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WARSHIPS CONTINUE TO BRING REFUGEES FROM YANGTZE PORTS

Mar 30, 1927

300 Arrive Yesterday
From Hankow And
Nanking S. T.

EVACUATION HASTENED

Graphic Stories Are Told
Of Depredations Of
Southerners

The steamer Suiwo and the French gunboat Alerie arrived in Shanghai yesterday with more than 300 refugees from Yangtze River ports. The Suiwo brought 284 Americans and 1 British subject from Hankow while the Alerie brought a number of French subjects from Nanking.

Most of the Americans on the Suiwo are members of the Lutheran United Mission who evacuated mission stations in Honan and Hupeh Provinces. The Suiwo docked at Hunt's Wharf at noon yesterday.

All around the Shanghai district and the interior along the Yangtze River foreigners are evacuating with all speed possible. The U. S. S. Pillsbury has been despatched to Nan Tung Chow and Jukao and the U. S. S. Hulbert, both destroyers, to Anking to effect the evacuation of the remaining foreigners at those places. It is reported that two remain in Jukao and eight in Nan Tung Chow.

At Chaoti Chen all have been evacuated, six remain with the Standard Oil Company at Chin-kiang, two Adventist Missionaries at Chungking, 27 in Hangchow and surrounding districts, about 100 in Hankow, and five in Kiu-kiang. At Soochow a small party of Methodist missionaries remain;

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HANKOW UNDER LABOUR TYRANNY

320 American Refugees Arrived by the Suiwo: Intolerable
State of Affairs: Unsafe for Foreigners
to Appear on Streets

N.C.D.V. Mar 21, 1927.

GROWING ANIMUS AGAINST AMERICAN

The C.N.S. Suiwo carrying 320 refugees from Hankow in a space where there were cabins for 18 persons arrived alongside Hunt's Wharf yesterday morning. Almost all the refugees were American women and children, there being only two British and two French on board. Most of the refugees were missionaries from the city and there were also on board 60 children from the American School at Kikungshan, on the border between Honan and Hupeh.

Reign of Terror

According to the refugees Hankow when they left was being subjected to a worse reign of terror than when the Nationalists first went into the city. This is being directed principally against the British.

Mr. Hunter Mann, of Hunter Mann Co., was among the passengers and in an interview yesterday said that business conditions in the city were appalling. Practically all business both Chinese and foreign was at a standstill, the banks had been closed and threats against British lives were a daily occurrence. These pertained to a great extent to heads of firms, at least three of whom had been driven from the streets at the points of bayonets. The same had been done to a British Naval officer, while the Captain of the Suiwo, himself, had been refused permission to go aboard and had to stop on shore for one night.

At Point of Bayonet

For a short time after the January trouble, Mr. Mann said, conditions improved materially. Then came the split between Chang Kai-shek and the Reds and conditions continued to get gradually worse in the hands of the Reds until March 20, when the situation became so bad

that British were being driven from the streets at the point of the bayonet.

Many instances happened in which women were the victims. They were told to go back to their houses. These were mostly American women, practically all British women having already evacuated the city. They were asked their nationality and were not molested to any great extent after that.

The following Monday it was that Mr. A. E. Marker, the head of Arnold Bros., Mr. Yeoman of the B.A.T., Mr. Keed of Keed and Co. and Lieut. Turner of a British gunboat were all chased down the Bund by the pickets.

Picket Tyranny

There have been numerous instances of the pickets going into private homes and intimidating the servants, while it was not unusual for motor-cars belonging to foreigners of any nationality to be stopped in the streets by strike agitators, pickets and men and women students and the occupants asked for money to help carry on a general strike in Shanghai. When the money was not forthcoming the motor-cars would be stoned and clubbed and the occupants harassed.

The foreign newspapers had also to bear the brunt of the labour outrages. On the previous Thursday the "Hankow Herald" printed the speech of Chiang Kai-shek at Nanchang in which Chiang said that he was opposed to the Red policy and at the same time ran a strong leader on the subject.

Newspapers Blocked

At 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon

the staff was called out by the General Labour Union and threatened with death if they went back to work. The same was done in the case of the "Central China Post."

On the following Sunday the only papers were bulletins in the windows of the newspaper offices. One on Sunday reads:—

"At 3 o'clock Saturday afternoon the Labour Union instructed the unions to notify the offices of the 'Herald' and 'Post' that their workmen were to quit work on THEY WOULD BE SHOT. The editor of the 'Herald' and the American Consul-General called on Eugene Chen at 4 o'clock and were informed that he would see what could be done. No reason was given for the order to the employees. The matter is still in the hands of the Minister of Foreign Affairs. (Sgd.) BRÜNO SCHWARTZ, editor." The edition of the paper for the following day was the same and reads:—

"The foreign banks of Hankow are to be subjected to a strike this morning. The banks had received no word of this move yesterday, but labour circles declared that they would picket all foreign banks this morning and shut off all food supplies from the foreign staffs. The servants have all been ordered to quit. Why has this been done? ASK M. BORODIN!"

According to Mr. Mann this has been put into effect. The Labour Union has ordered all employees not to go back to work until the preposterous demands presented a month ago had been submitted to; the foreign staffs would not be allowed from the building, all servants would be called out and no food would be allowed in.

Threatened with Death

A Japanese reporter on the "Post" was kidnapped and held for three days during which he was abused by the intimidators. All delivery coolies were warned that they would be killed if caught delivering foreign papers.

At the present time the papers are printing mimeographed copies of the papers in the office of the "Herald."

On Tuesday following the closing down of the papers Mr. Schwartz's motor-car was left out in front of the office and was set on fire by some of the pickets.

No attempt is being made by the Nationalist police to protect the lives or property of foreigners from the pickets. Acts of violence are committed under their very noses while they look on and laugh at the foreigners' plight.

Feeling Against Americans

Before the Suiwo left for Shanghai, Mr. Mann says, the Nanking incident had been reported and the feeling against Americans was becoming stronger and stronger.

Last Thursday night the American Consul, Mr. Frank P. Lockhart took his family from their home and placed them on a Standard Oil steamer which was lying under the protection of American men-of-war. He had ordered the evacuation of all women and children and strongly advised all men to leave the city.

Southern Generals as Hostages

Relating their journey down the river, Mr. Mann said that just before the Suiwo got to Wang-tsekwang they saw the C.N.S. Kiangwu commanded by Nationalist soldiers. This was reported to a British des-

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Hankow Under the Tyranny

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troyer at Kiukiang. Early the next morning the steamer tried to pass Kiukiang and the British gunboat took her back. In all 2,500 Nationalist troops were disarmed and put ashore and two generals were held as hostages.

From Nanking to Woosung the Suiwi, together with the Kiangwo and the Bengal, a British supply ship, were convoyed by a British destroyer. The ships were not fired on during the entire voyage, but passengers had to go below on two occasions.

Driven from Missions

A conversation with many of the missionary passengers aboard the Suiwo revealed that the majority of them who had been literally driven from their missions by the Nationalists, and when this was not the case, ordered out by their Consulate, were strongly in favour of intervention of the powers. They seem to have been drawn over to this opinion, especially after the Nanking affair.

One of the missionary women, Mrs. C. W. Lahndahl, whose husband is president of the Lutheran United Mission (home in America Minneapolis) says that several of the women of their party were held up while shopping in Hankow and asked their nationality. One of these was a Miss Cildahl, who, after hiding \$50 in order that the soldiers should not take it, slapped a soldier's face who had accosted her with a bayonet. The soldier immediately withdrew.

In all cases the women were not molested as soon as their nationality was given, but they were ordered from the streets.

The missionaries had things comparatively easy in getting on the boat at Hankow and were not forced to pay the exorbitant prices that the first British refugees had to pay to get their luggage ashore. The men organized in the Standard Oil compound and chartered lighters to take the luggage to the ships.

Skinner.

That the report and accounts of the year ending December 31, 1926, as presented, be passed—proposed by Mr. A. W. Burkill and seconded by Mr. A. L. Blechynden.

That the amount standing to credit of the profit and loss account be distributed as proposed—proposed by Mr. C. G. S. Mackie and seconded by Mr. H. Arnold.

That the appointment of Messrs. A. W. Burkill and C. G. S. Mackie as directors of the company be confirmed and that Mr. C. A. Skinner be re-elected a director of the company—proposed by Mr. T. A. Clark and seconded by Mr. F. S. Heys.

That Messrs. Thomson & Co., chartered accountants, be re-elected auditors of the company at a remuneration of Tls. 1,000 per annum—proposed by Mr. H. T. Clark and seconded by Mr. F. S. Heys.

Negotiations On Shanghai Impossible At Present, Says British Foreign Secretary

Existing Conditions Too Anarchical To Permit
Of Fruitful Discussions On Local

Situation, Commons Told

Mar. 30. 1927

S. T.

(Shanghai Times)

TIMELY ACTION OF WARSHIPS IS PRAISED

Presence Of Gunboats Alone Prevented
Greater Calamity At Nanking, Sir
Austen Tells House

London, Mar. 28.

Replying to questions in the House of Commons to-day, Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Foreign Secretary, said that no negotiations in regard to Shanghai were proceeding. It was impossible, he declared, to negotiate fruitfully in the present anarchical conditions.

In the House of Commons to-day, Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Foreign Secretary, detailed the events at Nanking. Conservatives cheered his emphatic declaration that the timely action of the warships alone saved the lives of British and American citizens.

Mr. Ernest Thurtle (Labour) drew attention to the statement by General Chiang Kai-shek that the looting and other outrages had been committed by Northern troops.

Sir Austen Chamberlain replied that information from British and American sources was contrary to this.

Anarchical Conditions

Replying to Mr. H. W. Looker (Conservative), the Foreign Secretary said that in the anarchical conditions prevailing at present in many parts of China, it was impossible to say that Britain could safely rely on Chinese guarantees of safety for British subjects. "We must watch what happens and judge not according to professions made but by performances," he declared.

Replying to Commander Kenworthy (Labour), Sir Austen Chamberlain said that the ques-

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tion of evacuating the remaining Britons from other ports in the Yangtze was being considered. He did not think it desirable that he should issue instructions from London: it must be decided nearer the spot.—Reuter.

Hankow Agreement

Replying to a suggestion from Sir Clement Kinloch (Conservative), that the Hankow Agreement had had no beneficial results but rather the contrary and that the position of British residents at Hankow had become untenable, Sir Austen Chamberlain, the Foreign Secretary, expressed the opinion that Sir Clement's judgment was premature.

Personally, the Foreign Secretary said, he would not at present pronounce a final judgment on the results of the Hankow Agreement:

"Obviously that agreement was signed in good faith on our side and signed, as we believe, in good faith by Mr. Chen, and must be judged by the results it produces."

The Foreign Secretary said that Britain had dealt in a very liberal and, he might even say, in a most confiding spirit with her own property in the British Concession at Hankow; and she must be assured that the conditions are such that the Chinese authority established could preserve order, whenever that authority was extended, before she made any further surrender of British interests and property.

Foreign Property In Shanghai

Commander Kenworthy (Labour) suggested that as property in Shanghai was predominantly British, Sir Austen Chamberlain, in the interest of Great Britain, should consider opening negotiations immediately with the Cantonese.

Sir Austen, in reply, emphasized that when one was dealing with joint property all parties interested must be consulted (Ministerial cheers). One party could not dispose of property in which others had rights without communicating with them.

Replying to further questions from Labour members, the Foreign Secretary pointed out that

the body primarily empowered to speak for the Powers collectively was the Diplomatic Body at Peking. He did not think it would be difficult for the Powers concerned to take steps to negotiate if there were a single Chinese authority exercising power throughout China with whom they could negotiate.

THE REPERCUSSION

Aug. 30, 1927 — N. C. U. N.

BY ARTHUR DE C. SOWERBY

Now that we are able to sit back for a moment and survey the situation in China as it has developed since the fateful signing of the Chen-O'Malley agreement with regard to the British Concession at Hankow, we are struck by the extraordinary rapidity with which events have shaped themselves and the force of the repercussion from the touching off of that spark.

The startling events of the last week or so were exactly what anyone familiar with China and the Chinese would have expected as a result of the abysmal ignorance, unmitigated folly and deplorable weakness displayed by the British Government in coming to such ridiculous terms as the Hankow agreement contained, with such an unauthorized and treacherous group as the Cantonese Nationalists and their Soviet masters, the communist agents of Moscow; but even old China hands would not have predicted the speed with which these events have followed the signing of that ignominious and unilateral document.

False Statements of Protection

The repercussion of the Hankow incident has indeed been most marked, as a brief survey will demonstrate.

Before the Hankow affair took place, it was announced in the British House of Parliament that there were ample British forces on the Yangtze to protect all British life and property. Within a few days of this announcement a howling mob of Chinese civilians backed by Cantonese troops were offering every possible insult to a handful of British marines on the boarders of the British Concession at Hankow. With unparalleled self-control these marines refrained from any act of retaliation, but stood firm till ordered to evacuate the concession, with the wretched foreign residents, and retired to their ships. The concession was taken over by the so-called Nationalists and in due course a pact was signed whereby this theft was condoned—ratified, in fact—and the concession reverted to the self-styled Southern Government. In other words, Great Britain admitted

the principles of mob rule and the sequestration of property by violence, meanwhile allowing her flag to be defiled, her naval uniform to be disgraced, her trusting subjects to be despoiled, and her treaties to be torn up as so many scraps of paper. Never has British prestige suffered such a blow since the American colonists broke away from the old country, defeated her forces and issued the Declaration of Independence.

The Sequel in Nanking

And now we have the result. Since British sailors and marines could be spat upon with impunity, to the Chinese mind it followed that British sailors, and soldiers, too, for that matter, were cowards, and inferior to Chinese sailors and soldiers, and that no longer had the latter anything to fear from the hated foreigner. Thus, when the Southern forces reached Nanking, they no longer kept a wary eye on the foreign war vessels that lay at anchor in the Yangtze, as they would have done previous to the Hankow incident, but proceeded forthwith to loot foreign property including the consulates, not hesitating to shoot the inmates, and finally ending up by an organized attack on the compound on "Socony Hill" wherein the foreign residents—Americans, it may be noted, as well as British—had taken refuge pending rescue from the foreign war vessels. Thus, what in Hankow took the form of a civil demonstration, in Nanking became a military operation, and where in Hankow no lives were lost and, barring the lowering of the flag, the consulates were respected, in Nanking several foreigners—British, American and Japanese—were killed and the consulates of "friendly" foreign countries looted and burned.

But for the British Forces

And what of Shanghai? It may be stated without any shadow of doubt that but for the presence of large British forces—some ten thousand or so soldiers—who had no hesitation in resorting to extreme measures in preventing the armed Chinese forces entering the settlement, the International Settlement and French Concession at Shanghai would have shared the same fate as Nanking, that foreigners would have been shot down right and left and

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foreign property looted and burned.

So much for the military side of the question. Fortunately for Shanghai someone in the British Government was not quite asleep, and a large and adequate force was sent in time to Shanghai for its protection. But this is by no means all. There is another side to the question and that is what may be called the moral reaction to the signing of the Chen-O'Malley agreement.

Public Confidence Shattered

That the British Government could put its signature to such an agreement has practically shattered public confidence. It is now felt that nothing is safe, that no matter how just the claims of the individual, or group of individuals, those claims will be brushed aside as of no consequence whatever if it so suits the politicians at home. A glance at the present state of Hankow is all that is needed to show that so far from improving matters there, the signing of the agreement has, as predicted, only spurred the Nationalists and their adherents on to further acts of hostility towards the British as well as all foreigners, and to make further outrageous demands. The agreement has completely destroyed the value of municipal debentures, thereby ruining many whose little all was invested in this supposedly gilt-edged stock, and further, making it absolutely impossible on the part of the Council to raise money for the carrying on of the concession. The foreign newspapers have had to cease coming out as their staffs were

called out on strike without any reason being given. For a similar reason the foreign banks have been forced to close down, while business is almost completely at a standstill. Illegal taxation of such goods as have been imported has proceeded without check, and, finally, the situation has grown so bad that a second, and this time complete evacuation of all foreigners is becoming necessary.

The fear that the Shanghai Settlement will be treated in the same way as that of Hankow has resulted in a depreciation of Shanghai Municipal debentures to 20 per cent. below their par value, which has placed the Shanghai Municipal Council in a quandary as to how to

raise the necessary funds for the administration of the Settlement, since no new debentures can be issued while those already outstanding remain at their present figure, and the borrowing of money is the only way to finance the Settlement during the period before the rates and taxes can be collected.

All Security Undermined

Not only are local Shanghai stocks affected in this way, but the attitude of the home governments that prompted the signing of the Hankow agreement has so destroyed confidence that all Chinese securities, even those based on Customs revenues, have dropped enormously in value. It is safe to say that not a single foreigner in China who has invested his money in the country is not bitterly regretting it at the present moment. What, one wonders, are those London investors who bought Chinese Reorganization Loan Bonds feeling about them now? It is all very fine to send troops out for the protection of British lives and property, when the very attitude of the British Government to the situation as a whole is such as to render that property valueless and to ruin those whose lives they have saved. What, one asks, is the use of "protecting" British property at enormous expense merely to hand it back, by pusillanimous agreements such as that of Hankow, to the very people from whom it was protected? Of what avail are Winston Churchill's assurances that the British Government will maintain the honour of the British Empire and guard its rights and interests from any foe when Lord Desborough, speaking on behalf of that same Government, announces that it is ready to come to an agreement with the Cantonese over Shanghai on the same basis as that of Hankow?

In the Nanking outrages the British Government has had ample indication of how much faith it can place in the assurances of the leaders of the Nationalist party, who, even if they so desired (which is extremely doubtful), could not control the forces of lawlessness and hatred that they have called into being in order to gain popular favour amongst the illiterate Chinese masses. Now, are we going to see any further confidence placed in the glib assurances of these scoundrels

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who claim to speak for China, yet who allow their armies to kill innocent Chinese by the hundred as well as friendly foreigners and to loot and burn when and where they please?

The Only Way to Save China

Better a thousand times take a strong line of action now and call a halt to all this outrageous villainy that is being perpetrated in the name of freedom, even if it does involve the shedding of a little blood, than by continuing the present policy of forbearance and so ensure the complete ruin of the whole country, the death of hundreds of thousands of its inhabitants and the complete wiping out of all foreign interests.

Unless the British Government, backed by the Governments of Japan and the United States of America, not to mention those of the lesser nations involved, takes a firm stand now, announcing a policy of insistence upon the fulfillment of treaty obligations and a demand for the Chinese — Nationalists and Northerners alike—to stop this insensate fighting, and at the same time to expel the communist agents of Moscow from their midst. China will go crashing to a ruin worse than that of Russia, while the whole fabric of world civilization will be shaken to its foundations, as the lawlessness characteristic of communism spreads throughout Asia.

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RED PROPAGANDA IN SHANGHAI

An Extraordinary Document Circulated Among the Chinese
Christian Churches on Sunday

Mar. 30, 1927

N.C.D.N.

"LONG LIVE THE NATIONALIST GOVERNMENT!"

The Chinese Christian Churches in Shanghai both inside and outside the Settlements, were on Sunday flooded with an eight-page quarto pamphlet bearing the title "Long Live the Nationalist Government!" The pamphlet, bearing the date of March 25, is issued by the "National Christian Literature Association, of 20 Museum Road, Shanghai," and contains eight articles, the titles and authors being:—"Towards the New Shanghai," Frank Rawlinson, D.D.; "Abrogation of Unequal Treaties," David Z. T. Yui, LL.D.; "The Return of Foreign Concessions," R. Y. Lo, PH.D.; "Christians Ought to Take Part in the People's Revolution," J. Wesley Shen, B.D.; "Race Equality and National Movement," Leonard S. H. Hsu, PH.D.; "Jesus and the Three People's Principle," C. S. Wang; "Freedom of Religious Belief," C. Y. Cheng, D.D.; and "An Open Letter to Chinese Christian Women," by Miss S. S. Ting, of the Y.W.C.A.

English Version Bad Enough

On the front page is a footnote to the effect that "For literalness of articles, except that of the first two, the readers are requested to refer to their Chinese originals," but as the pamphlet before us will probably be circulated among the foreign friends of the "National Christian Literature Association," which we suspect is closely identified with the Chinese Y.M.C.A. and the so-called "National Christian Council," and will therefore find a place on the files of certain Mission Boards, the organization responsible for the production must not complain if we judge it on the English translation.

Dr. Frank Rawlinson, who is known to foreigners as the Editor of "The Chinese Recorder," and an advocate of the abolition of the so-called "unequal treaties," leads off with an article entitled "Towards the New Shanghai," in which

he claims that "the crux of Shanghai's present situation is the nationalistic aspiration so to change the status of the Settlement or Concessions which are a part of Shanghai, that Chinese political rights and interests will receive just recognition in the government of the city," and that "the time has come for definite negotiations for a change in the 'status of Shanghai.'" In view of the statement issued a few days ago by the Municipal Council that no negotiations for a change can be considered at the present time, the general public will draw their own conclusions as to the purpose of such an article, and the influence it is likely to exercise on those among whom it is circulated by these revolutionary agitators.

Will Dr. Yui Think Again?

Dr. David Yui's contribution on "Abrogation of Unequal Treaties," is described as an "extract from address given on October 13, 1926," and contains the old parrot-cry as to the Imperialistic designs of foreign Powers to exploit China. One sentence in the article may be quoted as pertinent at the present moment:—"We do not need to fear that the citizenship of missionaries and Chinese Christians respectively will suffer any evil effect from the abrogation of the unequal treaties. The citizenship of both will remain intact." If Dr. Yui will take the trouble to interview missionaries who have arrived in Shanghai from Nanking during the past two days he will learn something of the kind of treatment meted out to missionaries and others by those whose declared aim is the abrogation of unequal treaties. And if he really has any true Christianity in him he will candidly confess that there is a

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good deal to fear from the abrogation of the treaties or the surrender of the safeguards to life and property which those treaties ensure.

"Foreign Aggression"

Dr. R. Y. Lo, in his article on "The Return of Foreign Concessions," concludes with the following outburst:—

"The history of the 15 years of the Chinese Republic is a history of servile submission to foreign aggression, headed by the Peking Government. Now that a people's Government has been established, its army has succeeded in overthrowing the militarists and oppressors, and following their victories the return of our concession after another, how can we help expressing our hearty welcome? Fellow Christians, hoist up the flag of the tri-colour, back up the Government diplomatic policy, for there are more concessions we ought to take back."

A Blasphemous Outburst

The final article to receive notice at this time is headed "Jesus and the Three People's Principles," by one C. S. Wang, and is of such a character as to justify its production at length. One wonders how Dr. Rawlinson and the foreign officers of the National Christian Council and Y.M.C.A. will justify their association with the authors of a pamphlet which dissociates "the Christian Church" with the teachings of Jesus, and draws the inference that "the revolutionary spirit of Jesus and that of Dr. Sun are one." The article reads:—

Jesus, with whose teachings or principles no existing Christian church can be said to be in perfect conformity, was himself a labourer, but was at the same time a world's revolutionary leader with liberty, equality and fraternity as his principles. He fought and fought, till at last he died on the Cross; and his blood has ever since nourished revolutionary geniuses of different countries and given them nerve to fight for the same principles.

We are strongly convinced that Dr. Sun, the author of the Three People's Principles and the father of the present revolutionary movement, is one of Jesus' disciples, and that his revolutionary fervour has its main-spring in the revolutionary spirit of Jesus. This he himself confessed in his lectures on the Three People's Principles, and his life and teachings prove that he was a real follower of Jesus.

Jesus found in Isaiah the expression of his own message:—

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. . . . for he has consecrated me to preach the gospel to the poor; he has sent me to proclaim release for captives and recovery of sight for the blind, to set free the oppressed."

In another place his zeal for human brotherhood and hatred of class distinctions burst forth into such utterances:—"If any one among you wants to be great let him be your servant. I come not to be served but to serve others."

He rebuked the scribes and priests; he drove away from the Temple money changers who were in the employ of capitalists; in short he revolted against all sorts of false religious ceremonies and traditions. From the above and similar utterances, we may safely draw the inference that the revolutionary spirit of Jesus and that of Dr. Sun are one.

Therefore, if we meant to be real followers of Jesus we can not but be in deep sympathy with the Three People's Principles and join the present revolutionary movement; and at the same time endeavour to overthrow all anti-Jesus churches that proclaim Jesus only as a disguise.

Will the Authorities Note?

Sufficient has been quoted to emphasize the spirit dominating the contributors to this extraordinary pamphlet, and the purpose of its publication at the present time. In view of the issuance last week of a Municipal Notification prohibiting the distribution of any document "calculated to stir up animosity, foment trouble, cause public alarm, or incite to a breach of the peace," this production of the National Christian Literature Association, of 20 Museum Road, will no doubt receive attention from the local authorities concerned.

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The North-China Daily News

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, MARCH 30, 1927.

THE CLOUD OF DOUBT LIFTED

It is not too much to say that the answers given by Sir Austen Chamberlain to a number of questions in the House of Commons, as reported to-day by Reuter, will lift a great weight from the minds of the British community throughout China. Let us set these out one by one. The italics throughout are ours:—

"In the anarchical conditions prevailing at present in many parts of China, it was impossible (said Sir Austen) to say that Britain could safely rely on Chinese guarantees of safety for British subjects. 'We must watch what happens and judge *not according to professions made but by performances.*'"

Coming next to the failure of the Hankow agreement, Sir Austen, while unwilling at present to pronounce a final judgment, said that Great Britain had dealt "in a very liberal and, he might even say, in a most confiding spirit" at Hankow:—

"She must be assured that the conditions are such that the Chinese authority established could preserve order, whenever that authority was extended, *before she made any further surrender of British interests and property.*"

Then came the great question of Shanghai and Commander Kenworthy's fatuous suggestion that negotiations should be immediately opened with the Cantonese. To this Sir Austen replied by emphasizing that it was impossible for one party to dispose of property held jointly with others. And then, pointing

out that it would be for the Diplomatic Body at Peking to speak for the Powers collectively, he went on to say that:—

"He did not think it would be difficult for the Powers concerned to take steps to negotiate *if there were a single Chinese authority exercising power throughout China with whom they could negotiate.*"

"No negotiations in regard to Shanghai were proceeding. *It was impossible,*" he declared, "*to negotiate fruitfully in the present anarchical conditions.*"

One other point in connexion with all these welcome answers may be mentioned. A Labour member had drawn attention to the Cantonese allegation that Northerners were guilty of the Nanking outrage. Sir Austen promptly nailed this lie to the counter. "Information," he said, "from British and American sources was contrary to this."

No doubt in days to come we shall look back upon the crisis through which foreigners in China are now passing with some amazement at the uneasy state of mind in which we lived. But, on the whole, our anxieties are not unjustified. There is no doubt that the present explosion could have been averted if, two years ago, we had stood firmly, not only upon our treaty rights, but upon the ordinary claims of humanity which are the basis of all dealings between civilized peoples. That we did not do so was a direct incentive to all the forces of lawlessness and disorder in this country to perpetrate ever newer and greater outrages. And still it seemed there was no limit to the British Government's patience, while the dejection of the British community, as yet more insults were swallowed and surrenders made, could not but grow deeper and deeper. But now the turning point has come. Great Britain has offered her friendship to the Cantonese, backing it with the most solid proof; and, notwithstanding the repeated assertions of Kuomintang leaders that they are ready to be friendly with

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those who would be friendly with them, Britain's generosity has not only been rejected but spat upon. Sir Austen Chamberlain's answers are something more than a reassurance to his fellow-countrymen in China. They are a warning to the Cantonese that they have gone too far.

CHRISTIANITY AND POLITICS

ELSEWHERE we give an extensive summary of the extraordinary pamphlet entitled "Long Live the Nationalist Government" produced by leading Chinese Christians of Shanghai which was distributed in some of the Shanghai churches on Sunday. It has caused a very great scandal in religious circles as well it may; the English version is bad enough; the Chinese, we have been told, is worse, as indeed has usually been the case with these bilingual publications; and it remains a mystery how any foreigner possessed of any remnants of self-respect can have associated himself with its appearance. Let it be clearly understood that we have no objection—there can be none—to Chinese Christians allying themselves with any party they please. We do object, however, to their deliberately using their church for political ends and we particularly dislike the smug, sanctimonious and hypocritical manner in which they write.

For example Dr. Leonard S. Hsu assures us that "we (the Nationalists) have no discrimination against any nationality or any country. Whoever supports these ideals are our friends." We have heard this untrue assertion again and again and what is the reality? Britain has given such proofs of friendship to the Nationalists as no country ever gave another and with each act of her liberality the tide of deliberately stirred hatred and injury has only grown greater and

higher against her.

Dr. C. Y. Cheng then advances the contention "that all Christian institutions such as missionary schools and hospitals should be registered in the Chinese Government in order to show our loyalty to the nation." Considering that the said schools and hospitals have been almost entirely paid for and are maintained by foreign money, the good will at least of foreign Christian peoples towards China has been shown clearly enough. How much of Dr. Cheng's loyalty is involved in thus disposing of other people's property is an interesting question. Later on he says: "But we are opposed to the use of force or compulsion in matters of religious belief." This is, in reality, pure nonsense. Nobody is attempting to force Christianity on China. But, for any possible implication that voluntary contributions to maintain mission schools and hospitals for China's benefit constitute force or compulsion, we are sure that donors abroad will fall in with Dr. Cheng's wishes and desist from their obnoxious giving.

One last quotation, again from Dr. Leonard Hsu: "We ask all foreigners in China... to defy all malicious propaganda on the part of those who work to prevent national freedom of the Chinese people." Except Borodin and his agents, who have already stolen all Mongolia from China and are manifestly plotting to get a strangle-hold on the Eighteen Provinces, we really do not know who is working to prevent China's national freedom. But as regards the words we have italicized, has Dr. Hsu ever heard the saying "Physician heal thyself?" We imagine he has and that he knows what it means. When he and his colleagues express some disapprobation of the outrages committed by the anti-Christian movement instead of glossing them over and using cant talk about an instrument of Heaven for the purging of the

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Church; when they show some sympathy for the missionaries' misfortunes and perhaps a little grain of gratitude for all the missionaries have tried to do and have done for China, then and not till then will they be listened to by ordinary decent men—men who do not talk much about religion, possibly do not practise it assiduously, but have none the less a working sense of honour, of gratitude and of decency.

Chinese Mob Attacks Party Of British Sailors

Sailors From H. M. S. Woodcock At Changsha
Pelted By Mob; Chinese Commissioner

Mar. 30, 1927. Demands Surrender Of Seamen
S. T.

As the result of a clash between a small party of British sailors and a belligerent mob of Chinese at Changsha on March 28, the Chinese Commissioner for Foreign Affairs has demanded that the British withdraw H.M.S. Woodcock, of which sailors were members of the crew, and that the sailors who took part in the slight encounter be immediately handed over to the Chinese officials of Changsha to permit them to take drastic action.

Evacuation Ordered

It is also reported that the Commissioner has withdrawn extraterritoriality rights from all British subjects. The evacuation of all British subjects from the city has been ordered. It has been learned that the encounter between the British sailors and the mob was the result of high-handed, insulting tactics on the part of the Chinese, the sailors merely confining themselves to protecting their lives.

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Reports reaching here yesterday stated that Anking is being looted and fighting is taking place between the looters in the streets of the city. The American destroyer Hulbert has been ordered to Anking to evacuate the Americans. A huge demonstration is planned by Nationalists in Anking to-morrow.

There are approximately 100 missionaries in Anking and it is expected that the Hulbert will reach there and take them aboard before the beginning of the demonstration to-morrow, which will probably be anti-foreign as well as pro-Nationalist.

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All foreign banks in Hankow have been closed indefinitely, it was learned yesterday.

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