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SIXTY-NINTH YEAR—NO. 34

BIRMINGHAM, OAKLAND COUNTY, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1946

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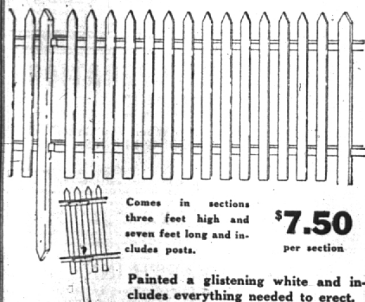
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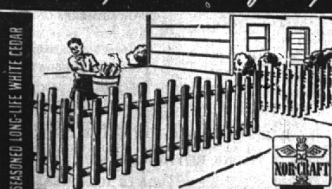
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Roxanne Lambie, With ARC In Yokohama, Writes About Her 20 'Adopted' Orphans

By Helen Bishop

Roxanne Lambie, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Lambie, 280 Aspen road, has been in Japan for nearly a year, working with the Red Cross as a recreational director at the Enlisted Men's Club in Yokohama. In that short time, she has managed to find housing and clothing for at least 17 Japanese war orphans and is still "adopting" children in her spare time.

"These children," she writes her parents, "are Japan of the future, and now is the time to make friends of them."

Roxanne, who is a graduate of Baldwin High School, was working in the war industry before she joined the Red Cross in January of 1945. Following a short training period as staff assistant in Atlantic City and Washington, she was transferred to Guam in March and stayed there until November in 1945. Early in January this year, she was again transferred, this time to Japan.

Excerpts from her letters written home are printed below, de-

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Local Girl and Japanese Orphans



Roxanne Lambie, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John S. Lambie, 280 Aspen, next with the Red Cross in Yokohama, leads a group of poorly-dressed Japanese children in a song.

for another war, I am sure. They are not so different from us, the ones I have come to know I like very much. . .

'Black With Dirt'

"Last night after supper when I was passing out a little bit of food to the children who hang around the club waiting, I found that one of the little girls had been sleeping in the doorway of the club outside for a month. Her parents are dead. Sakako is her name; she was black with dirt, her clothes a patchwork of rags. There was a fixed expressionless stare in her eyes, yet you could see fear, wretchedness, loneliness, too. After I went back to the house, my conscience hurt, and two of the boys took me back to take her away from the other children standing around the trashcan. She was washed again and again and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal. She was washed again and again and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal. She was washed again and again and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal.

"Mr. and Mrs. Mori, our housekeepers, took her in the back door and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal. She was washed again and again and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal. She was washed again and again and gave her a bath. When she took the quilted hood off her head, I suddenly thought she looked like a small frightened wild animal.

"I found that they would all line up and be orderly and honest about taking anything. What enchants me is that in the middle of all their misery and dirtiness they are always ready to break into a smile or sing a song and appreciate to the smallest thing! The other night the children around the ashcan pulled me and pushed me to a Coca Cola machine saying 'Ikou sick! Ikou no food!' All I could see was a mass of dirty gray rags. I felt suddenly very sick myself as I picked him up and carried him into the club, in spite of his frightened kicking. The men on the staff and I finally coaxed him to drink a little milk. He didn't want to accept anything, but when he finished the milk he said 'Thank You' in perfect English. He and his brother

both had a bath and were taken to the orphanage at Fujinawa. A few days later we discovered four others in equally pitiable state and took them out too. Here I am after only 2 months in Japan, already ready with a 'family' of seven! I will send you pictures as soon as I can.

Conditions at the orphanage are very poor, too, but they have enough to eat, and at least a house and care from Father Joseph and the sisters.

Government Promises Help
"I must tell you about Gora, where the convent is that Sakako was taken to. The building is a typical Japanese frame house with sliding paper-covered doors. Japanese and French sisters are as sweet as could be. When they brought in Sakako I felt very proud of her. The Government promised to help these orphanages, but never seems to be able to get around to it. These children are Japan of the future, and now is the time to make friends of them. . .

"Easter Sunday we decided to have a Sunday school class, so I told the little kids at the back of the club to come at 9 o'clock.

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About 40 came, none speaking English. I'm afraid I'm going to have to learn Japanese if I am ever to get anywhere with them! I finally stopped and figured out about all the children who have come into my life these last few months and there are 20—now in various orphanages. An expert—up to be court-martialed any minute for taking out boxes of various orphanages. I visited the Japanese Catholic hospital the other day—they don't have enough of food—no fuel, and what they do have has to be meeked to them illegally."

The next letter in her most recent one, dated September 2. Since last writing, she has received the boxes of clothing from home. "The big event of the week was a party for the orphanage children. Called Papasan Day—(Papasa are Papasans, Mamas are Mamassans here) and every GI had a little boy or girl to be Papasan day—they don't have enough of food—no fuel, and what they do have has to be meeked to them illegally."

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