

A Statement Issued By

THE COMMITTEE ON CHINESE STUDENT RELIEF

I. THE SITUATION OF CHINESE STUDENTS

Because of the present crisis in China, thousands of Chinese students are confronted with some or all of the following conditions:

- Their Universities have been destroyed, occupied by the enemy, or closed;
- They have been cut off from their homes or regular means of support;
- They have been forced to flee with what supplies they could carry on their backs, to interior colleges or universities;
- They have been rendered completely destitute of clothes, books and means of livelihood.

Emergency measures have been enterprised by the students themselves and by their government and friends. The general plan is to evacuate students into interior points. Emergency hostels have been established and emergency classes opened in numerous universities. A strong international committee has been established to co-relate these activities and to distribute effectively all aid which is sent to Chinese students.

II. THE INTERNATIONAL RESPONSE

International Student Service, the International Red Cross, and the World's Student Christian Federation have all considered the situation, and agreed upon a plan of action in China and in countries for which aid is being asked.

After careful consultation, it has been agreed that, in Canada, this appeal shall be made in the name of the Committee on Chinese Student Relief, set up by the Student Christian Movement of Canada, in co-operation with International Student Service and the Council of North American Student Movements. The Presidents of almost all of the major Canadian Universities and Colleges have concurred in the appeal, and consented to act as Patrons of the fund. A strong executive committee, representing I.S.S., S.C.M., Student Administrative Councils, Chinese students, and men with long educational experience in China has been constituted.

III. THE APPEAL

The students of Canada are reminded of the acute sufferings of their fellow-students in China. Even a small gift from us will mean so much to them in this time of their distress. The money will be used to provide food, clothing, shelter for students in dire need, helping them in their heroic struggle to carry on the strategically important business of their education in the midst of chaotic conditions, which they might easily regard as hopeless. Among people of imagination and sensitivity, the difficulties confronting this group of students call forth a desire to help.

IV. THE METHOD

It is hoped that by direct gifts, by special efforts, by enlisting the intelligent support of friends, the students of Canada will secure funds to be sent to China.