

Kiukiang, Jan. 14, 1932.

Dear Friends,

We do so appreciate your kindness in the money, gifts, and clothing which have come to us for Christmas and flood relief. What would we have done without them?

We are so busy these days for regular work is always pressing and in addition has come the refugee work.

So often in traveling through the country our hearts have ached because as far as we could see on all sides were many many villages where not one person had ever heard of Christ. The laborers were too few for the harvest but now a great privilege has come to our door. Many of those people have been flooded out of their homes and are collected in Kiukiang. We have about twenty thousand refugees here. Rulison High School girls have opened a school after four in the afternoon for some children near them and held services also for the parents on Sunday. The change in the children in this short time is wonderful. Knowles Bible Training School students go out each week into the camps for evangelistic work and the hospitals are very busy also. If only many may be won to Christ before they go home!

Some of the refugee packages came just when they were very much needed. There had been a dreadful fire in one of the camps and over two thousand left shelterless and much of the clothing and bedding they had were burned. Over twenty were burned to death and many died from exposure or burns. It was a dreadfully cold windy night and all fires and lights had been ordered out but one man disobeyed and with what a result! Both Christian and government institutions went at it to help as they could. We were so glad for the things and money. One day after the fire a man came along by our gate as we were coming in. He and his wife had gone across the river to bury their oldest son and when he came back three children were lost and his bedding and all he had in the camp were gone. A Christian took him to the head of the camp but I have not heard about the children. This is only one example of the suffering. Our hearts are so distressed with not only this but with the sin and selfishness that shows it's self at such a time. All these things impel us to more earnestness in preaching the word for Christ came to seek and to save the lost and to bring relief to those in need. It is a tremendous privilege and responsibility to be in China these days. Do pray much for us for we do need His presence and help so constantly.

Again we thank you for all you have done and given. May He richly bless you each one all through the year.

Yours in His service,

Mabel A. Woodruff.

Mabel A. Woodruff