

JOHN EARL BAKER IS LAUDED IN EDITORIAL—

In The Leader, published in Peiping China, in a recent issue appeared the following editorial reference to John Earl Baker, resulting from his recent work in China for relief. Mr. Baker while not a citizen of Thomasville, is married to a very charming Thomasville woman and has been here on a number of occasions. He has done a remarkable work in China for some years and is regarded as one of the outstanding figures in modern Chinese progress.

The editorial statement, particularly referring to recent work is as follows;

JOHN EARL BAKER

When the history of the great famine in the northwest comes to be written, the work which Mr. John Earl Baker director of relief operations of the China International Famine Relief Commission, has done during the last seven months for stricken humanity in Shensi and other neighboring provinces, will occupy an important chapter by itself. Adviser to the ministry of railways in Nanking, he was released by Mr. Sun Fo to join the commission in February last and has therefore been connected with that organization for seven months. During this period he has travelled 6530 miles, not covering his trip from Shanghai to Peking, and made no less than three trips to Sianfu, capital of Shensi. Many times he has been shot at by bandits and as many times he took his life into his own hands when he called at bandit camps and appealed to brigand chiefs not to molest relief workers nor to interfere with the transportation and distribution of relief grain. His appeals were always effective and as a result thousands of starving people have been saved. He has lost 20 pounds during the last few weeks, which he spent in Shensi supervising famine relief projects. That he has won a warm spot in the heart of every famine sufferer in Shensi is shown by a recent report from that province, saying that the stricken people there regard both him and Mr. Chu Ching-lan as living embodiments of Buddha and are planning to erect memorial tablets in their honor. Now that Mr. Baker is returning south to rejoin the Nanking ministry his two Chinese colleagues on the commission are giving a reception this evening to mark their appreciation of his work. We wish him success, and good health in his new work.—The Leader.