

Civilians Flee From Seoul In Tragic Southward Evacuation

By H. D. QUIGG

United Press Staff Correspondent

SEOUL, Korea, Dec. 29—(UP)—By a crude iron bridge that spans the Han a reporter stood today and watched a great and tragic incident. It seemed almost as if the whole city of Seoul was alert and moving.

Slowly they came, knees bent and feet shuffling under staggering bundles of household goods. Down the main streets they came—the women walking erect balancing great bundles on their heads, the men hunched forward under the burden of cloth-bound packages piled seven feet high on wooden "A frames" strapped to their backs, the children trudging along with heavy packages tied to them.

humanity moved six abreast across the river, their copper faces turning to rose in the numbing wind. One man carried a pig, alive and grunting, in a sack on his back. A child tugged along with a folded Army stretcher balanced on his shoulders. A woman breastfed her baby as she walked, and she led a lapping dog by a chain.

On they came, miles and miles of thin lines converging on the bridge—one of three on which refugees may cross the river. They loaded their pitiful cargoes on bicycles, two-wheeled man-pulled carts, on wagons pulled by ponies and by oxen. As they reached the bridge those with bicycles and carts and wagons were told they could not cross with anything rolling on wheels.

Some took their carts apart and carried them across on their backs. Others were shunted off from the main line and moved upstream to where six ferries manned by oarsmen in the stern broke a path through the river ice to take their vehicles across.

ONLY CHILDREN WEEP
None wept but the children. And

even they were stoic for the most part. The refugees were moving south. They moved in fear but without haste. And if you asked them where they were going most of them could not tell you. Those who had a definite destination could not say exactly how they were going to get there. And none knew where he would sleep along the way.

Small boys circulated among the throng that eddied at the mouth of the bridge selling candy from trays suspended from their necks. One family with a man full of batter built a fire and set up in business cooking and selling hotcakes. The refugees—who had been told it would be wise to move south—showed no reticence in talking to a reporter.

There was Cho Kwang Chan, 28, mother of seven handsome kids who stood by a two-wheeled cart with five of her children and waited for her husband to return from across the river where he had taken the other children. She didn't know where they would go. But she said she had relatives in a town 100 miles to the south. She hoped they could get there in a freight car of a military train. She said her family was leaving Seoul "because we were told to."

NON-COMBATANTS LEAVE
There was Kim Yong Wan, an automobile mechanic. He and his family of five intended to walk to a town 10 miles south. They were carrying clothing and some mattresses. They said they threw away all their furniture and other belongings. Asked why he was moving, Kim said: "Non-combatants should leave Seoul."

Limb Han Kut, 36, a bearded man who pushed a bicycle loaded with bundles, said he had sent his family to Taejon by freight car. He was setting out to join them.

An attractive woman who said her name was Hwang Kyung Yun, 30, stood shivering near a pile of cloth-covered bundles. She said her husband, an instructor in a Seoul Agricultural High School, had taken

Woodall Now Head Local Church Youths Of New 4-H Group Attending Sessions

Benson Briefs

DAUGHTER IS BORN

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Pleasant of near Benson announce the birth of a daughter, Pamela Dare, on Friday, December 22, in Good Hope Hospital, Erwin.

Mrs. Pleasant is the former Miss Lula Mae Miller of near Benson.

THORNTON—LEE

The engagement of Miss Geraldine Lee to Frank W. Thornton, Jr. is announced by the bride-elect's mother, Mrs. Ruby Lee Dunn of near Four Oaks. Mr. Thornton is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank W. Thornton of the Elevation section of Johnston County.

The wedding will take place in January.

VISITING IN BENSON

J. D. Young and his sister, Ellen Young, who are students at the North Carolina School for the Deaf at Morganton, are spending the holidays with their mother, Mrs. Norma Young near Benson.

their five children on ahead across the river. She was asked why they were leaving.

"Escaping danger," she replied, and let it go at that.

She said they had left all their furniture in their house, nailing the doors and windows shut. But she did not fear theft.

"Everybody is gone from our neighborhood," she explained.

BENSON—The 4-H club of Hannah's Creek was organized at the community building near Benson on Tuesday evening.

Officers elected were: Morris Woodall, president; Hixie Johnson, vice president; Faye Barbour, secretary and treasurer; Sally Byrd and Howard Moore, song leaders; Pat Thornton, pianist. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby Langdon, prominent residents of the Hannah's Creek community, were selected as club leaders for the year.

For a program the group was entertained by Morris Woodall who gave a resume of his attendance at the recent National 4-H Club Congress held in Chicago.

Following the program those present enjoyed the Virginia Reel.

FARM FILLERS

A man may live without water for about 12 days, but three days without water is almost certain to be fatal to a milk, say specialists of the U.S. Department of Agriculture who conduct fur farming investigations in the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Five youths from the Dunn Presbyterian Church left Wednesday afternoon to attend the fourth quadrennial Youth Convention on World Missions, being held in Auburn, Alabama, December 28-31. The five who are attending are Franklin Giles, Laura Hope Hartley, Marilyn Jackson, Tommy Sanson and Howard White.

Approximately 1500 young people, between the ages of 17 and 24, will be attending the convention; they will come from 17 states included within the area of the Presbyterian Church, U.S. The largest delegation will be that from North Carolina, which will be made up of 160 young people.

Some of the outstanding Church leaders of the United States will be present at the convention to address the youth of the Church, to lead them in discussion groups and seminars. Among these leaders will be Dr. C. Darby Fulton, Executive Secretary of the Presbyterian Board of World Missions and a former Moderator of the Church; Dr. Charles W. Ransom, General Secretary of the International Missionary Council and others.

The first of these Youth Con-

ventions on World Missions was held in Atlanta, Georgia, in the closing days of 1937. Since then there have been others held in Memphis, Tenn., and Nashville, Tenn. A very high level of inspiration and challenge is attained in these previous experiences, many young men and women have volunteered their lives for full-time Christian service.

These five young people from the Presbyterian Church who are attending the convention have been very active in the Youth work of their Church for a good many years, each one having held one or more offices in the local organization; all five participate in the Young People's Choir of the Church.

Franklin Giles, Laura Hope Hartley and Howard White are members of the Senior class in Dunn High School; Tommy Sanson and Marilyn Jackson were members of last year's graduating class.

Student Event Is Scheduled

An open house for college students and high school students who are members of the First Baptist Church will be given Saturday night by the Rev. and Mrs. E. P. Russell.

The affair will be held from 8 to 10 p. m. at the pastor's home on Layton Ave.

HARMONY GAS

The G. A. 's of the Harmony church near Lillington met at the home of Miss Elizabeth Latta Friday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Several members of the group participated in the program, and new officers were elected.

Following the program and business session, the hostess passed fruit and candies.

Members attending the meeting included Ruby Jackson, Elizabeth Latta, Sue O'Brian, Ann Lanier, Nellie Jackson, Betty Lou Stewart, Pansy Gilbert, Peggy Bell, Dixie Hedgpeth, and the sponsor of the group Mrs. Marguerite Bell. Visitors attending the meeting were Nancy Bell, Harvey Latta and Peggy Stewart.

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