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## REFUGEE PROBLEM IN CHINA Father Jacquinot's Work in Camps

In the current issue of the China Critic (published in Shanghai) there is an interesting account of an interview with Fr. R. Jacquinot, S.J., concerning the registered refugee camps which are in the care of the Holyngus Relief Committee, organised by Fr. Jacquinot.

"At present we are taking care of 25,284 war refugees in the French Concession and 62,425 in the International Settlement," he stated, adding, "These represent the number of persons who are absolutely destitute. There are probably

100,000 more who must be fed. But within one to one and a half months, 80,000 more will be equally destitute, and in another three months another 100,000. So you see the outlook is not bright."



X 167 Camps

There are 167 of these registered camps in Shanghai but in addition to those they are able to care for there are at least 800,000 other refugees in that city.

It is estimated that about 250,000 Chinese owed their safety to Fr. Jacquinot's scheme. When Nankai had been occupied, the Japanese made no attempt to enter the Zone, but the Chinese Police fled, and the Supervisory Committee had to improvise measures for maintaining order within the

area. Within a short time, ample food supplies were available, and donations towards the maintenance of the 100,000 destitute Chinese in the Zone were flowing in. These gifts came not only from Chinese but also from Japanese, General Matsui

contributing 10,000 dollars and Vice Admiral Hasegawa 10,000 yen to mark their appreciation of the efforts of Fr. Jacquinot and his colleagues to ensure the safety of the Nankai population.

How Are They to Keep Alive?

Fr. Jacquinot considers it desirable to keep the refugees in Shanghai as so many of them are skilled labourers and their presence will hasten industrial recovery once the political situation becomes normal, but he dreads the winter. "It is going to be a very hard one for these people," he told the interviewer for the China Critic.

"There is the question of warm clothing, heavy coverings, stockings and shoes. These are absolutely essential. Unless philanthropic persons here and abroad rise to the occasion, I do not see how these men, women and children can survive."

The Clothing and Comforts Committee of the Lord Mayor's Fund for the Relief of Distress in China working at 171, Westbourne Terrace, London, W.2, are sending out parcels of clothing each week and have already despatched over 17,000 garments and 9,000 blankets. The Fund has sent £40,000 in money and £10,000 worth of drugs and hospital requisites. It will be remembered that Cardinal Hinsley was one of the co-signatories of the Lord Mayor's appeal.

Contributions to the Fund will be gratefully received at the above address.

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