

PREFACE

The documents included in the present volume are not all that the Nanking Safety Zone possesses, but only all that the Council of International Affairs is fortunate enough to secure. Besides, some of them have appeared in the editor's *The War Conduct of the Japanese*, while a still larger number, including most of the important ones, can be seen in the appendixes of Mr. H. J. Timperley's *What War Means: the Japanese Terror in China*. But, in view of their importance as source material for the study of history and international law as well as evidence of the noble deeds of a group of public-spirited men and women their publication in a special collection, independent and as complete as can be, seems justifiable. The division of them into two parts is mainly a matter of convenience, the demarcation line adopted being the return to Nanking of third-party embassy officials, whose aid for the performance of its difficult task the International Committee of the Zone lost no time to invoke.

For those who have not come across the two books mentioned above or otherwise acquired a knowledge of the nature and function of the Zone and its International Committee a glance at Documents 2 and 9 before proceeding may be of some help.

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May 9, 1939