

CHINESE PARENTS EATING CHILDREN

Millions in the Interior Face
Starvation—Situation
Most Critical.

(National News Association)
SHANGHAI, China, Oct. 14.—Millions face starvation in Central China. Parents are eating their children in the flood-stricken districts. Marauding bands are in control and head the fight for the survival of the fittest.

Missionaries coming from the interior states that the situation surpasses anything within the history of the country. From Ichang to the sea, a distance of a thousand miles, the valley of the Yangtze is bordered by heaps of decaying dead, while the black flag and cannibalism hold undisputed sway. The flood devastated villages are overrun with starving Chinese. The water-sodden ground is past all cultivation. The rice crop is completely destroyed, and even the grass along the river-bank has been utilized as food. Not a dog, rat or bird that could be captured has been spared.

The same conditions prevail in all the valleys in Central China. Reports from the interior proclaim a state of anarchy. All trade is suspended and the principal cities will soon be in a state of siege, with their inhabitants facing starvation. The government is unable to cope with the conditions. Millions of dollars in food are needed at once.

Flood and drought and famine are frequent in China, as attested by the millions of dollars which have been sent here from Europe and America for the relief of the starving. But the oldest foreign resident cannot remember time when these misfortunes fell with such a force at present. Never before has such a large number of people been affected by the flood, and never have they been so ill prepared to withstand it, for this is the third and most disastrous flood of three years.

Each year the heavy rains along the Nan, the Yuan and the Siang cause slight floods which are quickly carried away by the Yangtze, into which these rivers flow.

Usually the annual Yangtze floods follow these smaller floods a few months later and the damage done is slight. This year the heavy rains came late and were more violent than usual. Embankments along the Yuan and the Nan were broken and the Siang river filled Tung Ting lake until this bog body of water encroached on all the farm lands along its shores. This flood was at its height, when melted snow in Tibet came rushing down the Yangtze gorges and at Ichang, where the great river enters the plains country, filled the river bank full. Tung Ting lake became an inland sea. The rivers filled higher and higher until they reached the tops of the embankments, often ten to fifteen feet above the level of the surrounding country. Then, one by one, the embankments broke, sending floods of water, ten feet deep, rushing across the plain, sweeping all before it. Often plains were flooded for a distance of sixty miles before the water reached the foot hills.

Driven from their homes, thousands of refugees fled to the hills and camped on the sides in little mat sheds. Here they have been making pitiful efforts to preserve their lives until the subsiding flood gives them an opportunity to return to their homes. They brought with them in their flight small stocks of rice but in the weeks of waiting this has been exhausted and now they are eating anything that holds any nourishment. On the hill-sides, they are digging into the ground with their bare fingers to get roots of weeds and grass and some have mixed clay with their rice in order to give it more bulk. In Anhui province the refugees have overrun the wheat fields which were recently harvested and are gleaming the stubble of every grain which was left by the harvesters. Those who have been able to reach the larger cities are offering their children for sale, many little girls being sold for a few dollars and the boys for a slightly larger amount. In the smaller villages which have been cut off from any food supply for weeks cannibalism is the depths to which starvation has driven the flood victims. Many parents have eaten their own children.

Ordinary flood statistics are insignificant in comparison to those which are necessary in enumerating the extent of this flood. For a thousand miles the Yangtze is a vast inland sea, its former course serving only as a channel in the stream which stretches away to the horizon or the hills on either side. For two hundred miles to the north of the Yangtze the Han is out of its banks and south of Hankow, Tung Ting lake is so far out of its banks that it has flooded villages fifty miles inland. In one village six hundred were drowned. In the southern three hundred. At least ten thousand were drowned in the villages and towns alone. An area of a hundred thousand square miles, as large as a European country is under water, its crops ruined, and its population homeless. As to the number which are starving, two millions is a conservative estimate, the most conservative of any which have been made. After a three weeks' trip through the flooded region, it is my opinion that the number will exceed 2,500,000. In Anhui province alone the homeless number a half million. In the Tung Ting lake region there is an equal number and these two sections cover only a small part of the vast area of the flood.

The section flooded, the river valleys of Central China is the most productive of the empire. Here are grown large quantities of rice and the foundation this year came just as the best rice crops of years were nearing maturity. Usually the early floods in time for a second crop of rice to be grown and this is enough for the support of the population even

when the first crop is destroyed. This year the floods came too late for the second crop to be grown and the refugees will be dependent upon such relief as is sent them until they can harvest next year's crop.

From American standards the necessities of life are ridiculously small. A dollar will supply a whole family with food for a week. A hundred dollars will keep a village in comfort for a month. Poverty such as is ever present in China is unknown in America, just as suffering such as is caused by this flood is unknown here. There may be hungry people in America but none is starving. In Changteh and in other cities in the flooded district, they are dying by the hundreds daily of actual starvation. In all of these cities you may see bands of refugees so weak from starvation that they can scarcely lift their hands to receive the penny you give them. You can see dozens of those who retain some strength of body fight like madmen over the possession of a bit of rice which has been spilled in the mud. Rats, cats and dogs are being eaten just as any other race would eat them if driven to it by the pangs of hunger.

To add to the horrors of the situation, thievery and piracy have broken out in the big and miserable refugee camps. Formerly honest, many are now able to obtain food by theft and hunger has driven them to murder for a quart of rice, to kill whole boat crews in order to gain possession of a few dollars.

Piracy has been practically driven off the rivers of China but with the floods it has reappeared. Merchants who were driven from the small villages around Tung Ting lake, sought to save their stocks of goods by loading them on small boats for transportation across the lake to higher ground. As soon as they started to cross the lake, pirates were encountered, who took possession of the boats and goods, after killing all the members of the crew. Starving refugees constantly joined the ranks of the pirates until now they exist in such numbers that none of the small craft of that section dare oppose them. With the usual Chinese instinct for organization, the pirates have already formed two guilds, one of which sails under a red flag and the other under a black flag. Several serious fights have taken place between them in which a number on each side were killed.

One of the native papers prints a tragic story of the punishment of a boy who turned thief because of the flood. The native paper tells the story as follows:

"Many of the flood refugees in the western part of the Hanchuen district have become thieves. One of them, Fang Chu, acted as a spy for a band of thieves in the daytime and at night was their companion. Many people were robbed and they hated the robbers bitterly. Recently Fang Chu guided the robbers to the home of Su Shung Chang from which they stole some clothes and about \$40 in cash. A few days later Su Shung Chang arrested Fang Chu, beat him severely and handed him over to the officials of his own clan. The elders of the clan held a meeting and decided to take Fang Chu before the Hanyang magistrate for punishment as he had brought infamy upon his clan. But an uncle of the boy was violently enraged at him and decided to put him to death in spite of the plans of other relatives. Knowing that his uncle was very obstinate the rest of the family let him have his way. He bound Fang Chu fast and carried him away to the open country to a spot where he had dug a grave. He threw his prisoner into the hole and filled it up, never heeding the prayers and lamentations which came from the man's lips."

With the exception of Changteh, no large city has been damaged by the flood. Changteh, which has a population of about 300,000 is under eight feet of water. Many towns with a population of 25,000 are under water. Hankow, the commercial center of China, is in the center of the flooded district, but it has escaped serious damage. The Yangtze rose high enough to overflow the Bund and fill the lower streets in the foreign settlement to a depth of several feet, but the water was soon pumped out.

NEW WRECK FINDER TO RUN UNDER SEA

LONDON, Oct. 14.—The design for a novel vessel which is practically a motor car intended either to float or run on the bottom of the sea is attracting the attention of those interested in salvage operations and pearl fisheries. The invention is the work of E. H. Crossley, who already has invented a useful wreck finder. Some experts who have studied his latest idea declare that the strong craft has many advantages over anything now being used in the kind of deep-sea work for which it has been devised. Mr. Crossley's plans show a steel barrel fifteen feet long by six feet in diameter, fitted with wheels which will enable it to be driven along the floor of the sea, and a propeller which will drive it through the water. It has glazed portholes that will enable the men inside to see in every direction, and a double bottom, which when the crew wish to sink the vessel, can be filled with sea water by means of a hand pump. Two air tubes are attached. Through one of them fresh air can be pumped by the salvage vessel above, while foul air can be drawn up through the other.

But the strangest features of the craft are several steel rods with ends shaped something like human hands, which project in various directions. These, by an ingenious contrivance, are worked from within the barrel, so that they can be turned at various angles and pick up anything from the bottom of the sea. Other rods are fitted with drills designed to bore through rock or armor.

Palladium Want Ads Pay.

WHEN 18, GIRL IS TO GET \$3,000,000

Fabulous Inheritance Will
Make Princely Present
Three Years Hence.

Los Angeles, October, 14.—Miss Rhoda Rindge will celebrate at once her eighteenth birthday and a \$3,000,000 birthday gift. She is the daughter of the late Frederick H. Rindge, originally of Cambridge, Mass. On her eighteenth birthday, under the terms of her father's will, the estate will be distributed and she, with her mother, Mrs. Mary K. Rindge, and her two brothers, Frederick H. Jr., and Samuel Knight Rindge, will receive their proportion.

Just what the estate totals will not be known until the settlement. That it will be considerably more than \$12,000,000 is certain, and it may be nearer \$20,000,000. It consists of large quantities of valuable business properties in St. Louis, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Ore., Boston, Chicago, and New York. Its greatest asset is the famous Malibu ranch, twenty miles north of the little beach town of Santa Monica, Cal., and known throughout the state as the "ranch of mystery."

Tract of Ten Thousand Acres.

The Malibu ranch is a princely property within itself. It is estimated that its boundary lines inclose more than ten thousand acres. Nowhere in the world, probably, is there a better site for seaside resorts than the coast line of the Malibu ranch. In the last three or four years wide areas have been profitably cultivated, but the work has hardly begun.

The "ranch house" stands in the center of magnificent grounds. These grounds received the most lavish care under the personal direction of Mr. Rindge himself. For several years he busied himself making a collection of ornamental plants, shrubs and flowers, and in laying out these grounds. Shortly before his death, Mr. Rindge finished the construction of a standard gauge railway through the property and built a huge shipping wharf, ostensibly for ranch products.

Ranch of Mystery.

In the early days of the Spanish settlers what is now known as the Malibu ranch was overgrown with an air of mystery. In more modern times that mystery deepened, and even after Mr. Rindge came into possession of the estate earned the title of the "ranch of mystery." He found the place inclosed by fences, which he at once set to work to strengthen and complete.

After the death of Mr. Rindge the family, through its attorneys, made earnest efforts to keep the ranch free from the public, refusing to allow the claim made by Santa Monica that one of the old days a public road had run through the property. About two years ago men from Los Angeles forced their way through the gates and proceeded to explore the district. They were met by Hindoo coolies and arrested as trespassers.

Later the legal test that was given to the question was decided against the ranch owner and a right-of-way through one corner of the ranch granted. But this has done little to clear up the mystery that surrounds the property.

Church Given to Town.

Santa Monica, the pretty little beach town where Mr. Rindge had one of his homes, received many favors from him. One of these was the gift outright of a church, the First Methodist church, at Fourth street and Arizona avenue, which was erected in 1895 at a cost of about \$15,000.

In one of the earliest anti-saloon fights at Santa Monica Mr. Rindge took an active part, offering to reimburse the city treasury to the amount of license payments that would be lacking when the saloons were closed, and he made his offer good by promptly sending a check to the mayor for \$2,500.

In the distribution of his public gifts he gave his birthplace, Cambridge, Mass., a city hall building, the public library and a manual training school building.

A Mother's Advice.

A mother who has discovered a cure for quarrelling children wants to pass it along to other mothers at a loss to stop the sharp words and peevishness passed among their little ones. When quarrels become too frequent and complaints come thick and fast, she tries separation. She sends one child to spend the day with an aunt in another neighborhood, gives a second permission to visit a playmate and keeps another busy at home. When the little reunion occurs all three are happy to see each other again, eager to tell of the things that happened while the others were away and more tolerant of each other's faults. Children tire of things easily, so that a change of environment is needed to set them right.

Cigar Stumps.

Gather the cigar stumps about the house and place them in a can until enough are accumulated. Soak them in tepid water a day, sprinkle them on plants. It prevents worms and bugs infesting them. Take the wet tobacco and sprinkle over the carpet and sweep well. This takes up dust and keeps away moths. Also crumble stumps fine and put them in hen nests to keep away chicken lice instead of buying tobacco stems for the same purpose.

LIVE STOCK LOSS ALMOST 92,000,000

Disease Cause of Over a Mil-
lion Dollar Loss in
Hogs Alone.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 14.—The great financial loss caused by death from disease of farm animals is emphasized in figures just completed by Thomas W. Broley, state statistician, from reports of township assessors on crops and farm animals for 1910. During that year the loss to farmers from disease among hogs was \$1,488,557. The loss in cattle by disease was \$338,338. These are the classes of animals in which disease annually causes the greatest losses. The diseases are, as a rule, preventable, it is said.

Madame Hen has come in for her annual indorsement as a revenue maker. Her production of eggs during the year, a total of 68,672,224 dozen, was valued at \$13,004,823, or about two-thirds the value of the total wheat crop. In addition, other poultry values to the extent of \$3,311,679 were reported.

Few changes of note were made in the total or average productions of farm products. Wheat showed an increase in the average yield an acre, due to weather conditions. Corn was about the same. Clover hay, which has a way of rising and falling in alternate years, due to rotation of crops, varied but little from former years.

Milk and Butter Values High.

The milk and butter values virtually equalled the wheat values and were nearly one-half the corn values. Milk to the amount of 188,233,234 gallons was produced, valued at \$21,501,398. Butter to the extent of 43,819,449 pounds, valued at \$9,196,963, was made.

Tobacco showed a marked falling off in comparison with the preceding year, due to the falling off in the price offered by the wholesale dealers and a decreased acreage.

The total crop figures for the year were: Corn—Acres, 4,297,877; bushels, 156,520,795; average yield, 36.42. Wheat—Acres, 2,250,142; bushels, 36,152,022; average yield, 16.01. Oats—Acres, 1,558,472; bushels, 49,492,099; average yield, 31.76. Rye—Acres, 73,283; bushels, 982,833; average yield, 13.4. Potatoes—Acres, 55,160; bushels, 4,256,597; average yield, 77.17. Onions—Acres, 4,475; bushels, 1,492,942; average yield, 255.4. Clover hay—Acres, 998,467; tons, 1,100,819. Timothy—Acres, 1,048,235; tons, 5,107,715. Apples—Acres, 41,914; bushels, 1,274,036. Berries—Acres, 3,984; bushels, 235,433. Tobacco—Acres, 19,393; pounds, 15,740,299. Tomatoes—Acres, 15,252; tons, 52,536. All other crops—Acres, 54,648; selling value, \$881,214.

In the acreage of corn, Benton county led with 100,203 acres. This county was second, however, in point of production, Rush county taking first place with a production of 3,933,720 bushels. Tipton county led in average yield, with an average of 52.51 bushels to the acre. Rush county was second.

Knox Leads in Wheat.

In the production of wheat, Posey county led in acreage, with a total of 62,449 acres. Shelby was second. Knox county, with a total of 950,901 bushels, led in point of production, although it was third in point of acreage. Posey was second in point of production. Tippecanoe county led in point of average yield, with an average of 22.57 bushels an acre. Ten counties were in advance of Knox and Posey in point of average yield.

In the acreage of oats, Benton county led with a total of 81,460. It also led in point of production with a total of 2,443,433 bushels. Allen county, although second in point of production and third in point of acreage, led in point of average yield, with an average of 39.52 bushels an acre.

The total production of wool for the year was 3,842 pounds, with a selling value of \$809,841. Steuben county with a total of 216,000 pounds, led in this production. During the year 520,703 sheep were sold, valued at \$2,539,623. Lagrange county led in this production.

Hogs sold during the year numbered 2,395,140, valued at \$32,420,355. Rush county led in this production. Cattle, numbering 414,670, valued at \$13,562,083; horses, numbering 98,470, valued at \$11,667,602, and mules numbering 25,363, valued at \$2,985,795 were reported.

DRUNKEN WOMAN TO BE CHARGED AGAIN

After escaping from the Home for Friendless Women on Wednesday evening, Lola Wilkins returned to the vicinity of the institution on South Ninth street on Thursday evening and, going to almost every house on the street between C and E streets, begged residents for whisky.

Day Patrolman Voglesong, who resides on the street, was informed that a woman was begging whisky of South Ninth street residents and the patrolman placed her under arrest. She was taken to the Home for Friendless Women, where she has twenty days yet to serve on a previous sentence of drunk.

When her present sentence expires she will be arraigned again on the charge of public intoxication, as she, it is said, was "highly" intoxicated on Thursday evening. She made her escape from the institution while acting as a trusty.

CLAIM OLD LOAN; ASKING \$18,000,000

Heirs Say Ancestors Loaned
Money to Family in
Germany.

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—Descendants of an ancient German family of nobility will be asked to pay two Chicago women and other Americans more than \$18,000,000, which the latter say their ancestors lent those of the former a century and a half ago. Mrs. Anna Otto, 2661 Washington boulevard, has begun a search for American heirs of the ancient Gorder family of Switzerland. It was a member of this family who lent Prince von Witt of Germany 73,000,000 marks, the principal of which has never been paid according to Mrs. Otto.

The Chicago woman declares that her late husband's grandmother delivered the money to Prince von Witt, after which she and her entire family were driven from Switzerland during the religious troubles of the Mennonites.

Portions of the Gorder family settled in Nassau, the capital city of the province of Nassau, Germany. Others came to America, and their descendants are to be found in Maryland, Pennsylvania and Illinois. For a time, Mrs. Otto declares, the interest on the money was paid to a Pennsylvania family, but of recent years neither this nor any part of the principal has been paid.

Christian Otto of Granville, Ill.; Mrs. W. L. Trumbull of Clinton, Ill., and Mrs. Otto Schurzentrub, a daughter of Mrs. Anna Otto of this city, are among the heirs.

Miss Lina Hinnerman of Nassau, Germany, is conducting the search abroad. Legal counsel has been engaged there and attorneys are soon to be hired here by the Chicago woman to co-operate with the former in their effort to collect the ancient loan.

FUEL OUTLOOK IN CITY OPTIMISTIC

According to reports from the local coal dealers, the outlook in that line is at present about as good as Richmond ever experienced in October. All the firms are well stocked, and claim they could supply the city for three weeks if all transportation was cut off. The most optimistic part of the situation, from the viewpoint of the consumer, is that, aside from the ten-cent increase in anthracite made by the mine operators the first of this month, all the prices are the same they have been for some time.

Pocahontas and Jackson coal, two of the most popular brands in Richmond, are selling for \$5.25 at the dealers, and as this price has been stationary since the twelfth of August, there

is little chance of a sudden increase. Regular anthracite is now listed at \$8, ten cents more than at the first of the month. The egg variety is marketed at \$5.75. The other coals run down steadily in price until the bottom price of \$4.25 is asked for the mine run of Pocahontas.

Several thousand tons of coal are being held in reserve by the local dealers for fear a sudden shortage might develop. There is no danger of any suffering from a stoppage of the supply temporarily, for the firms here are prepared to carry the city for almost a month on their regular stock if they have to. Some of the coal men state that a severe storm, or prolonged period of bad weather, would be sure to cut off the supply, as the railroads do not keep their coal cars in good repair. The possibility of a shortage lasting longer than the supply could hold out is so remote that local authorities do not even consider it.

To Improve Tough Peas.

When peas are rather tough and big a pleasant variation is to cook them to a soft pulp, press through a fine sieve and season with plenty of butter salt and pepper as in mashing potatoes. A little grated cheese mixed through the peas at the last improves them. Another variation is to garnish with a border of fried onions.

Life.

Life is a calculation. The happy man is he whose calculation is correct. Cloddy.

WATERWAYS BODY TO INSPECT ROUTE

(National News Association)
WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The National Waterways commission of which Senator Burton of Ohio, is chairman and Senator Lorimer of Illinois, a member, will start on November 1 on a tour of inspection of the proposed route of the canal which is to be run from Toledo through Ft. Wayne and Northern Indiana to Lake Michigan. They may travel the entire route of the proposed canal. The commission will probably submit a report when it meets in December.

A New Clubhouse For Girls.

Mrs. Medill McCormick has just fitted up a clubhouse for working girls in Washington. The house is in one of the best residential districts of the city. It has thirty-five rooms and is arranged to accommodate just that number of girls. Mrs. McCormick has had it done over and entirely equipped with all the latest conveniences.

There is no medicine so soon as Dr. Caldwell's Syrup.

It is the positive cure for all diseases arising from stomach trouble. The price is very reasonable. 40c and 50c.

POST CARD COUPON

Clip this coupon and bring it to one of the Quigley Drug Stores, with 10 cents and receive one set of 25 colored view Post Cards of Richmond. By mail 30 extra for postage.

ATTENTION! St. Mary's Fair

WILL OPEN
Monday Evening, Oct. 16

In the New Church
NORTH A STREET
Numerous Attractions
Admission 10 Cents