

NOTES AND NEWS

Prepared by EDWIN G. BEAL, JR.

With the present issue the editors of THE FAR EASTERN QUARTERLY are beginning a new Section which will give notes on institutions and personnel active in Far Eastern studies. The value of these notes, and the success of the Section in which they are presented, will of course depend upon the willingness of those engaged in Far Eastern studies to furnish information concerning themselves and their activities. Such communications should be sent to Committees on Far Eastern Studies, American Council of Learned Societies, 1219 Sixteenth St., N. W., Washington, D. C. Mr. Mortimer Graves has designated this Section to continue the tradition of *Notes on Far Eastern Studies in America*, which was published under his supervision until 1943. The Editors of the QUARTERLY wish to take this occasion to express their appreciation of the constant and encouraging support which Mr. Graves has given the QUARTERLY from the time of its inception in 1941.

The Research Bureau for Post-war Economics, located at 90 Morningside Drive, New York City, has recently issued a study titled *A Survey of Asiatic Studies at American Universities and Colleges*. The report consists of a quantitative analysis of the answers received from the 386 institutions which replied to the Bureau's questionnaire. It is assumed that the other institutions which were addressed, but which failed to reply, are less interested in the Far Eastern field.

The Survey revealed that 182 institutions have courses dealing specifically with Asia and Asiatic problems. There is a strong tendency to concentrate these courses in the established disciplines. Their distribution is: History 117 courses; Geography 76; Political Science 45; Sociology 25; Art 14; Religion 13; Philosophy 7; Ethnology 4; Economics 2; Anthropology 2; Journalism 2. Courses which are of a general nature, but which include a discussion of Asiatic problems, total 661, and have a similar distribution. One hundred fifty-seven institutions expressed a desire for additional courses on Asia.

The conclusions reached by the Survey are not complimentary. In some cases they attack problems which the universities have recognized for a good many years, and which they are attempting to solve. The statement that "No American university has ventured beyond the traditional offering of isolated courses on history, geography, language etc. None shows a well-rounded curriculum leading to interrelated study and knowledge. Disciplines are still considered as watertight compartments, and the departments concerned continue their traditional isolation" needs qualification, as it fails to recognize the very considerable amount of actual working cooperation which does exist—cooperation which usually does not appear in the university's catalog. But few will dispute the statement that "The most neglected discipline in Asiatic studies is economics."

Conference on Far Eastern Studies in the Western States. On September 27, 1944, a group of delegates representing the University of Washington, the University of

California, Stanford University, Claremont Colleges, and the University of Colorado met at Berkeley, California, to discuss their programs relating to China, Japan, the Southwestern Pacific, India, and Russia. The conference made no formal decisions, but the subjects discussed have been summarized in a memorandum prepared by Dr. David H. Stevens in the office of the Rockefeller Foundation. No attempt can be made here to present in detail the ideas developed in the memorandum, which should be read in its entirety by everyone who is interested in the progress of Far Eastern studies in this country. A few of the most important problems discussed by the conference, however, were:

1. The possibility of cooperative planning by various institutions with the aim of preventing overspecialization in certain fields of instruction, and excessive duplication in the development of libraries on the Far East. "This cooperation will influence the flow of students to the best sources for specific ends of training . . ."
2. Methods of relating Far Eastern studies to the other branches of the university curriculum. The approach in a highly departmentalized university will necessarily differ from that to be adopted in a university where departmental boundaries are easily crossed.
3. The necessity of beginning work in Far Eastern studies during the undergraduate years. It seemed to be agreed that language study should be begun as early as possible; the University of California, for example, offers in both Chinese and Japanese a four year sequence of courses, beginning in the freshman year. This earlier beginning of studies, of course, will demand wide training on the part of the instructors in order that they may attract students with diversified interests.
4. The permanent contribution to Far Eastern studies of methods developed for wartime training. "Every institution in the group is developing its own teaching materials. All make use of work from other sources as well, so that the practical tasks of language learning are being well tested on the Pacific coast and in Colorado.

"While intensive courses in Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and Mongolian have been successfully given under war conditions at . . . [the University of California] and semi-intensive courses will continue to be offered, whenever demand appears to justify such offerings, it is questioned whether intensive language courses requiring most of the student's time can be fitted into a normal university program which is not by its very nature intended as a means of achieving proficiency in one single technique."

University of Pennsylvania Chinese Library Collection. Cataloging of the University's Chinese collection is now nearing completion, owing to the efforts of Mr. Wang En-pao, who holds a degree in library science from the University of Syracuse and who for several years was cataloger in the library of Catholic University in Peiping. Most of the cataloging was carried out in 1944, when Mr. Wang came to Pennsylvania as instructor in the University's Chinese Army Specialized Training Program. Early in 1945 Mr. Wang moved on to the Division of Orientalia of the Library of

Congress, but while there he continues to catalog the Pennsylvania collection on a part time basis, and it is hoped that the entire task will be completed by the end of 1945. The system of classification used is that of the Harvard-Yenching Institute. The catalog is arranged in three files, by author, title, and subject; and each card, in addition to the Chinese characters, bears the author's name and the title in the Wade-Giles romanization. The catalog is arranged by romanization, rather than according to the radicals and number of strokes of the Chinese characters.

The University's Chinese collection, begun in 1938 virtually from scratch by a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation, now includes, in addition to an excellent library of Western books on China, almost 6,000 titles in Chinese. The latter are divided between 8,277 volumes (*ts'z*) in Chinese bindings, and 4,620 volumes in Western bindings. Such sets of modern reprints as the *Ssu-pu ts'ung-k'an*, *Ssu-pu pei-yao*, *Ts'ung-shu chi-ch'eng*, *Kuo-hsiieh chi-pen ts'ung-shu*, and the Taishō edition of the Buddhist *Tripitaka* form the backbone of the collection. In addition, there is a large variety of other works, both ancient and modern, covering all major fields of Chinese literature and scholarship. At the present time the University continues to acquire current Chinese publications, inasmuch as it is one of the thirteen American institutions for which such publications are now being cooperatively purchased in Chungking.

University of Pennsylvania Far Eastern A. S. T. P. From August, 1943, to November, 1944, two Army Specialized Training Program units, totalling about 90 men, studied Chinese and Chinese area studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Among the large teaching staff that helped insure the success of the program, Drs. Charles S. Gardner and Poeliu Dai deserve special mention. In March, 1945, a similar Japanese A. S. T. P. unit was begun at the University.

Stanford University has recently announced a new program of Pacific-Asiatic-Russian Studies. The program leads primarily to the degree of Bachelor of Arts in the School of Humanities, but programs of advanced studies may be arranged in collaboration with various schools and departments of the University. Concentrations are offered in (a) China, (b) Japan, (c) Russia, and (d) Southeast Asia and the Pacific Islands. The languages to be taught are Chinese, Japanese, Russian, and Malay.

The student majoring in this program will normally pass through three levels of work: (a) An introductory two-quarter course, "Far Eastern Civilization"; (b) Courses on specific countries or topics, plus certain courses on the area as a whole; and (c) A senior seminar in the student's special field of concentration. Language instruction will aim at giving the student an oral competence of his chosen language, and a basic grasp of its written form.

Those desiring to secure a copy of the Announcement or any related information are asked to write to the Secretary, The School of Humanities, Stanford University, California.

The Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, Ohio. A course of weekly lectures on "The Arts of China" given by the Museum during the academic year 1944-1945, and ac-

credited at Toledo University, has just been completed by J. Arthur MacLean, Curator, and Dorothy Blair, Assistant Curator. Plans are now being formulated for the 1945–1946 course on “The Arts of India.” The subject matter will be presented according to the principles of the chief religions of India and their influence in determining the arts of India, with emphasis always upon aesthetic evaluations. The Museum’s courses in “The Arts of the Orient” have been accredited at Toledo University since 1929.

Academia Sinica (Kuo-li chung-yang yen-chiu yüan). T'u-shu chi-k'an [Bibliographical Quarterly] New Series vol. 5, no. 2–3 (June–Sept., 1944), pp. 99–106, carries an account of work in progress in the various research institutes of the Academia Sinica. Since readers of *THE FAR EASTERN QUARTERLY* are probably most interested in the work conducted in the Institute of Social Sciences (She-hui k'o-hsüeh yen-chiu so), this section is presented below. The items enclosed in quotation marks have been translated; no. 7 has been summarized.

“1. The study of land taxation in the Ming period. An essay entitled *Ming-tai liang-chang chih-tu* [The Ming system for the collection of taxes in kind] has been completed. The search for materials on the paper currency of the Ming is being continued.

“2. A union catalog of local histories of the Ming period. The sections on Fukien and Kweichow have been completed; the first draft has been completed of the sections on Kwangtung, Kwangsi, and [the Ming province of] Hukwang.

“3. The history of heavy industry in China in the last three hundred years. *Hanyeh-p'ing li-shih ts'ao* [A draft history of the Hanyehping Iron Works] part I, consisting of over ten thousand characters, has been completed, as well as *Hu-pei t'ieh-k'uang chü chi* [Record of the Hupeh Bureau of Iron Mines].

“4. The study of the people’s income. (a) The draft of *Chung-kuo kuo-min so-te chih ku-chi fang-fa* [Methods of computing the income of the people of China] has been completed. (b) A section relating to income derived from the spinning industry has been completed, as well as the section on railways from the study of income derived from communications; in addition, a section on income derived from mining has been completed.

“5. The study of the coal mines on the lower reaches of the Chia-ling River. A paragraph report has been completed on each of the mining districts inspected.

“6. The inflation of the currency, and its relationship to productive enterprise. An essay entitled *Wu-chia sheng-ch'an yü liu-tung tsu-pen* [Prices, production, and fluid capital] has been completed.”

“7. The reform of the Chinese taxation system. Two comparative studies of the systems of land taxation in various countries have been completed.”

“8. The problems of the accumulation of capital. Two chapters have already been completed: (1) Problems of wartime borrowing and its relationship to the regulation of the currency; (2) Changes in the distribution of wealth in time of war.

“9. Sino-Japanese trade in the past ten years. A portion of the task of compiling statistical materials has been completed.

“10. The price of exchange in China and its relationship to foreign trade in the

past thirty years. The section *Hui-chia pien-tung* [Fluctuations in the price of exchange] has been completed.

"11. Computation of the losses suffered by China during the past six years of war. Three articles have been completed: *Jen-k'ou shang-wang sun-shih* [Population losses through wounds and deaths]; *Liu-nien lai k'ang-chang ching-kuo chi chan-ch'u fan-wei* [Events and the scope of battle zones in the last six years' war of resistance]; and *K'ang-chan sun-shih tiao-ch'a ti chi-ko chi-shu wen-t'i* [Some technical problems involved in surveying losses in the war of resistance].

"12. The study of prices in wartime. A comparative study of Chungking prices and interest rates with each of the months of 1943, and an analysis of their relationship to the price of gold and the activities of four banks in making up the deficiency, has been completed.

"13. The development of the relationship between national and provincial finance in China. Tables of the budgets of the various provinces have been completed.

"14. A study of local (*hsien*) finance. The draft of the entire volume has been finished, and the revision of chapters one through eight has been completed.

"15. Problems of the collection of the land tax, and the requisitioning of grain. A volume entitled *Human liang-cheng shih-lu* [A 'Veritable Record' of grain administration in Hunan] has been completed.

"16. The study of economic conditions in Sinkiang. A representative has been sent to join the Scientific Expedition to the Northwest (*Hsi-pei k'o-hsüeh k'ao-ch'a t'uan*). The work of investigation has been completed, and the materials received are now being put in order.

"17. Provisional assemblies in the *hsien* of Szechwan. All pertinent materials have been collected, and the portion relating to the presentation of motions has been completed."

HENRI MASPERO

Word has reached this country that Professor Henri Maspero, one of the most eminent of modern sinologues, died during the past year at Buchenwald, Germany. Professor Maspero was born in 1883. He served as a professor of the *École Française d'Extrême-Orient* at Hanoi from 1911 to 1920, and as Professor of Chinese Language and Literature at the *Collège de France* from 1920 until the outbreak of war. He is perhaps most widely known for his *La Chine antique*, which was published in 1927; but he is remembered also for his numerous important articles and reviews, which appeared in *Journal asiatique*, *T'oung Pao*, *Bulletin de l'École Française d'Extrême-Orient*, *Mélanges chinois et bouddhiques*, and other leading sinological journals. He will always be revered as one of the greatest scholars of ancient Chinese society and ancient Chinese literature.

Dr. M. S. Bates, of the University of Nanking, is reported to be on his way to Chengtu, where the University is now housed on the campus of West China Union University. He will continue his teaching of history, and will be ready to help the University when it returns to Nanking.

Dr. Derk Bodde has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Chinese in the Graduate School of the University of Pennsylvania, effective July 1, 1944. In addition to his teaching duties at the University, he has since August, 1943, been working four days per week in the Washington office of the Office of War Information, and since November, 1944, in the OWI's New York office.

Dr. J. J. L. Duyvendak, the eminent Dutch sinologue, who has taught in this country on several occasions as Visiting Professor of Chinese in Columbia University, is reported to be well, and to be residing with his family in The Netherlands.