

the end of the week." She needed the sense of humor she had all right. I think that to a person not used to housework, it seems killing, but to the one who does it all the time, it isn't too hard. My mother was not very strong but she could outwork either of her two college-bred daughters. We were not lazy either. I always enjoyed activity and was always doing something. I am glad you wrote about your family for I think one's interest in a person naturally takes in those closely connected with them.

We had the social worker from the hospital come to the children's church and tell about the sick children because we wanted the children to give their offering to the hospital. She told two stories, both of which were rather good. Perhaps you could use them sometime in your work. The first was about a little boy who worked in a glass factory and something went wrong with the machinery one day and he was badly burned about the face and body. After they had dressed his burns, he went to sleep but when he woke up, he began to cry. He was in a big ward with fifteen or twenty others, so the nurses asked him, if he hurt, or what was the matter. He didn't hurt but he kept on crying. His mother sat by his bedside, a poor widow woman with this one child. Finally they sent for this Miss Chen, the one who told the story, and she asked the little boy to be quiet because of the others. She asked him to tell her what was the matter. Finally he said, "My mother has sat here since morning and has had nothing to eat." So she said she would send down to the kitchen and get something for her to eat, but as dinner was over, all she could find was what we call "bean-milk" so they brought a cup of that for her. His eyes were ~~not~~ bandaged so that he could not see, but he heard her drinking and wanted to know what she had and when he heard it was just a liquid, he started to dry again, and insisted upon them getting her some "shao-bin-tse" a sort of a coarse unleavened bisquit which the very poor eat. After he got better he got to worrying because she had no money now that he was laid off, and so they gave her a dollar for "capital" to buy some straw to make straw shoes which are sold to the coolies. My children were much impressed by this little boy who when he was sick remembered to think about his mother. I was too for that matter.

The other story would not be so good for American Children, but was also interesting. It is also about a little boy, whose mother was dead, and whose father was killed during the trouble here, and after his father's death, his grandmother committed suicide by throwing herself into the well. This little boy was taken on as an apprentice by a mason, but when he got sick, the mason turned him out and he came to the hospital. His abdomen was much enlarged, due probably to a worm infestation, possibly due to malnutrition. Anyhow, after a couple of weeks in the hospital, as the story-teller put it, "His stomach was no bigger than mine" and they had to plan for the future of the child. They wanted to put him in an orphanage here but he didn't want to go. He said that he had an "i-niang" that is a younger sister of his mother who lived in a city fifty or sixty miles away. He wanted to go to her. According to Chinese custom, she would not be under obligation to take care of him, but would probably do it if she could. To get out of the city he had to have a pass from the military authorities, get across the river and onto the train. But he thought he could slip out without the pass and get there all right. They gave him two dollars, but before he could get started, they found someone, a patient in the hospital, whose home was there, and who sent men there frequently to bring back cloth woven there. So they sent the child by him.

We had the offering for several Sundays in a basket and we put in that day's offering. Several children had apparently been holding back their money for after they heard the stories, they came up with their pennies. It was very amusing. It amounted to \$1.60 Chinese money, but I hope it is going to help to make that offering mean something to them.