Eye-Witness Tells of Horror Seen in Fall of Nanking

The destruction of Nanking was the blackest page in modern history, according to George Fitch, who was director of the safety zone in Nanking from Dec. 13 to Feb. 20 and an eye-witness of the destruction of the city by the Japanese.

Fitch spoke yesterday at Cleveland Heights Presbyterian Church. During the reign of terror which followed the Japanese entry into the city, Fitch was in charge of the food administration and protection of 250,000 Chinese and others crowded into the safety zone.

The Japanese for two months kept up continuous looting, burning, robbing and murdering, Fitch said.

"Chinese men by the thousands were taken out to be killed by machine guns or slaughtered for hand grenade practice," he asserted. "The poorest of the poor were robbed of their last coins, deprived of their bedding and all that they could gather out of a city systematically destroyed by fire. There were hundreds of cases of bestiality inflicted upon Chinese women.

"But in spite of the dark horizon there is a new hopefulness among the Chinese. China is going to win this war, I'm confident. The whole business would be brought to a quick close if the United States would stop helping Japan by selling her gasoline, scrap iron and nitrates.

"The challenge to the Christian church in America is to help put a stop to this damnable traffic in munitions and to give until it hurts for China."