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Woman Writer, Back From China, Is Institute Speaker

Agnes Smedley Will Speak at Tennessee Theater Tomorrow, Replacing Gowran, Stricken Ill.

Dec 9 - 1943

Anyone who has spent the last 12 gruelling years in China has a story to tell the world.

Agnes Smedley, American war correspondent, author and volunteer Red Cross worker through the last 12 stormy years in war-torn and misery-ridden China, will tell that story at 10 a. m. tomorrow at The News-Sentinel Women's Institute at the Tennessee Theater.

Miss Smedley will replace Clay Gowran, the Chicago Tribune war correspondent, who on the eve of his coming to Knoxville as Institute speaker, was stricken with influenza.

Tells Thrilling Story

Agnes Smedley will tell her thrilling story from a background which includes fighting side-by-side with the Chinese for Chinese independence, democracy and improvement in the people's livelihood. She has lived under conditions that daunted other writers.

Of Miss Smedley's experiences, Lewis Gannett, the well-known writer has said: "She has seen these things which no other American, man or woman, has seen. "Of such stuff, in all ages martyrs have been made. Martyrs can never have been comfortable people to have around the house. But they have made history and literature."

Author of Books

Agnes Smedley is the author of several books. One of them, "Daughter of Earth," is an autobiography. It has been translated into 13 languages. Another, "The Battle Hymn of China," is shortly to be published.

She has endured shell shock in and for China and once suffered a wrenched back when she was thrown from a horse. She was the victim of a severe attack of malaria. All of these ordeals forced her temporarily to leave the Far



MISS SMEDLEY

East to recuperate and she returned to her home in California. Before leaving China, she turned over all her royalties from her earlier books for China's use.