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July 19 26

—THE—
CHINESE CHIMES

FORBEARANCE NUMBER

WITH VARIATIONS

THE CHINESE CHIMES.

Paoingfu, China

July, 1926.

Entered at the post office as a matter of course.

EDITOR (pretend) H. W. ROBINSON
BUSY MANAGER, MARY S. ROBINSON
CUB-REPORTER, HAROLD S. ROBINSON
SPORT EDITOR, JAMES W. ROBINSON
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BEAR AND FORBEAR.

In a book of classical Chinese stories the Pretender recently came across this one: Ages ago there was a family in China which had the enviable reputation of having lived together for nine generations without a single separation. To the Chinese mind the ability to get along with each other so that the family need not be split up is one of the greatest virtues to be achieved. When a famous man in Chinese history heard of this lustrous family which had lived together so long he inquired of a member of the family what was the secret of their long record of family felicity. In reply the man took a brush and wrote a hundred copies of the Chinese character which means Forbearance, and is also translated "Bear", as in the expression "To bear in silence".

This story has recurred to the Pretender's mind many times since he first read it and we would that we knew how to put into music this note of Forbearance. We would like to "ring it out" to all the world in this issue of the Chimes.

PATIENCE STILL A VIRTUE.

A few months ago some of the readers of the Chimes may have noticed in the papers that the American government, along with several others, sent to the Chinese authorities in Peking an ultimatum regarding the closing of the port at Taku, near Tientsin. In this ultimatum there was a threat that unless the port was opened within forty-eight hours the powers issuing the ultimatum would take steps to open it themselves. Many Americans in China were greatly grieved to learn of this "gunboat diplomacy" and took pains to let their displeasure be known. A group of influential Americans (Missionaries and others) called on the American Minister in Peking and expressed disapproval of what had been done, another group of ~~influential~~ in Tientsin sent a cable to the home land as a protest to such action and even Paotingfu was heard from. We "American Boarders" drew up a statement of regret that such a step had been taken and sent it to the American Minister. Fortunately the port was opened before the time limit set by the ultimatum expired but it does seem to us that patience and forbearance are virtues more becoming "us" in this land at present than the rattling of swords or the blasting of bullets.

We well remember a high school teacher who, when the classroom became unbearably noisy, had the habit of putting down her book and declaring in no uncertain tones "There are times when patience ceases to be a virtue". We admit the validity of that statement but we do not believe we have yet reached that stage in the present situation in China. Patience on the part of foreigners in China is still a virtue. May China's friends in America not forget that virtue in their eagerness to see more speed in the establishment of a stable government.

A SERVANTS' SOCIAL:

An unusual event took place at the headquarters of the Chimes a few weeks ago and so far as we know it was the first event of its kind that has ever been held in this city. More than fifty people gathered one evening for such games as "bean bag, pinning the donkey's tail", victrola music and a little motion picture show. The participants were the servants in the foreign households of the compound, and their

families. After the entertainment refreshments of tea, cakes, candy and cookies were served by the foreigners to their servants as guests. It was almost impossible to keep the servants out of the kitchen but it was a joy to do something for those who do so much for us day after day and week after week. We feel that the success of the experiment warrants more similar socials in the future.

WE WELCOME WU.

By "we" is meant the Paotingfuites, and "Wu" is none other than Wu Pei Fu, once hailed as "The Saviour of China", and from a military point of view, still at, or near, the head of the list of China's strong men. For days and weeks it had been rumored that Wu was coming to Paotingfu and he finally arrived about two hours earlier than the month of June.

Before he reached our city he telegraphed to his general in charge of the Paotingfu troops, dismissing him from his high post. Then without even his body guard Wu came right to Paotingfu to complete in person what he had started by wire. The dismissed general, Chin Yun Ao, asked that some other position be given him but so far none has been offered that he is willing to accept. For some time Chin was theoretically free but since Wu would not let him have a train to leave Paotingfu he was in a sense, Wu's prisoner. We don't know what has become of him now.

For some hours at the time of Wu's arrival no one was allowed on the streets of Paotingfu along which Wu was to travel to reach his headquarters. Merchants put out their flags all over the city as a welcome to this newly arrived Warlord and after a few days the Chamber of Commerce and other influential organizations gave a dinner for him. At this dinner the speaker who made the address of welcome said that for months the people of this region have suffered greatly because of the many armies which they have had to support and they hoped, now that Wu had arrived, that conditions would be greatly improved. Wu then made a speech, the substance of which was this: "Yes, it is true that you have suffered, but what is the reason for it? It is because Feng Yu Hsiang was a traitor. It is not important

that he betrayed me, for I count for nothing, but he betrayed the Chinese people. What is the remedy? Destroy Feng's army. Feng's departure from China doesn't remove the cause of the trouble, for he doesn't amount to anything. His influence is still here and if his army is not destroyed it will make more trouble in Peking. I am therefore determined to do away with this army. As for politics, we are not politicians. Our business is to right wrongs and we can do this on horse-back, but people on horse-back can't build up a government. That is outside of our realm."

Whether the people in general of Paotingfu inwardly welcome such a guest is a question for the Sphinx to answer. He is asking them for more money to carry on his campaign against Feng's army and when Dr. Lewis of the Presbyterian Mission called on him recently Wu told the doctor to get beds ready for wounded would be sent back here. Narrowing the meaning of the pronoun down to a more personal content "we" find it difficult to arouse much enthusiasm in this welcome to Wu. In spite of the fact that he made a donation of \$100 mex. to the local Y.M.C.A., gave \$2000 for a new Seventh Day Adventist Hospital which is being built in Honan and has promised funds to open the Hopei University in Paotingfu this fall, he admits that his whole purpose is more destruction and it takes no Sphinx to see that China has had too much of that already. A young Chinese who has studied in America many years specializing in psychology, and who now holds important positions in Educational Work, said to us recently that Wu acts like a maniac. Perhaps the psychologist is right. After a man has spent years of thinking of the fruits of war - killing and more killing - we wonder if one's mind doesn't become so twisted from what its maker intended to be that it properly belongs in the class with lunatics. We try to stick to the theme to which this issue of the Chimes is dedicated, and be patient, even with the militarists, but we must confess that this requires the stretching of our patience even to, if not beyond, the elastic limit. "How long, Lord, How long?"

A VISIT TO THE CAPITAL.

For several months the Pretender and the Busy Manager had been

hoping to get to Peking but were delayed by travelling conditions on the train. Early in May we decided to undertake the trip inspite of the discomfort which we knew it would mean. Dr. and Mrs. Charles Jefferson of Broadway Tabernacle, New York, and Dr. and Mrs. William E. Strong of the American Board, Boston, and Misses Wilcox and Windlay of Hawaii were all in Peking so we felt it would be worth while to go at that time.

Altho it is only about ninety miles it took us from 6:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. and we were more tired that night than we had been for a long time. However, inspite of this day our stay in Peking was so delightful that we were glad we went. Sunday we heard Dr. Jefferson preach twice and his sermon that evening was worth going a long distance, even in China, to hear. That evening we attended a dinner party at the Porters in honor of the two ladies from Hawaii. (They later came to Paotingfu and took a trip in the country to see the work that is being done in the Mass Education Campaign). Tuesday noon we attended a luncheon in honor of the Strong's given by the Dartmouth Alumni Association of North China. At this time the Association voted to give \$100 Mex. to our Dartmouth-in-China work in Paotingfu. That eveing there was an American Board party for the Jeffersons and Strong's. Some of these missionaries had the nerve to "take off" these honored guests in an impromptu farce which was presented in three acts. Other dinner parties and luncheons, shopping and several visits to the dentist kept us busy for four days when we returned to our home and family in Paotingfu. Our ride back was in an open freight car but the fresh air, inspite of the cinders from the engine was preferable to the closed car full of fellow-passengers and foul air.

IS IT AS BAD AS THIS?

The Cub-Reporter is developing into quite an extensive reader and somewhere he ran across the following story which he reported recently at the dinner table: A fox was trying to explain what a man is like to a wolf who had never seen a human. While they were in conver-

sation a boy passed by and the wold asked if that was a man. "No", said the fox, "but he will be one someday". A little later a soldier came along and the wold inquired if that was a man. "No", replied the fox, "But he has been". We admit that soldiers are like missionaries in one respect - they are not all alike - but the actions of some soldiers in North China during the last few months leads us to believe ^{that} the fox had probably had some personal acquaintance with the class of people whom he said "had been" men and therefore knew what he was talking about.

PAOTINGFU PROGRESSES.

One of the problems that comfronts missionaries in China is that of helping to bring about new relationships between the sexes. More progress has been made in some cities than in others along this line and Paotingfu probably stand at neither the had nor the foot of the scale. She is less advanced than some coast cities but not so backward as some places farther interior. We have a lower primary school in which boys and girls study together but it would be "scandalous" to think of having such promiscuity in the higher primary, or middle, schools.

When we go to church the men and boys sit on one side of the room and the women and girls on the other. Husbands and wives, to say nothing of brothers and sisters (except the very small ones), are still separated in the church at Paotingfu. So far as we know this is the rule thruout China inspite of the fact that the church should stand for the solidarity of the family. However, we want the church to become indigenous and if the people prefer to separate the sexes for public worship it is not for foreigners to interfere.

We can have more to say about the affairs in our own homes and use them as meeting places where men and women may come together in natural contacts. During the last few months we have had several "social sings" in our home to which we have invited teachers in the boys' and girls' schools, evangelists and their wives and others among the leaders of the Paotingfu church. We try not to have them too formal and encourage spontaneity. The last one, which was held on the evening before the anniversary of the Shanghai shooting affair of last year (May 30), proved to be the most successful of the season.

The principal and some of the other teachers of the boys' school came early and said that they would have to leave early. We, therefore, moved their special number, a male quartet selection forward in the program so they might be free to go as soon as they wished. The fact that they remained till after ten o'clock leads us to believe that they enjoyed themselves and we were quite glad that they found it possible to remain so long.

Our program included piano solos, and duets by some of the foreign children and their mothers and teachers, Chinese orchestra selections by the teachers in the girls' school and hymns sung by the whole audience. We then asked the teachers of the boys' and girls' schools to sing for us the Chinese national anthem which they gladly did. This is an old, old song written thousands of years ago and brought out at the time of the Washington Conference a few years ago when a prize was offered by the Chinese delegates for the best Chinese national song. When the teachers had finished singing this song they voluntarily started singing some other Chinese songs which we all enjoyed hearing.

After the musical part of the program was over we served ice-cold fruit punch and hot tea with cakes and cookies for refreshments. Much to our surprise every body, with the possible exception of Miss Andrews, chose the ice-cold drink, another indication that China is changing. Whether this indicates progress or not may be a question for debate. Altho it was after nine o'clock when refreshments were finished we suggested that if any wanted to play "Rook" (sometimes known on the mission field as Presbyterian Bridge) we would be glad to have them. We thought the ladies would probably go to one room and the men to another, but again we were treated to a surprise. Several of the men and women mixed up around the same tables as naturally as if they had always done so. To be sure some were husbands and wives but there were young single ladies and at least one unmarried young man. The games continued till after ten o'clock and from what we were able to observe we conclude that Chinese men and women enjoy mixed socials as well as do foreigners. The fact that they mixed so naturally and apparently without embarrassment was an

assurance to us that along some lines progress is being made in Paoingfu.

WHO DISCOVERED THE WORLD?

The Sport Editor had been told that we were soon to receive John Martin's Book and he greatly enjoyed the anticipation of its arrival. When the first copy finally came he was much excited and asked, "Who is John Martin? Is he the man who discovered the world?" Fortunately we were able to tell him about this famous man but we have not yet been able to answer satisfactorily his question of "Who discovered the world?"

SEND IN YOUR APPLICATION - IF ELIGIBLE.

Speaking of the Sport Editor, he has some original ideas for a new club. A short time ago the hospital laboratory revealed the fact that he needed a dose of santonin. Ordinarily he is rather reluctant about taking medicine, but this particular brand seemed to appeal to him. He considered it quite an honor to have this distinction thrust upon him and consequently announced that he was going to establish a new club to which there was to be but one requirement for admission. What do you suppose the requirement was? "Only those can join who have had worms", says the founder. We wonder if Tom Sawyer could beat this.

ROAD LICENSES FOR GOATS.

Some of our friends from Shantung were going to Peitaihe recently and were taking with them their foreign milch goats. Two servants were escorting these valuable animals along the streets of Tientsin when a policeman held them up and sent them to police headquarters. One of the servants managed to escape and found his way to the American Board Mission compound where he found a foreign missionary to go after the goats. He located them at the police station and they had already been tagged for slaughter when he arrived. The charge against them was that they had been using the streets of Tientsin without a road license! In as much as this was the first

offence, however, the death penalty was revoked and the nannies were allowed to go on their way. We understand it was the owner who did the rejoicing act in this case. Of course the moral is that you should get your road licenses before you parade your goats on the Tientsin streets. We have already written for ours.

OUR DIPLOMATIC TREASURE.

Our Treasure reveals her normality by having already developed special likings for certain "young men". Two of her favorites of whom she often speaks are Charles Cross (who gave her the name of ~~Bittie~~ ^{Bittie} ~~Bit~~) and Neil Houlding (with whom she played at Luan Tso Ping last summer). Neil

The Sport Editor also shows his normality as bigger brother by practicing rather frequently the teasing act. Not long ago at the breakfast table he thought he would propose a difficult question to the Treasure and perhaps get a rise out of her. Here is the question ~~to~~ ~~the~~: "Which do you like better, Charles Cross or Neil Houlding?" And this is the answer he received: "I like them both better", a diplomatic answer, "shih pu shih?" (Chinese for n'est pas).

Of course it is rather early to be choosing a career for a two-year old daughter but we wonder if by the time she is ready for a career it will not be stylish to have "Lady" Diplomats. With the Fairer Sex entering Congress Mayors' Offices, Governorships and other official positions why not have in Diplomacy? That might be the solution to some of the present world problems and let us hope that our younger sisters of the future will make less of a muddle in international affairs than have ^{some} of their older brothers.

SUPPLEMENT OR VARIATIONS?

An account of a trip to the country by the Pretender has received such favorable comment by friends at home who have read it

that we have decided to include it with this issue of the Chimes. Because of its length, however, we do not want anyone to feel that we are trying to burden busy people with an arduous task of reading so much so we have separated it from the rest of the material so that those whose time is limited and who do not have personal contacts with the staff of the Chimes sufficient to create a live interest may still have the rest of the "news" without having to wade thru so much material.

In a sense this is a supplement to our regular, or irregular, sheet, but inasmuch as we consider the Chimes as an organ for the promotion of Harmony we prefer to consider this extra section as Variations, rather than as a supplement. In order to economize space we have put more on a page than usual. For that reason this part might be considered what is sometimes known as "close harmony".

DULL TIMES.

The Cub-Reporter and Sport Editor are making plans for the celebration of the glorious Fourth, which promise to be rather tame. It's of little profit to live in the land of fire crackers, when the firing of such may be mistaken for a battle and it's not much fun to plan a picnic when it must be eaten in the house to escape the thousands of flies who never wait for an invitation to join a party. Moreover, there is no great excitement in a party given by one's parents to one's brother and sister. However, within ten days the staff expect to leave for six weeks' vacation at Poitaiho, and the fun there will more than make up for a few days of dullness here.

A PROBLEM IN DOMESTIC RELATIONS.

Recently a missionary friend of the staff received an anonymous letter, which contained a statement: "In America you were a coolie, in China you keep three servants." The editors of the Chinese Chimes must plead guilty to worse than that, for they employ four helpers. However there is another side to the question.

The cook has a large family and besides his wages, he receives an additional sum to help pay his eldest daughter's expenses in

middle school. The amah supports her mother-in-law, her two little boys, and her own father, and occasionally she receives extra help. The coolie's wife has an incurable illness and has been in bed for several months, and his one little boy has spinal tuberculosis. The fourth helper has some resources and works because he likes to. The problem is this: shall these helpers be dismissed and the Editor himself take care of his goats, make garden, carry water and ice tend furnace and run his own errands? Shall the Busy Manager prepare meals for the family, do her own washing, cleaning, sewing and marketing? Or shall they pay a reasonable wage to these four families, and have ample time for teaching, preaching, mission accounts, trips to the country, study of Chinese language, managing a Kung Ch'ang and educating their own children, with some leisure for recreation? Would they get closer to their Chinese colleagues if they did manage without servants? The problem is a very real one, and the editors are willing honestly to ask advice from those who call them "Imperialists" and "Exploiters."

PARTS OF THE KUNG CH'ANG SEMI-ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

(Jan. to June, 1926) May be of interest to our readers.

RECEIPTS:

Brought forward	\$569.15
Sales	894.84
	<u>\$1463.99</u>

Of the sales a little more than half were made in China.

EXPENDITURES:

Wages paid to women	\$487.72
Bonus to women	57.25
Salary of Bible woman, 6 mo.	108.00

Salary of Nurse, 6 mo.	108.00
" " Teacher, 1 hour a day	25.00
" " Workroom manager	78.00
Books for women's study	8.30
Bath room for women	62.00
Duty and postage	21.10
Miscellaneous expenses (Repairs, fuel, soap, extra help, medicine, etc.)	38.05
Materials	<u>327.21</u>
	1320.63
Balance	<u>143.36</u>
	<u>\$1463.99</u>
Actual balance in hand	\$157.70

The discrepancy between cash on hand and the balance which the books show perhaps records more honesty than accuracy on the part of the two bookkeepers.

ESTIMATED RESOURCES-(Market Price)

Last year's goods still on hand	\$68.55
Tatting on hand	<u>427.00</u>
Handkerchiefs on hand	282.80
Linen sets napkins, etc.	<u>138.00</u>
Thread on hand (approx)	65.00
Goods sent, money not received	100.00
Loaned to station	407.00
Balance	<u>157.70</u>
	<u>\$1666.05</u>

As the continuance of work next year depends upon the sale of articles now on hand, it is hoped that the annual sale of Mission Hung Ch'eng articles at Peitaiho will be a great success this summer. Mail orders are solicited, and prices are reasonable. Handkerchiefs include men's in pongee and linen, women's in pongee, linen and voile, all hand embroidered. Bridge and luncheon sets, napkins, dresser scarfs, etc. can be furnished in Chinese or Irish linen, white embroidered or colored applique.

The uncertainty of a market is the most difficult problem in industrial work. Sometimes the question is raised whether such work

properly has a place in the program of the church. However, it is something which the busy mission mothers, by dividing the responsibility, can carry on. This year it has been shared thus: religious and educational - Mrs. Hubbard, planning and supervision of work - Mrs. Robinson, correspondence and sales - Mrs. Galt. Those in charge feel that from all points of view their efforts are worth while, and that to give an opportunity to some 40 women and girls to make all or part of their living is not the most important phase of their work. Two girls have practically completed the thousand character books, and almost all have read at least one of the four books required. Afternoon prayers are led by different women of the community, offering them an opportunity for service. Four girls have this year taken the first steps for church membership, and two who have asked to do so have been told to wait until they learn more of the true way. It is hoped that newly completed bath room will be used not only by the Kung Ch'ang women and girls, who have free baths, with soap, but also by the women and children of the community who must pay two coppers for a bath without soap. A prize of a cake of soap was offered to each primary school child who took a bath each week.

A "LITTLE BIT" of VERSE.

The Litiglest One has made her first poem. Recently she rode in mother's lap in a rickshaw late enough in the evening to see the little stars peep out in the sky. She was so impressed that over and over she sang her own little song.-

Star, star up in the sky,
Star, star come down from the sky,
Star, star go up in the sky,
Star, star look down on the ground.

REDUCED BY ONE*HALF.

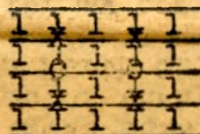
For the first time in several years the "men missionaries" of our Paoingfu station are reduced to two. Mr. and Mrs. Price left for America some weeks ago and at the end of June the Galt family

followed them. As a result of this reduction in staff heavier burdens are now resting on the shoulders of the Pretender. He has to have an eye on the work at East Street Chapel where Mr. Price has been in charge the most of this has now been turned over to a Chinese evangelist. Mr. Galt's work was not so easily disposed of. For an account of some of the Pretenders new duties see the last "score" in the Variations.

LAO HU ‡ Chinese game.

(Instructions written by the Cub Reporter)

Two persons play this game. One acts as lao hu (Chinese for tiger) and one as "men". There are 20 men and 2 lao hus. A lao hu can jump a man but a man cannot jump a tiger. If the lao hu jump all the men the player who is the lao hu beats. But if the men block up the lao hu the player who acts as the "men" beats. The moves and jumps are like those in checkers. The men have first turn. One lao hu (represented in the diagram below by C) is placed on the third line down ~~where~~ and the second line over from each end. The men are placed in groups of five on the second line up and the second line down where the X's are in the diagram. The board is like this.



HURRAH FOR DARTMOUTH!

The Dartmouth Christian Association has just made our hearts glad by news in a recent letter from a representative of that organization. (see quotation)

"They had promised to help the same amount this year that they helped last, \$1750.00 Gold. They stated in a letter some time ago that there might be some more but they could not promise it definitely. They have a Community Chest Drive there each year and besides the portion from this drive which was to come to the Christian Association there might be another contribution. This recent letter states that there has been another contribution from this source and it amounts to \$1100 Gold. Such surprises are always pleasant.

VARIATIONS.

China's Kaleidoscope Continues to Change. (Notes from the Pretender's diary)

"As a young lad I was once the proud possessor of a kaleidoscope which provided me with no little amusement. The two features of that small toy which fascinated me were that it contained many pieces of colored glass and that they tumbled about from one pattern to another as the cylinder was made to revolve. I have been reminded of that boyhood play thing these last few weeks as I have been permitted to see at close range some of the politico - military changes that have been taking place in North China.

"Unfortunately for my comparison the many armies of North China all wear the same colored uniforms (a slate colored gray) so the changes are not always as spectacular as they would otherwise be but in times of military activity each "army" selects sleeve bands of some special color so that its own soldiers can be detected from the enemy, and, incidentally, when an army changes to the other side they have only to adopt the new sleeve bands and their old uniforms are still usable. While this system has its advantages it also has its drawbacks. By putting on the sleeve bands of the enemy, soldiers are sometimes able to get into the opponents camp and to commit there much damage. As a precaution against this one army which I saw recently has a variety of sleeve bands and changes colors every day. It all helps to make the kaleidoscope more fascinating.

"Here is the pattern of colors that surrounded Paotingfu March 23 - the day I started for Tingsien which is 40 miles south of our home on the Peking-Hankow Railway. The army in control of Paotingfu at that time, was known as the Fourth People's Army (Kuo min chun), under the command of Wei Yu San, an underling of Kuo Sung Ling who paid the death penalty a few months ago when he revolted from Chang Tso Lin. To the northeast of Paotingfu was the the First People's Army formerly commanded by the Christian General Feng Yu Hsiang. To the southwest was the Fifth People's Army which had formerly belonged to the enemy

side in Shantung out had changed its colors some weeks before. A little more directly to the south were several thousand "tag-ends" of the second and Third People's Armies, some of whom had been disarmed because of their uncertain character, and all of whom were a thorn in the country side where they were stationed as they made life miserable wherever they went. They were considered parasites when they came into this province last November and their reputation has been going from bad to worse ever since. I carry in my pocket as a souvenir one of their bullets which landed on our sleeping porch in the early hours of November 18 last year when they had a battle here with Li Ching' Lin's men. On March 23 Li was southeast of Paotingfu trying to fight his way back to his old stronghold. Wu Pei Fu, who had his headquarters in Paotingfu four years ago when he fought and defeated Chang Tso Lin, was down in Honan trying to fight his way back to Paotingfu and from there to Peking. Finally, to the west of Paotingfu the "model governor," Yen Hsi Shan, had moved his troops from Shansi to the Peking-Hankow Railway at Shihchia-chuang and had started to move both north and south along the railroad. Such was the kaleidoscope around Paotingfu on March 23rd.

"I knew that this kaleidoscope was in an unstable state of equilibrium and when I left home for a week's journey in the country I planned accordingly. For one thing, I took my passport which I had never done before, tho I have travelled much alone in this section of the country during the past nine years. I took it this time because an American in Tientsin had suffered no little inconvenience recently while traveling in the country by being held up by soldiers who took him for a Russian. I don't know as an American passport would have done much good had I been detained but I thought it worth taking along. Another innovation of this trip was that I went without any baggage. I have always taken a camp bed, bedding and extra clothes with me before but this trip I took only some toilet articles, pajamas and socks, such as I could carry easily on bicycle. The country through which I was to travel was flooded with soldiers and I knew if a man tried to carry baggage for me he probably would be held up and the baggage might be confiscated.

"Ordinarily I would have taken the train to Tingsien but as train service was interrupted I had to furnish my own power of locomotion and with a stiff head wind bicycle riding was about twice as difficult as it would have been with the wind in my back.

"About three miles out of Paotingfu I saw groups of soldiers who had conscripted villagers for trench digging and when I asked them if they were being paid for their work they said, no they were not even being furnished with food. Altho they must have been reluctant to dig war trenches right past their own villages, so that bullets might ride

their homes in case of fighting, they were digging away cheerfully and I wondered "how they got that way". Altho my home was three miles away I did not feel any happy to see trenches there for it looked to me as if preparations were being made for a defence line in that region in case Yen Hsi Shan's soldiers came as far north as that.

"At Fang Hsueh Chi'ao, about 15 miles from Paotingfu, I saw more trenches which had been dug two weeks earlier. They seemed to have been abandoned though there were soldiers still living in freight cars along the railway. These trenches were the most elaborate I have seen. They were dug in zig-zag lines and there were occasional roofs where men could spend the night.

"Because of the wind I did not reach Wang Tu (22 miles from Paotingfu) till noon so I stopped there for lunch. This is an ancient city, even for China, and within its walls is a large mound which is supposed to be the grave of the mother of Emperor Yao who ruled China some 4000 years ago. He is said to have given China a very good government in his day but whether he could do as much were he living now is a question for speculation.

"The post master at Wang Tu is a former pupil of mine so I called on him and ate my lunch at the postoffice. The postmaster had a new dish which I had never tasted and he wanted me to try it. It was made of millet flour, beef-bone marrow and sugar and had the consistency of thick paste. It tasted good and was very nutritious so that two bowls of it along with the sandwiches and cookies which I had, made a very satisfactory meal.

"Altho there were not many soldiers in Wang Tu the people there were greatly disturbed by a "Robin Hood" bandit named Men Lien Chun who had his headquarters in the mountains of F'ang hsien. He and a group of followers visited villages and captured men of wealth whom they would release only on payment of large sums of money. They were very considerate of poor people and gave money to them. Only a few days before I reached Wang Tu they had been to some villages in that district and carried off nearly 20 people. One man whose friends had paid \$13,000 for his release had been so frightened that he soon died and the people of that village say he was frightened to death. These bandits seemed to be taking advantage of the tense military situation knowing that no soldiers could be spared to pursue them. No one dared say anything against "Mr. Men", as he was called, for fear their words might get to his ears and he would make trouble for them. There is a story to the effect that Men was travelling about as a common citizen one day when he met a poor peddler. He fell into con-

versation with the peddler and asked him what he knew about the man Men. Not knowing to whom he was speaking the peddler said that he had heard that Men was a good friend of poor people whereupon Men made himself known and handed the peddler \$50. Whether the story be true or not it certainly had the effect of preventing gossip about Men among the poorer classes.

"But the Chinese kaleidoscope has been changing more rapidly than our story is moving. "Let us get on", as an Englishman whom I knew in Tingsien a few years ago used to say. I reached Tingsien late in the afternoon and felt that 40 miles against a head wind was quite sufficient for a day's ride on a bicycle. I had supper with some Chinese friends named Sun and spent the night with an English family at the Salvation Army. Those people are just building a medical unit at Tingsien which is to cost \$80,000, Mexican and include a hospital, residences for doctors and some other buildings. Since there is no hospital in that large county of 700 villages at present they should have no difficulty in find plenty of patients when their hospital is completed.

"The following day (Wednesday) I rode about 18 miles to a village called Hsing I where I spent the night. On the way I visited a mass education class where boys are being taught the most common Chinese characters. This movement is meeting with much success in its attempt to overcome China's great problem of illiteracy. As I had no bedding at Hsing I I had to borrow from an evangelist and slept with him on a "tang" such as is common in this part of the country.

Thursday I rode on to Wu Chi where two or three thousand soldiers of the 2nd and 3rd People's Armies had been living for several weeks, keeping the people in a state of fear by their unreasonable demands and highhanded dealings. Most of them left the day before I arrived and I think I met the very last one as I was passing thru a village. He was riding a horse at a good pace and apparently did not see me till we were nearly opposite each other in the narrow village street. As soon as he spied me he flashed out a revolver and I thought for a minute that I was to serve for a target. I stepped on the no, not gas, it was only a pedal but it helped to put distance between us and I breathed more freely when I was out of gun shot from the man on horseback. I had a red sweater tied on my handle bars so perhaps that was what aroused his fighting flood.

"I reached Wu Chi at noon and that evening about 5000 of Yen Hsi Shan's soldiers marched into town. They were orderly, had money with

which they paid for everything they used and the people of the city welcomed them by putting out flags and preparing hot water for them to drink. They were well equipped with rifles, cartridges, knapsacks and canteens and each soldier carried several hand grenades, the first I had seen in China on the left shoulder was a motto to the effect that any one who could not kill the enemy with a grenade was a poor stick. Some of these soldiers also wore metal helmets and when the country people saw them they said "See the men with wash basins on their heads." There was quite a troop of mules laden with machine guns in the crowd and several cart loads of gunny sacks full of steamed bread which takes the place of hard tack in some armies.

"These men carried banners of three pieces of cloth, red, white and yellow and on their left arms they wore bands of white cloth. The next day the white bands were changed to red and the third day the color was half red and half white. I was told that they used this method of changing colors because some of their enemies had adopted sleeve bands like theirs, come into their midst and killed a good many before they were recognized as enemies. By changing every day it was thought the enemy would not know what color to adopt in case they attempted to repeat their deception.

"In as much as these soldiers were pursuing the Second and Third People's Armies and the latter were retreating towards Paotingfu where I had seen trenches being dug as I left that city I was some what anxious to be starting back home but spent two days visiting mass education classes, training classes and holding meetings, telling stories and singing songs for groups of Christians and inquirers. I found that the "Ha, Ha, ha," "My Little Brown Jug" and the "Caw, caw, caw" in "Belly Magee, Ma Gaw" were understood and appreciated by these county people even when the songs were sung in English and since one of the purposes of the trip was to try and cheer up these people who had been frightened half out of their wits I assumed the role of Harry Lauder altho I had no kilts or bare knees. At night my bed consisted of three benches about 8 feet long and 8 inches wide placed side by side. It wasn't particularly soft but I imagine I was more comfortable than most of the soldiers who like me were spending a couple of days in Wu Chi.

"Saturday I returned to Hsing I and visited some other villages in that neighborhood. Here I learned from Chinese newspapers that "colors" had been changing rapidly around Peking and Tientsin and I

was more anxious than ever to get back to Paotingfu. A troop of Shansi cavalry arrived in Hsing I just before I did and they were up at three o'clock the next morning and off towards Paotingfu. I began to wonder whether I might not find myself behind the lines before I reached home but I stayed on until after church service Sunday morning.

In the afternoon I rode back to Tingsien and found that city full of Shansi soldiers. The People's Army had withdrawn towards Paotingfu and had taken every last car and locomotive with them. To make it still more certain that no soldiers would get up from the south by rail this army had also destroyed a part of a railroad bridge near Tingsien.

"After a church service in the evening and a night in a foreign bed at the Salvation Army Head-quarters, I started early Monday morning for Paotingfu. For a while I made good progress but gradually a head wind came up and by eleven o'clock I was ready for a rest. At Wang Tu I saw a train being loaded with Shansi soldiers and their equipment, including several Ford, Dodge and Graham cars and trucks. I was told that no tickets were being sold and the station master said there would be no room for me on the train. However, I stuck around and fell into conversation with an army officer who invited me to ride on the train with him. I had to wait three hours for them to get loaded but it was better than pushing a wheel against a strong wind.

"As we passed the trenches at Feng Hsun Chi'ao and those outside of Paotingfu the Shansi soldiers saw them and laughed for they were riding into Paotingfu on a train without having to fire a shot. The Commander of the People's Army at Paotingfu had apparently seen that the Shansi troops were likely to win so he sent a telegram to them saying he would welcome them. Not only did the army in Paotingfu change its "colors" but its name was changed as well. When I got back I found that it was no longer called the People's Army but the "Army of Justice".

"By the time I reached Paotingfu some of Wu Pei Fu's soldiers, wearing red and white arm bands, had reached this city from the southwest and some of Li Ching Lin's men wearing black arm bands, had arrived from the southeast. Four different armies were here together but fortunately there was no fighting."

That was a little more than 8 months ago. The "kaleidoscope" has been in perpetual motion ever since. Our heads are dizzy trying to follow the changes of colors. The People's Army (what is left of it) has withdrawn to the north of Peking which city is in the hands of

Chang Tso Lin and Wu Pei Fu. The "Central Government" has disappeared and there is no president, or parliament. Tsao K'un who was the last president, and has been held a prisoner for over a year, has been released, has sent in his resignation and is back in Pootungfu. Tuan Chi Jui who has been acting as "Chief Executive" during Ts'ao's imprisonment has escaped to Tientsin and Feng Yu Hsiang is said to be in Russia. Wu Pei Fu and Chang Tso Lin who have been arch enemies for years have become "Blood brothers" and met in Peking a few days ago for a conference. Chang has returned to Fengtien and Wu is at the front north of Peking. Those of us who are still here are asking ourselves, "Where are we at?" "Where do we go from here?" "What is it all about?" "Will it ever stop?" and a few other unanswerable questions. The best answer that we can think of is that "China's Kaleidoscope is and has been changing. Probably it will continue to do so for some time to come."

MISSION MEETING.

Once a year the stations of our North China Mission hold their business meetings at which time delegates are elected to attend the "district meeting". The following paragraphs come from the Pretender's diary written on his way to mission meeting which was held this year at Tientsin.

"We are on our way to mission meeting in Tientsin. The trains are so crowded that no one likes to travel on them. We hired three boats and left Paofu Sunday morning expecting to get to Tientsin Tuesday. As this is my first trip on a river boat I am finding it very enjoyable.

"The boat I am on is about forty feet in length and has several methods of making headway. Long spike poles are used some of the time; a man starting at the front of the boat sticks the pole into the ground and walks along the side of the boat to the stern where he pulls the pole up, walks back to the bow and repeats this method of pushing with a pole. Sometimes two men work together, one on each side of the boat.

Another method is to pull the boat with a tow rope. Instead of fastening the rope to the end of the boat it is tied to a tall mast so that as boats meet the rope of one does not interfere with that

of another. Paths along the side of the stream are well trodden where the men tug away at the ropes going to and coming from Tientsin. Yesterday I got off for a while and tried this method of moving. A short stick is tied at the end of the rope so the stick comes across the chest and by leaning forward one can pull quite a load without much effort. Some of the time two or even as many as seven men pull at the rope.

This morning we have been coming thru a lake and have been propelled by a sail fastened to a 40 foot mast. That works fine when there is a favorable wind and the stream is straight. But yesterday the stream was so crooked that we couldn't use the sail altho there was a good wind most all day. Now the wind has changed and we are being propelled by two long oars, one on either side of the bow of the boat. A man stands up and takes an oar which is loosely fastened to a standard and with the force of his whole body against the oar we make pretty good progress. Sometimes a third man at the rear of the boat helps by "sculling" with an oar similar to the ones in front but which is not raised out of the water as is done when rowing. A rudder at the rear serves in guiding the boat and an anchor at the front makes the boat fast when we wish to tie up at shore.

We stopped last night at a town called Hsin-an and stayed there till 3:30 this morning. For supper we went to a restaurant where we had a very good feed for 31 cents Mex. each. There is lots of water in that section of the country and they have some very good fish. We had two kind of fish, shrimps, rice, meat dumplings soup, peanuts and tea for a very reasonable price. After supper we walked along the main street of the town to the hospital which is run by the Presbyterian Mission of Footingfu. Just as we got to the door and were inquiring at an adjacent store if that was the place Miss Logan came along and altho it was dark I recognized her and spoke to her. She said when she saw us she thought we were probably Russians and was quite relieved to learn we were not. As Mr. Dutton from Shansi who was travelling on the boat was not feeling very well we got him some aspirin, soda mints and castor oil and bought fresh eggs and bananas on our way back to the boat.

An interesting thing which I saw in this place was a bird called cormorant. They are something like a duck but have a large mouth and live on fish. People keep them for fishing. By tying a string around the neck the bird cannot swallow the fish which the fisherman takes for his own. We saw several of these birds and were

told that a good one is valued at \$40 or \$50 Mex. and several dollars worth of fish are caught by one bird in a day, sometimes. I was also told that sometimes two birds tackle one fish when it is too big for one bird and they catch fish weighing several pounds.

This boat is not only a house boat but a home as well. The owner has a wife and two sons, 9 and 12 years respectively, and with them live his two nephews who are men grown. They all make their home on that boat, the women living in the rear where there is a small stove on which water is boiled and food is cooked. The two sons and the nephews sleep in the front of the boat under the deck. They all help at times in propelling and steering the boat and this forenoon the oldest was crying and I understand that his father had spanked, or slapped him because he did not keep the boat steered in the middle of the stream. The whole family seems to be a rather superior type and despite their restricted life they are probably much better off financially than the average family in China. The boat cost \$270 Mex. and they are able to make about two trips a month from Pootungfu to Tientsin, yielding \$60 or \$70 a month. They can work about 9 months a year and have a three months' rest in the winter when the boat is over hauled and put in repair. Hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of people live on boats in China and many of them know no other homes. Babies are born and die or grow up on these boats.

Yesterday and today we have been passing through a low wet country the principal products of which are fish and rushes. The latter grow to a height of 12 feet or more and are used for many purposes such as lath in building and for making woven matting which has an almost infinite number of purposes. The rushes are split and woven in such a way that they make a very good protection against rain as the strands swell on becoming wet and make such tight joints that very little water can leak thru.

NEW DUTIES FOR THE PRETENDER.

Another event which has taken a good bit of my time ^{over} is the closing of Mr. Golt's books. He has turned everything to me now and I feel as if something heavier than slate slabs has been piled on my shoulders. His cash book for this first half year has over 1700 items and shows that over \$47,000.00 has been entered therein. There are two ledgers, one for men's work and one for women's, and

there are over 200 separate accounts in them. Of course many of these are with the individual workers in which I have only to enter their monthly salaries as they are paid. There are four bank accounts, one in each city of Paoitingfu, Peking, Tientsin and Shanghai. The bank in one city will not accept a check from the bank of another city without discounting it. Here in Paoitingfu we have to get cash to pay the workers and other bills and practically all this comes in silver dollars, so it takes no little time to count money. I don't think I'll be sitting around for things to turn up to keep me busy from now on.

The accounts take time but the correspondence and office calls take even more time and will be the hardest part of my job. At the meeting of our station executive committee this last week I was elected Vice-chairman of that body and as the chairman is here only part of the time I suppose a good bit of the work in connection with it will fall to me. I was also elected secretary of the station but that doesn't call for much time. With Mr. Price and Mr. Galt away and Mr. Hubbard spending much of his time in the country there is no one but me to attend to these things. I begin to realize what Mr. Galt has been up against all these years but he has had the advantage of coming to the station when there was not nearly as much work and has kept acquainted with the various branches as they have developed. Now he goes away and leaves things for me to attend to and I don't know the intimate history of problems and developments. Mr. Galt has left me minute notes on matters that I am likely to need help about but I am already conscious that there will be a thousand or one, or more, questions that I shall want to ask him before he gets back from furlough. He has also turned over to me several shelves full of records, minutes of meetings, deeds, contracts, forms, vouchers and various other articles which have been accumulating for many years. This may not make very interesting reading but it is this that has been taking most of ^{my} attention these last few days and is likely to hold it for many days to come."

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