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Agnes Smedley To Speak On Chinese Guerilla Warfare

Red Gate Players to Give Chinese Shadow Plays Here; Bonara Overstreet to Lecture

The assembly schedule for the summer session has been drawn up by the administration. Two of the forthcoming programs will be concerned with Chinese traditions and culture. "Courage for the Crisis" will be the topic of the next lecture.

Bonaro Overstreet, poet and psychologist, will speak in Kendall Hall on June 22. Mrs. Overstreet during recent years has been teacher and educational director of the School of Related Arts and Sciences in New York. Her major interests are in the fields of poetry and psychology. Mrs. Overstreet, wife of Harry A. Overstreet who lectured at the college last year, has traveled throughout the country as a student of American culture.

Agnes Smedley, war correspondent and author, will speak Tuesday, June 29, on the topic "Tales of Chinese Guerillas." Miss Smedley has been in the thick of the war in China and has been acclaimed by the fighting forces of China as "China's friend."

For her books on China she went to places and lived under conditions that have daunted occidental and Chinese alike. But she has not been content to report merely what she has seen. Agnes Smedley has fought side by side with the Chinese for the principles of the great founder of the Republic, Dr. Sun Yat Sen. Her autobiography, "Daughter of the Earth," has been published in thirteen languages and her new book, "The Battle Hymn of China," is shortly being published by Knopf.

From 1937 until about a year ago when her health failed, Agnes Smedley covered thousands of miles of primitive, roadless, war-stricken country in the interior of China as special

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Agnes Smedley

"CHINA'S FRIEND" TO SPEAK

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correspondent for the English Manchester Guardian and investigator of the Chinese Red Cross Medical Corps. With Chinese troops she crouched in ditches to escape airplanes which had been made, equipped and powered with American materials. Dressed as a soldier, she slept night after night, months on end, with pistol at one side, "the Japanese take no prisoners." She is one of the six Americans that were marked for assassination by Japan's secret service as active belligerents in China's war before we were actually at war with Japan.

Agnes Smedley has fought verbally, by the written word and with her compelling personality, for China's cause.

Shadow Plays

On Tuesday, July 6, the Red Gate Players will present Chinese shadow plays during the regular assembly program. Pauline Benton, who produces the plays, has studied the mysterious secrets of this art from the official shadow player of the late Empress Dowager's court in Peking, watched many performances in the villages of North China, and brought home a large collection of the shadow figures and play texts for American production. The plays are presented in English.

The shadow actors are gay, animated parchment figures, beautifully carved and colored by Chinese craftsmen. They move back and forth, live, dance and talk behind a screen, for which reason they derive the name "shadows." Since both the parchment and the colors are transparent, the light which illuminates them from behind causes them to appear to the audience in jewel-like, luminous colors, giving the effect of a Chinese painting in motion.

The Shadow Play may be called the World's First Motion Picture. More than one thousand years ago, story tellers appeared in the market place in China's capital city to illustrate the popular titles of the "Three Kingdoms Period." When modern pictures came to China they were called "electric shadows."