesting letter from Mabel Bosher Scudder, whom many of you know. It was written at Geneva and told of the very impressive and exciting meeting of the League of Nations which the Scudders attended when Germany was admitted. We are more than glad to re-echo this bit of good news.

Not long before Mrs. Scudder's letter reached us we had another delightful one from Dr. Aaysawa in which he mentioned the fact that more than 30 nations are represented in the International Labor



Bureau in which he is Japan's representative. In his letter to the Cub-Reporter he mentioned having friends among Chinese, Japanese, English, French, Italians, Belgians, Dutch, Danes, Swedes, Norwegians, Rumanians, Greeks, Spaniards, Indians, Canadians, Australians, Brazilians, etc., etc. He says of them, "They are almost all of them jolly fellows who like to laugh and if you try a joke on them they all burst out to laugh while if you do some unkind or nasty thing to them they all get angry. They are just like us, the difference is only in their languages, flags and stamps." Dr. Ayusawa thoughtfully sent the Cub-Reporter quite an assortment of stamps from these various countries. What an education to have such a cosmopolitan group of friends!

### CHINA'S CALDRON CONTINUES TO BOIL.

Since our last sheet went out from Paoingfu there has been considerable severe fighting in North and Central China and the present situation is not such as to lead one to believe that it is all over. Wu Pei Fu managed, with the help of Chang Tso Lin and some others, to drive Feng Yu Hsiang's army back into Mongolia but he had to bite his own nose off to spite his face. While he was busy at this mischief the National Army from Canton crept up over the mountains and succeeded in capturing Hankow, Hanyang and Wu Chang where Wu had been formerly located. Wu has been threatening to recapture these places but about as far as he has got is to send out telegrams. He isn't even in charge of his own army, according to reports in the papers. Tsao Lun went down to visit him and because Wu could not raise money for his troops Tsao put up the money and took over the troops. Tsao has also been threatening to take the Wu-Han cities but his treats have not materialized as yet.

Sun Chuan Fang who has controlled five provinces in the lower Yang Tse, and was supposed to be Wu's ally, sat on the fence as long as he could but finally had to get off and face the Canton army. Now he seems to be about as completely finished as Wu and he is calling to Chang Tsung Ch'ang to come to his aid.

In the meantime Feng Yu Hsiang has returned from Russia and is

reported to be getting ready to unite with the National Army from Canton. With Wu and Sun completely out of it some people believe that there will be a grand finale between Chang Tso Lin and the National Army, with Feng helping the latter side. Chang tso Lin has come to Tientsin and the latest report is that he is to be made "Chief Executive". Poor, poor China! She who has exalted education, and stood for peace for centuries, to have for her "head" an ex-bandit who can't read or write!! But since there's many a slip between cup and lip Chang may never reach his coveted position of "Chief Executive".

Is it any wonder that even here in the north those who know the situation and do any thinking along political lines seem to hope that the Nationalists will win? In spite of the fact that Wu and Chang claim to be out to rid China of the "Reds" the Cantonese are making a splendid reputation among the people where they have gone. On the other hand, the northern militarists are becoming more and more hated because of their cruel authorities and lawless destruction. In Honan a short time ago it was reported that 40 people were burned alive by the militarists in control there in an attempt to put down the "Red Spear Society". In an attempt to destroy the same society in Shantung the militarists have practically wiped out 20 or 30 villages. This Red Spear Society was organized by local people to protect themselves against robbers whom the militarists either could not, or would not, suppress.

Perhaps we should be more "neutral" but the boiling of the pot around us sometimes causes our own inner fires to burst forth. We wonder what the Nazarene would feel and say and do were he in North China today - he who said "In as much as you have done it unto one of the least of these -----".

EXCUSE US.

We started out to wish you all a Merry Christmas but before we could get down to that message which was buried deep in our hearts

we had to spew out the dross that was on top. Don't feel that you have to take the dross. Some of you have been reading of conditions here in China and we could not refrain from mentioning them lest you should fear that we were holding back because they are too terrible to mention. They are bad, from many points of view, but we are not disheartened. A better day will come, we are confident and if our being here can only hasten that day we are glad to remain. So long as we are here we shall continue to endeavor to "make a joyful noise". The whole staff is pulling with both hands on the rope of the Chimes at this time. We want you all to know that we are Merry with you, and partly because of you.

God bless you all. May your joy be full and your hearts be glad during this Christmas Season, and may 1926 bring many blessings that 1925 has not seen fit to bestow.

#### THE DEVIL'S DUE.

We thought we had finished but since there is a little space we will devote it to the devil, if you will pardon the phrase. After all we have said against the militarists, we are glad to have an opportunity to mention one act of a militarist appropriate for the Christmas season. One of Chang Tso Lin's ablest generals is his own son, Chang Tsueh Liang. While in Peking recently the "Young General" called on "Jimmy" Yen, the founder and promoter of the Less Education Movement. When the general learned that Jimmy had to spend considerable time each day in a ricksha or trolley car traveling between his home and office, the former remarked that it was a shame to have to waste so much time. A few days later when Jimmy was speaking at some meeting a servant told him that a man was outside with an auto for him. "But I haven't ordered an auto," Jimmy argued. When he finally went out he learned that the Young General was presenting him with a new closed car.

We don't mean (by our title) to call the Young General names. He is not to blame that he was born into his profession. It's his tribe we object to. We hope his role as Gentle Class may continue and may he make a man of himself yet. There is still a chance for he is only about 25 years of age.