

Last time, we received three goats. One was eaten by the sick workers, and we only ate one. Because the workers at the rice kitchen claimed that the goats were given to them, we let them eat the third one.

Thursday, January 13

From Vautrin's Diary

A month ago today the city was entered. Some progress made:—Looting and burning less, slightly more sense of security, only a few soldiers—especially in Safety Zone, raping of women practically stopped in the Zone. Outside we only hear talks and do not know facts. Looting going on, not only by soldiers but also by “beh sing” [civilians].³

Spent goodly part of morning trying to work out problem of five young women—short course nurses—who came to us for shelter and protection. Did not feel we could take them all—endanger them as well as other refugees. Selected five camps, including our own, and let them draw lots. Later wrote letters of introduction for them and sent a servant with them. Wu [Wei], our messenger boy, since his bitter experience, is afraid to go outside our gate.

This afternoon spent almost four hours trying to get rice delivered to the college. Finally succeeded in getting in twelve bags. The International Committee has given over the handling of it to the Autonomous Government and they are having all sorts of difficulties. They have had their sales depot over near Hillcrest but now will be forced to move it out of the Safety Zone—why, we do not know. They are now getting rice from the Japanese—formerly Chinese military rice. Heard Mr. Riggs say that today he went to seven coal shops and there is no coal to be had. Fuel is a growing problem. Houses and furniture will increasingly be used for fuel unless somehow it can be brought in from outside.

Food that will keep people well is also a problem. Practically no green vegetables left anywhere in the countryside. With 70,000 soldiers living off the land for a time there are few or no chickens, pigs, or cows left. Donkeys are being killed for meat, and horses also. Some one saw horse meat for sale today. An effort is being made to get beans, peanuts, and green things from Shanghai.

Mary, Mrs. Tsen and Blanche still in bed with colds, and Mr. Chen up, but not out.

Two hundred attended Miss Lo's meeting for women this afternoon—the fact that there was to be a meeting was kept very quiet. Wish there was a good person here who could give whole time to this work.