

# The China Quarterly



**83**

**September 1980**

**Anita Chan  
Stanley Rosen  
Jonathan Unger  
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# The China Quarterly

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- STUDENTS AND CLASS WARFARE:  
THE SOCIAL ROOTS OF THE RED  
GUARD CONFLICT IN GUANGZHOU  
(CANTON)      Anita Chan, Stanley Rosen, Jonathan Unger 397
- CRAFT DEVELOPMENT: SOCIALIST  
AND CAPITALIST      Eugene Cooper 447
- CHANGING MEDICAL MODELS IN  
CHINA: ORGANIZATIONAL OPTIONS  
OR OBSTACLES?      AnElissa Lucas 461
- CHINA AND THE GREAT POWER  
TRIANGLE      Gerald Segal 490

## Research Notes

- THE STRUCTURE OF TECHNOLOGICAL  
INFORMATION DISSEMINATION IN  
CHINA: PUBLICATION OF SCIENTIFIC  
AND TECHNOLOGICAL MANUALS  
1970-1977      Erik Baark 510
- CHINESE TEXTBOOKS,  
FOURTEEN YEARS ON      R. F. Price 535

## Report from China

- PLANNED BIRTH IN TIANJIN  
Katherine Ch'iu Lyle 551

## Comment

- SOME THOUGHTS ON THE  
CURRENT STATE OF  
SINO-TIBETAN HISTORIOGRAPHY  
A. Tom Grunfeld 568
- Reply by Dawa Norbu 576

<b>Book Reviews</b>	
<i>The Last Confucian: Liang Shu-ming and the Chinese Dilemma of Modernity.</i> By Guy S. Alitto. <b>Charles W. Hayford</b>	580
<i>Religion, Nationalism and Chinese Students: The Anti-Christian Movement of 1922–1927.</i> By Ka-che Yip. <b>Paul A. Cohen</b>	582
<i>Paul S. Reinsch: Open Door Diplomat in Action.</i> By Noel H. Pugach. <b>W. J. Megginson</b>	583
<i>The Shaping of Chinese Foreign Policy.</i> By Greg O'Leary. <b>Gerald Segal</b>	585
<i>Island China.</i> By Ralph N. Clough.	
<i>China and the Taiwan Issue.</i> Edited by Hungdah Chiu. <b>Hung-mao Tien</b>	586
<i>Selections from Records of the Historian.</i> By Ssu-ma Ch'ien. Translated by Yang Hsien-yi and Gladys Yang. <b>Michael Loewe</b>	588
<i>Rural Development: Learning from China.</i> By Sartaj Aziz. <b>R. F. Ash</b>	589
<i>China – A General Survey.</i> By Qi Wen. <b>Frank Leeming</b>	590
<i>The People's Republic of China: A Handbook.</i> Edited by Harold C. Hinton. <b>Brunhild Staiger</b>	591
<i>Scholars' Guide to Washington, D.C., for East Asian Studies.</i> By Hong N. Kim. <b>Nailene Chou</b>	592
<b>Book Notes</b>	594
<b>Books Received</b>	596
<b>Quarterly Chronicle and Documentation</b> (April–June 1980) (Compiled by Gerald Segal and Tony Saich)	598
<b>Contributors</b>	638

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## *Manuscripts*

*The China Quarterly* welcomes the submission of manuscripts from all scholars, including research students, on all aspects of contemporary China and from all points of view, including those which deal with Taiwan and Overseas Chinese. Articles on China prior to 1949 are also welcome, particularly, but not exclusively, when these relate directly to contemporary China or to the history of the Chinese Communist Party. Articles should be submitted, in triplicate, to the editorial office. They should be typed in double spacing and, preferably, conform to the styling of *The China Quarterly*.

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## Editorial Statement

Since taking over as Editor of *The China Quarterly*, I have had the opportunity to consider its present position and future prospects in the light of the inherited situation. Together with colleagues on the Editorial Board and with special efforts by the printers, whose difficulties caused by the nationwide printing dispute have now been resolved, I am doing my best to get the journal back on schedule. This will take time but it is a matter of crucial importance and, barring unforeseen circumstances, I hope it can be achieved by July 1981. At the same time, with the help of Caroline Mason, and the co-operation of referees including many members of the Editorial Board and other scholars, the backlog of articles and correspondence that had accumulated is being cleared. I hope that, with the return of the Assistant Editor, Gail Eadie, in January the accumulation of such backlogs can be avoided in future. My aim is to reach a final decision about all articles submitted in no longer than eight weeks, and in some cases the time taken will be shorter than this.

I have had the opportunity to discuss the future content of the journal with members of the Editorial Board at the recent Annual General Meeting. One outcome of these discussions was that, with the improved opportunities for visits and work in China, the section currently entitled "Reports from China" should not be continued beyond the issues of the journal presently planned on the basis of existing commitments. In the new context of more normal scholarly contacts, writings drawing on information obtained in China can in future be published either as articles or as research notes. We have also decided that, in future, efforts should be made to keep the length of articles published in *The China Quarterly* to not more than 8,000–10,000 words. This is not intended to be an absolute upper limit, but I would like to draw the attention of prospective contributors to this policy, which reflects in part our continuing desire to achieve a balance between the scholarly character of the journal and service to a wider public. We also wish to avoid a situation in which deserving articles of normal length are unduly delayed by the publication of articles that monopolize much of the space available, and we must, of course, have regard to the costs of production and distribution.

Lastly, I am considering several other ideas which, I hope, will enhance the usefulness and appeal of the journal. We stand today at a turning point in the development of the Chinese People's Republic, and in the intellectual relations between China and the outside world. At such a juncture, we should like to have the opportunity to consider manuscripts from scholars in the various disciplines, reassessing the methods hitherto used in their respective arts as applied to China, and/or summing up critically the results thus far achieved. I also hope to be able appropriately to mark significant dates such as the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Communist Party of China, the centenary of Lu Xun's birth and the 70th anniversary of the Xinhai Geming. Lastly, I shall make vigorous efforts to keep the book review section up-to-date, lively and appropriately comprehensive in its coverage. Having regard to the greater number of publications in Chinese from China, I shall shortly be seeking reviewers for such books.

BRIAN HOOK