

## RITTER WRITES ON CHINA CONDITIONS

Tells of Intense Suffering of Chinese People and the Rise of Nationalistic Ideas.

Conditions in China, which have been commented upon so much recently in daily papers and have been the source of much editorial comment from leading daily papers, are graphically described in a letter received from H. C. Ritter, former professor of theology at Duke, who is now in the foreign mission field. The letter received at Duke is as follows:

"My dear Friends—  
Your China missionaries are now passing through a difficult and trying period. The rising tide of Chinese nationalism rightly protests against the injustices and inequalities imposed upon China by the foreign powers in treaties that were forced upon her two generations ago. The Chinese are awake to the political and social maladjustments in the internal life of the nation. Poverty, illiteracy, corruption, and disease levy a fearful toll. An increasing number of men who ardently love their nation—many of them having been trained in mission schools where they first caught the vision of a transformed China—are now giving their lives to the promotion of the revolution. With vehemence they protest against all oppressions and injustices, whether imposed upon China from without by foreign powers or from within by the forces of reaction and greed. The ignorant multitudes have been stirred up and many excesses and injustices are being perpetrated by those who are demanding justice for themselves. Christian work is at a standstill. The missionaries are foreigners, and foreigners are blamed for many of the ills from which China is suffering. The Chinese Christians suffer great persecution because of their connection with us. In many places in south, central, and west China, the missionaries have had to give up their work and seek refuge in the treaty ports where there is foreign protection. Some of the missionaries are returning to their home lands until the storm blows over.  
In north China the revolution has made no progress because of the opposition of General Chang Tso-lin, the famous Manchurian warlord. General Chang represents the old autocratic dictator, whose existence depends upon the preservation of the status quo. He is a bold and ardent patriot. The patriots who oppose him are branded as "Reds," and the war leader of strength and ability and is ambitious to impose his authority over the whole of China. He would pacify the country by crushing the revolutionists for their extermination. The two sides, North and South, are now in battle array, and are energetically preparing for the 1927 campaign. The southern forces are the nationalists or revolutionists. They made unbelievable gains during the

past year, and flushed with confidence because of their victories in central China, they are now pressing forward against General Chang. In military strength and supplies the advantage is with the North, but the southern armies are fighting for a great cause and are not mercenaries like the soldiers of General Chang. The deadliest weapons which they employ are the floods of revolutionary ideas which they skillfully disseminate among the enemy troops. In this way they have already defeated two powerful warlords—General Uu Pei-fu and General Sun Chuan-fang. The indications now are that 1927 will witness the bitterest struggle that China has known in many years.

The tragedy of the situation is the terrible suffering of the innocent and defenseless people. The soldiers often confiscate the food supplies and leave the people starving. In two instances in 1926 defeated armies sought refuge in walled cities and compelled the innocent people to undergo the horrors of a long siege. It is reported that 15,000 people died of starvation in the siege of Sianfu, which was lifted a few weeks ago. The soldiers seize the farm laborers and compel them to do the drudgery work for the army. As the military authorities have flooded the country with paper money, which they compel the people to accept in exchange for supplies, the result has been ruinous to merchants and farmers. Defeated soldiers become bandits and prey upon the country people and the small villages. Indescribable suffering has thus come to multitudes of the Chinese people. However antagonistic the radical elements may be towards the foreigners, the people of China in their suffering need the sympathy of all Christian people.

Here in Harbin we have been able to live in peace and security, but we realize the situation may change at any moment. Only a few days ago a prominent Chinese general living in Harbin was arrested and executed for an alleged secret agreement with the Bolsheviks. There is constant friction between the Chinese and Russian authorities over the joint management of the Chinese Eastern Railway. Many people believe that the

Russian government is only waiting for a favorable opportunity for sending in their soldiers so as to bring about the overthrow of General Tso-lin and the triumph of the southern armies.

My connection with the Chinese Mission in Harbin was dropped in October, when Bishop Ainsworth visited Harbin for the annual Mission meeting. The work is under the direction of the Board of Missions of our Chinese Church in central China. Under the stimulus of national sentiments, they desire to operate the Mission in Harbin without the aid of a foreign missionary. I believe they are quite capable of building up a strong work in Harbin, and I gladly withdrew from their Mission so that they might have full responsibility for that work. When Bishop Ainsworth arrived in October I asked permission to return to America rather than have to go back to central China for an appointment. As the Russian Mission is short of helpers, the Bishop asked me to remain in Harbin and assist in the Russian work for the time being. So through force of circumstances this Chinese missionary has become a Russian missionary. We hope that people will not lose interest in us because of the change. Perhaps this will serve to waken a new interest in missions as we will now be writing about the Russians and the work of the Russian mission.

Though we are often discouraged by our impotence and failure, yet it means much to us to be able to stand here in the thick of the struggle and point men to the Christ through whom alone a new world of peace and brotherhood is possible. Believing in the sufficiency of Christ to meet the needs of the world,

I gladly bear testimony to my faith and look forward with hope and courage to his ultimate triumph in the world.

Your friend and brother,  
H. C. RITTER,  
Harbin, Manchuria."

Black Walnut logs suitable for cutting into veneer bring from \$150 to \$200 a thousand board feet when from 18 to 24 inches in diameter at the small end.

One farmer in Wake county sold \$1,385.15 worth of milk from six cows to a creamery in Raleigh last year. In addition, he sold two veal calves for \$5 each and has raised one heifer valued at \$25. This man grows his own roughage and spent only \$504 for grain feed for the animals.

### RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT

On December 14, 1926, God came into our midst and took one of our most loved members, Mrs. Fanny Bland.

Therefore, be it resolved; First, that we bow in humble submission to the will of Him who is too wise to err and too good to be unkind.

Second, that her departure brings us sadness and leaves a vacancy that cannot be easily filled.

Third, that we extend to the family our heartfelt sympathy and love.

Fourth, that these resolutions be put on the minutes of the society, a copy sent to the family, one to the Christian Advocate and one to the Chatham Record.

Mrs. W. C. Abernathy,  
Mrs. W. B. Riddle,  
Miss Clytie J. Foushee,

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7 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	40 cts
8 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	50 cts
9 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	60 cts
10 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	75 cts
11 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	90 cts
12 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	\$1.15
13 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	\$1.25
14 inches at small end, 8 ft. long.....	\$1.50
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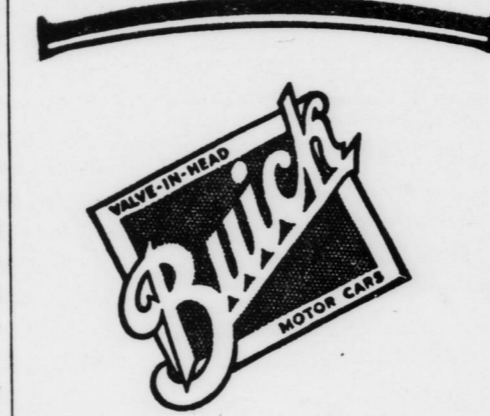
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### HOUSEHOLD GOODS AT AUCTION

At the late residence of Mrs. Charlie Crutchfield near New Salem church, Saturday, Feb. 12, at eleven o'clock, the household goods of Mrs. Crutchfield will be sold to the highest bidders for cash.

JULIAN POLK,  
MRS. SALLIE ABERNETHY,  
MRS. CHAS. L. WILLIAMS,  
Heirs of Mrs. Crutchfield.

DR. LUTHER C. ROLLINS  
DENTIST

SILER CITY, N. C.

666

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