

# "Everybody Knows It But Us"

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tality of American civilization to new government's long, bloody fight for survival.

"In my lifetime these American people have built the greatest empire the world has ever seen. Chicago, Kansas City, Denver, Seattle,

He was standing on the banks of the Yangtse river one day in 1911 when he saw a curl of smoke rise from the military barracks on the

Shanghai two years later when Sun Yat-sen rebelled against the government of Yuan Shih Kai.

A few years later, when the war lords were fighting, he was in Changsha the night the provincial forces evacuated the city. There were no lights, no police, no government. Everyone was waiting tense and breathless for the national forces to enter. He went out at midnight to see what was going on, and he came upon a scene which he has never forgotten.

## Old and New China.

On the street in front of a temple he found a long-whiskered scholar organizing a home defense force. Youths stood around armed with

the only weapons they could find—tridents, halberds, spears and swords. A boy with a torch stood behind the scholar and in front of him stood another boy holding up a board from which the old man was calling the roll. Ancient China was carrying on.

The Japanese poured into Manchuria in 1931, and the next year they bombed Shanghai. From the roof of a cotton mill Johnson watched the bombs crash down. Year after year he followed the government in its retreat into the interior, a few miles ahead of the artillery. The refugees halted in Chungking, and when he left there a short time ago the bombs were

raining rather frequently. One fell within 200 yards of him.

"But I never felt I was in any danger in China," Johnson says. "I fear for my life more in traffic here in Washington."

