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AMERICAN COUNCIL OF LEARNED SOCIETIES
THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE STUDIES

That the next decade will see a striking increase in American interest in Chinese studies is no very daring prediction. In the domain of politics and economics, the large number of works daily coming from the press on current Far Eastern affairs and the activities of such organizations as the Institute of Pacific Relations demonstrate the growing realization of the truth of John Hay's dictum that the world's peace rests with China. The fact, however, that the East, in general, and the Chinese world in particular, has an important contribution to make in the humanistic and social sciences is only now receiving belated recognition. The immensity of this contribution can be suggested by the recital of a few pertinent facts. It has been estimated that prior to 1750 more books had been published in Chinese than in all other languages combined. As late as 1850, Chinese books outnumbered those in any other language. Even in 1928, the largest publishing house in the world is located not in New York, or London, or Paris, or Berlin, but in Shanghai. And little of the literature thus produced is ephemeral, for the Chinese penchant has been towards history, topography, philosophy, poetry, and commentary on the classics, all saturated with a serenity and a height of tone that might well be emulated by more sophisticated literatures. Indeed, it would be no very difficult task to maintain the thesis that in none of the world's civilizations has knowledge for its own sake played so prominent a part over so long a time as in that of China. It is evident, therefore, that if we are to hope for the final solution of our linguistic and philological problems, the satisfaction of our antiquarian or archaeological curiosity, and the construction of an adequate philosophy or a complete historical synthesis, we cannot disregard the lessons learned by a vigorous and intelligent people, numbering one-fourth of the population of the globe, through three thousand years of continued and varied culture.

Of all this have Occidental, and in particular American, scholars only the slightest inkling. It is true that there are American
sinologists, but anything like organized sinological study, on a scale comparable with, say, Semitics or Indology, is non-existent. What progress has been made in translating to the Western world the culture of the East is the result of the labors of French, English, Russian, and German scholarship. Of the hundreds of American universities and colleges, only a few even scratch the surface. Some offer courses in Chinese art; courses in Chinese history usually cover nothing but the political and economic factors governing Chinese relations with the outside world, and one looks almost in vain for any organized study of cultural contacts. Only in three or four institutions of higher learning is it possible to secure even elementary instruction in Chinese language and literature. It is much easier to become an initiate in the mysteries of an ancient language whose whole record comprises a number of sculptured stones or clay tablets, than it is to obtain the key to an immense and living literature which can boast a single encyclopaedia of over eleven thousand volumes.

This is a condition that ought not to exist, and the signs of the times portend that it will not exist much longer. The recent establishment of the Harvard-Yenching Institute, to mention only a single important development, is a most promising indication of awakening interest.

The Council’s interest in the civilizations of the Far East, particularly China, is of long standing. At its first meeting, in 1920, the late Dr. Paul S. Reinsch, at that time president of the American Political Science Association and later a delegate to the Council from that body, proposed through Mr. Waldo G. Leland a discussion of methods of instruction and research in the history of these civilizations. The proposal, however, lay dormant until the establishment of a permanent secretariat and executive offices provided the machinery for extending the Council’s activities effectively into those fields, such as Far-Oriental studies, which do not come immediately within the purview of any of its constituent societies or whose exploitation requires the collaboration of a number of them. As soon as this condition of affairs existed (1927), the Council at once turned its attention to this vast and uncultivated domain, whose extent, in Berthold Laufer’s apt
metaphor, may be compared to the wide Pacific, while what we know of it is only San Francisco Bay.

Meanwhile, the officers of the Council had devoted much thought, and canvassed such opinion as was available, as to the manner in which it could best exert its efforts. It seemed desirable, in consideration of the present vague and incoherent condition of our knowledge of the subject, that a survey be made, which should have as its object the description of the field in order that the growing interest in it might be focussed on the most promising opportunities and the most pressing needs. The Permanent Secretary presented, consequently, to the Council at its annual meeting on January 28, 1928, the suggestion that it engage in the compilation of a survey of Asiatic (particularly Chinese) research. The Council looked with favor upon the project and referred it to the Executive Committee for elaboration. The latter, at its meeting on March 10, 1928, discussed it further and authorized the Chairman to appoint a committee to develop a definite plan for which financial support could be sought.

At about the same time the American Oriental Society in its annual meeting of April 1928 in Washington went on record as approving the encouragement of research in Far Eastern civilization. The significance of this action lies in the fact that the efforts of this society have, on account of American apathy toward Chinese studies, been, during the last fifty years, almost entirely devoted to the Indic and Semitic fields. The presence of these Orientalists in Washington, moreover, offered a favorable opportunity to secure authoritative advice on the question of the advisability and feasibility of the proposed survey. Such members of the Oriental Society as were interested were, accordingly, invited to meet in an informal conference in the executive offices of the Council. Five members responded, Mr. Arthur W. Hummel, curator of the Oriental Collection, the largest collection of Chinese works outside of China, in the Library of Congress; Mr. Carl W. Bishop, associate curator of Oriental Art in the Freer Gallery, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Benjamin March, curator of Far Eastern Art in the Detroit (Mich.) Institute of Arts; Dr. George H. Danton, professor and head of the department of German in
Oberlin College, formerly professor of German at Tsing Hua University, Peking; and Dr. Truman Michelson, of the United States Bureau of Ethnology. All agreed that some such survey was advisable, but urged that for the present it be restricted geographically to China itself, since the inclusion of other parts of Asia, valuable as they are in the development of Asiatic culture, would so increase the difficulty of compiling the information needed as to jeopardize the success of the entire undertaking. The other countries of Asia might, however, be recommended for further survey.

As a result of this conference, the Council, on May 9th, engaged Dr. Danton to prepare a preliminary plan for a survey, which could be presented to the proposed committee when it should be formed, or to a conference of sinologists called for the purpose, if it should be deemed advisable to call one. Throughout the summer Professor Danton and the Assistant Secretary collaborated in the production of this preliminary draft, which was completed and distributed during October and November to about fifty scholars throughout the country who, it was thought, would be interested in its contents.

The authors of this plan had in mind something in the nature of, though possibly not on the same scale as, Sandys's Companion to Latin Studies, or the similar Companion to Greek Studies. They proposed a volume of about four or five hundred pages which would serve as (1) a manual for the student beginning the study of sinology, (2) a reference work in which the more advanced sinologist could find a concise statement of the condition of and facilities for research in those fields with which he is not immediately familiar, and (3) a handbook of interest to the general public in familiarizing it with the importance, the stage of advancement, the needs, and the possibilities of modern sinological research. The plan covered about thirty mimeographed pages, and comprised outlines for a survey of the present state of sinological research, both in machinery and in content.* It was submitted intentionally as a decoy without any predilections on the

* The full text of the plan in its final form is printed herewith as Appendix No. 1.
part of the authors as to its finality or its value, but with the feeling that its ends would be attained if it induced more desirable ducks to settle around it. They felt that it would serve to give to the deliberations of any conference convened to discuss it a certain definitiveness not always evident in the proceedings of conferences. The scholars to whom it was addressed were invited to criticize its general purport and its specific provisions. The most important general criticisms were three. First, that the basis of the classification adopted was a purely Western one. Hence it resulted that certain fundamentals of Chinese civilization were omitted, such as guilds, secret societies, and divination, or received insufficient, as in the case of agriculture, or excessive, as in the case of the novel, emphasis. It was further pointed out that such a survey, after all, would give us an analysis of Chinese culture but not a picture of it; that it was necessary to synthesize as well as to analyze. Finally it was suggested that the encyclopaedic nature of the program militated against its accomplishment. The time, it was asserted, was not yet ripe for the conciseness of statement necessary to compress our knowledge of the vast subject into a small volume. Many specific additions and a few corrections were indicated.

On the whole it seemed to develop from this discussion that the several proposals suggested in the memorandum differed both in importance and in the possibility of their accomplishment. Consequently it was thought wise to separate them into three distinct plans, each of which might be discussed on its own merits. This was accordingly done and another memorandum was distributed, describing

I. A manual of Chinese studies
II. A survey of the facilities for instruction and research in Chinese subjects
III. A series of proposals and suggestions for the improvement of those studies, particularly in America.

Meanwhile consideration of the project had indicated the advisability of calling together a rather large conference to discuss the problems connected with it. It was expected that, in the
nature of things, this conference would not confine its discussion to the proposed surveys, but would range the whole field of Chinese studies and constitute itself a general congress for the promotion of research in that domain. On October 6th the Executive Committee of the American Council of Learned Societies authorized the calling of such a conference and provided for the payment of the expenses connected therewith. Invitations to it were sent out with the memorandum described above and before long forty of the scholars addressed had signified their intention of attending. These included not only persons who were fully entitled to the designation sinologist, but others, officers of learned societies and professors of linguistics, history, and other subjects having a Chinese phase, whose assistance and advice might be considered desirable.* This First Conference for the Promotion of Chinese Studies met on December 1 in the Biddle Memorial Room of the Harvard Club of New York City. It lasted from nine-thirty in the morning until four-thirty in the afternoon and attacked the problems presented to it throughout the entire day with unrelenting enthusiasm and interest. Indeed, there is every reason to believe that, both in the quality of its membership and in the nature of its activities, it was as significant a gathering as it was an interesting one, and that it marks an important step in the advancement of this almost untouched, though exceedingly vast, field of learning.

From its deliberations there emerged a consensus of opinion on the following points:†

1. The cyclopaedic nature of the proposed Manual of Chinese Studies renders its immediate execution impracticable, since there are so many gaps in our knowledge of China and so few facts that can be definitely stated as true. The value of such a compilation is, however, evident, and we should look forward to the day when it shall be realizable.

2. A survey of the organization of and resources for research and instruction in Chinese studies as described in the memorandum should be immediately undertaken.

* A list of those in attendance is annexed to the appended Proceedings.† The full text of the proceedings of this conference is appended to this account as Appendix No. 2.
3. A directory of sinologists throughout the world is eminently desirable. The definition of sinologist should be liberal and should include anyone who is in a position to make a significant contribution to our knowledge of Chinese civilization.

4. The universities and colleges of the country must be made aware of the importance of and the opportunities presented by Chinese studies.

5. The most pressing needs of research workers in Chinese studies are
   a) bibliographies, catalogues, and indexes of both Chinese works and Occidental works on China, and
   b) the establishment of fellowships and scholarships which will enable research workers to use the immense treasures in the Library of Congress at Washington and will permit them to study in China or Europe.

6. It is desirable that the work begun by the Conference be continued
   a) by calling another conference at an early date (the meetings of the American Oriental Society in Cambridge in April, 1929, offer an attractive opportunity)
   b) by requesting the American Council of Learned Societies to create and maintain a standing committee on Chinese studies, to whom the deliberations of this conference shall serve as instructions.

In many respects this last recommendation was the most important step of the day. Its significance lies in the fact that such a continuation committee would be a permanent body constantly endeavoring to promote Chinese studies in America and to carry into effect the suggestions of such conferences as might be held from time to time. It might be pointed out that the present Mediaeval Academy of America, whose creation was undoubtedly one of the most notable contributions of and to American learning within the last decade, grew out of just such a committee of the Council for the promotion of medieval studies. In the present instance, the formation of a new learned society is not in prospect, nor is it, in a great many ways, desirable, since the various phases of the study can be amply taken care of by the existing Oriental Society and the associations devoted to the individual disciplines. It is, however, much to be hoped that some permanent organization can be given to the sinologists of this country through which
their activities can be assisted and coördinated. The Conference nominated seven of those present to membership on the committee if and when it should be formed: Berthold Laufer, Arthur W. Hummel, Kenneth S. Latourette, Carl W. Bishop, Lucius C. Porter, Lewis Hodous, and L. C. Goodrich.

Too much cannot be said for the enthusiasm and interest of this small band of scholars who came, many of them from considerable distances, and gave their time and their effort to the success of this conference. Not the least valuable feature of the meeting was the opportunity it gave many workers in the same field to become acquainted with each other, an opportunity which had never before presented itself.

The Council has adopted the recommendation of the Conference and has created and will maintain for a limited period or until other arrangements can be made a standing Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies.* This committee held its first meetings in Washington on February 16–17, 1929,† and decided to take immediate steps toward the compilation of the proposed survey of the organization of and facilities for Chinese research throughout the world. It further determined to call a second conference of persons interested in the field on April 3rd, 1929 at Cambridge, Massachusetts, in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society. Preparations for this conference are well under way and there is every prospect that, as a result of the labors of a number of sub-committees which the Committee has created, definite shape will there be given to plans for the future expansion of American sinology.

We hope that the conference and the establishment of the standing committee mark a new day in the history of American participation in Chinese studies. If, as the new historians tell us, the event and the times are functions of each other, the new day is upon us. For there is no mistaking the existence of a revival of interest in the things of the Far East. And it cannot be too strongly affirmed that this interest must not only afford satisfaction to an antiquarian curiosity, or indulge an appetite

* The membership of this committee is given in Annex G to the appended Proceedings.
† Proceedings of these meetings are published as Appendix No. 3.
for the bizarre, or eventuate in a hodge-podge of chinoiseries such as distinguished the eighteenth century; it cannot but lead to a broadening and deepening of our philosophy; it cannot but contribute to that new synthesis for which the past hundred years of historical analysis has been laying the foundations. Here, as everywhere else in connection with things Chinese, one can do no better than quote the words of Berthold Laufer, "We hold that a truly humanistic education is no longer possible without a more profound knowledge of China. We endeavor to advance the scientific study of China in all its branches for the sake of the paramount educational and cultural value of Chinese civilization, and thereby hope to contribute not only to the progress of higher learning, but also to a higher culture and renaissance of our civilization and to the broadening of our own ideals. We advocate with particular emphasis the study of the language and literature of China as the key to the understanding of a new world to be discovered, as the medium of gaining a new soul, as an important step forward into the era of a new humanism that is now in process of formation."

MORTIMER GRAVES.
APPENDIX NO. 1

Part I

PROPOSED OUTLINE OF A MANUAL OF CHINESE STUDIES*

PART I

HISTORY OF SinOLOGY

I. A short statement of the history of sinological research to about 1880 or 1890, that is, to the time when Western critical methods began to be applied to the Chinese scholastic tradition

II. A more complete, though concise, recapitulation of the results of sinological study since that time, arranged with respect to the various fields. Each entry in this section should indicate (1) the present status of investigation in the field, (2) the principal workers who have been or are engaged in it, (3) the accepted answers to the problems presented, (4) conflicting views where they are important, (5) the extent of the uncultivated field, and (6) possibly a brief bibliography. The entries might be built around some such framework as the following:

A. Foundations

1. Geology
   a. Geological History
   b. Economic and Political Geology
   c. Relations of Geology to History

2. Geography
   a. Physical Geography
   b. Economic and Political Geography

* Original outline constructed by George H. Danton and Mortimer Graves; subsequently corrected in many places by a number of scholars, principal among them Berthold Laufer, Walter T. Swingle, Kiang Kang-hu, C. W. Bishop, John K. Shryock, and L. C. Goodrich.
c. Human Geography
d. Relation of Geography to Chinese Civilization

3. Climatology
4. Oceanography and General Hydrography
5. Cartography
6. Palaeontology
   a. Search for Prehistoric Man
   b. Prehistoric Cultures
   c. Relations of these Cultures to Extra-Chinese Cultures

7. Flora and Fauna

(Suggested to replace A)

INTRODUCTORY

1. Brief outline of physical geography
2. Flora and Fauna (diffusion both to and from China of cultivated plants and domesticated animals)
3. Mineral resources
4. Influence of physical features of the country on Chinese civilization, with special reference to deforestation, floods, and famines

B. The People

1. Physical Anthropology
   a. Stature
   b. Hair Form
   c. Dentition
   d. Craniology

2. Physiology and Psychology

3. Ethnology and Ethnography
   a. History of the Chinese People
   b. Race History
   c. Non-Chinese Tribes and their Relation to Chinese
   d. Early Spread of Chinese Civilization
   e. The name "China"
   f. The origin of Chinese writing (the eight diagrams; ancient inscriptions on metal, stones, and bones)
g. Sex and Society 

h. Bridge between Unwritten and Documentary History 

i. History of Settlements

(Suggested to replace B)

I. ANALYSIS OF CHINESE CIVILIZATION

Ch. 1. Physical characteristics or traits of the people

2. History of racial mixtures

3. Population and its growth with a side glance at vital statistics, emigration, and Chinese abroad

4. Early culture of Chinese and non-Chinese tribes

C. The Language

1. The Classical Language
   a. Wenli, — style, grammar, syntax, etc.
   b. Mandarin, — grammar, lexicography, syntax, literary style, etc.

2. The Vernacular
   a. Same as for Wenli and Mandarin
   b. Spread and Influence
   c. Reactions against: by conservatives; by politicians

3. Dialect Studies
   a. Dialect Dictionaries
   b. Problem of a Dialect Map

4. Comparative Philology
   a. Relations with Tibeto-Burman
   b. Relations with Siamese
   c. The Sino-T’ai Speaking Peoples
   d. History of Chinese Language, spoken and written

5. Phonetic Script and Allied Problems (Romanization)

6. Ideograms
   a. History
   b. History of the Six Scripts
   c. Influence of Writing on Thought
   d. Use in Indexing, Cataloguing, etc.
D. Political History

(For this section much of the work has been done by Henri Maspero, in his article Chine et Asie centrale, pp. 517-559, in Histoire et historiens depuis cinquante ans, M. Bataillon, et al., Felix Alcan, Paris, 1928.)

1. General
   a. Lack of general histories in foreign languages
   b. The Chinese sources, in particular the dynastic histories
   c. Current revisionist viewpoint of Chinese historians
   d. Chronology and Calendar
   e. Political Geography

2. Political History by Dynasties
   a. Remains
   b. Records
   c. Affiliations with outside world

   [The rise and fall, as well as the principal contribution, of each dynasty should be discussed, together with such special problems as present themselves in each instance, viz., special sources (e.g., Mongolian), barbarian invasions, introduction of new religions, etc.]

E. Social History

1. Origin of Customs
2. History and Problems of Population
3. Clan and Family Organization
4. Marriage, Exogamy
5. Surnames and Name Magic
6. Serfdom
7. Foot-binding
8. Concubinage
9. Fashions
10. Methods of Social Control
11. Social Morality
12. Social Classifications
13. Social Mobility
14. Philanthropy (native, not missionary)
15. Guilds
16. Community Organization
17. Housing
18. Communication and Isolation as social but not economic factors
19. Social Conflict, Accommodations, Evolution
20. Conscious Efforts to Remake Society
21. Assimilation
22. Influence of Press (new)

(Suggested to replace E)

Social Life
1. Farmers, fishermen, and hunters
2. Food supply and preparation of food, system of nutrition
3. Clothing, housing, heating, and lighting
4. Daily life and home life
5. Social intercourse, manners, and etiquette
6. Games, entertainments, riddles, sports, and pastimes
7. The cycle of life; customs and rites at birth, puberty, betrothal, marriage, and death; life of women and children
8. Holidays and festivals, the year’s calendar
9. Guilds and secret societies
10. Charitable organizations

F. Education

G. Economic History
1. Agriculture
2. Labor and Industry
3. Land Tenure
4. Taxation
5. Monopolies (salt gabelle)
6. Currency
7. Communication and transportation, roads, trade-routes, and canals
8. Banking and finance, financial policy
H. Law and Administration
1. Early Theories in Classics
2. Codes
3. Influence
4. Fundamental democracy in face of autocracy
5. Rise and Influence of Bureaucracy
6. Kingship and Priesthood
7. Influence on Japan and Korea
8. Influence on Psychology of the People
9. Doctrine of the State
10. Civil Service Examinations and Officialdom
11. Diplomacy and International Law

I. Philosophy and Ethics
1. Before Lao-tzu
   a. The Book of Changes
   b. Historical origin of the Chinese virtues. The tablets of the ancestors and of the gods of the land and grain as representatives of Benevolence and Righteousness. Ceremonies and sacrificial vessels. The origin of li, or Propriety. Filial piety as the root of virtue
   c. Evidence of philosophic development before Lao-tzu as in Kuan Chung
2. Lao-tzu as a philosopher. Tao as an absolute. Its characteristics
3. Confucius and his disciples
   a. Philosophy. The Rectification of names as a theory of ideas. The use of Tao by the Confucians. The position of Heaven. The “investigation of things” in the Great Learning
   b. Ethics. The Virtues. Perfection as the ideal. The Nature. The Decree-free Will and Determinism, as developed in particular by Mencius and Hsun-tzu
4. The Ethics of Mo Ti. Utilitarianism
5. Yang Chu. Egoistic hedonism
6. Later Taoists
   a. Lieh-tzu. Mind as a creative force. Evolution, Faith
   b. Chuang-tzu. His criticism of the theory of ideas, etc.
7. Hui-tzu, Kung-sun Lung, etc. Universals. Paradoxes
8. Han contributions to philosophy and ethics
   a. Ssu-ma Tan and Huai-nan Tzu
   b. The scepticism of Wang Ch'ung
   d. Tung Chung-shu, Chen K'ang-ch'en, and other literati
9. Contributions of the Six Dynasties period
   a. The Seven Sages of the Bamboo Grove
   b. Taoist thinkers
   c. Contributions of Buddhist thought
   d. Attempts to reconcile the Three Teachings
10. The T'ang period. Han T'ui-chih and the reaction toward Confucianism. His theory of the Nature
11. The Sung Philosophy
    Chou Tun-i, Shao Yung, Chang Tsai, Ch'eng I, Ch'eng Hao, Chu Hsi, Lu Hsiang-shan
12. Ming Philosophy. Wang Yang-ming and the reaction against Chu Hsi; Wang's relation to Lu Hsiang-shan and Ch'eng I
13. The thought of the Ts'ing Dynasty
14. Present-Day Tendencies. Liang Ch'i-ch'iao and Hu Shih

J. Literature

1. Classical
   a. Poetry
      (1) Laws of Verse
      (2) Meter and Rhythm
      (3) Text History and Special Linguistic Problems
      (4) Problems of Prosody: free verse in the Ku Shih
      (5) Imagism
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(6) Relations of Poetry to Painting and Calligraphy
(7) History of Poetry
(a) Pre-Classical
(b) The Odes
(c) Han: content, interpretation, and style
(d) T'ang: content, interpretation, and style
(e) Post T'ang: content, interpretation, and style
(f) Modern: content, interpretation, and style
(8) Translations
(9) Influence Abroad
(10) Chinese Poetry as Confession
(11) Chinese Poetry as Completion

b. Prose (the so-called "classics")
(1) Age
(2) Text
(3) Authorship
(4) Provenience
(5) Language
(6) Authenticity
(7) Content and Interpretation
(8) Spread and Influence
(9) Translations
(10) Special Problems, e.g.
(a) Modern "Hanists" vs. Sung Interpretation
(b) Shu Ching, I Ching, Bamboo Books, Chung Yung, etc.

2. Modern Prose
a. The Novel
(1) Authorship and Origin
(2) Language
(3) Technique
(4) Content and Tone
(5) Influence
(6) Special Problems: e.g.
(a) Hung Lou Meng and its interpretation
(b) Shui Hu and Influence on Social Conditions
(c) San Kuo Yen I and Relation to History and Drama

(7) Translations

b. Drama

(1) Origin
   (a) Pantomimes of Chou Period
   (b) Pre-Yüan Drama
   (c) Marco Polo

(2) Authorship
(3) Technique
(4) Language
(5) Music
(6) Stage History
(7) Influence Abroad
(8) The Theatre
   (a) Stage and Stage Problems
   (b) Comparison with European Stage
   (c) Acting and its Technique
   (d) Actors, male and female
   (e) Local Customs
   (f) Singing
   (g) The Modern Theatre

c. Criticism
d. Essays
e. Biography

K. Religion

1. Primitive and ancient animism of the peasants of the Bronze Age; organized and hierarchical cults of the same period; anthropomorphic body of belief among the pre-Chinese coastal peoples, perhaps connected with the Japanese pantheon-goddesses unknown to the "Classics"

2. The practice of religion by the Chinese, as reconstructed from the Ritual Books, Ssu-ma Ch'ien, the Shu Ching, the Spring and Autumn Annals, the Tso Chuan, and other historical books, as well as from the Book of Poetry. The Ancestors
3. The Cult of Heaven, as witnessed by the Shu, the Shih, and other sources. Its development by the Confucianists.

4. The effect of non-religious thinkers, like Lao-tzu, upon religious thought.

5. External influences in religion, e.g., the introduction of human sacrifice.

6. Developments under the Han Dynasty
   a. The religion of Ch’in Shih Huang.
   b. Changes under Han Wu Ti. The Feng and Shan sacrifices.
   c. The development of star worship.
   d. The coming of Buddhism.
   f. The practice of religion as shown in the historical books, and in works like the Three Kingdoms.

7. The State Religion and Confucianism
   Studies of the ritual and cults under the different dynasties.

8. The development of Taoism. Ko Hung, and other Taoist leaders. The growth of such doctrines as the Taoist Trinity, the cult of Yu Huang, of T’ai Shan, of the Pa Hsien, etc. The Taoist society.
   (The origin of the mass of folk belief, ritual, magic, and philosophy of a sort going under the name of Taoism, whose really philosophical implications play but a small part in the popular belief).

9. The development of Buddhism
   a. Missionaries from India.
   b. Pilgrims to India.
   c. Translations and the Buddhist Canon.
   d. Historical studies (like those of De Groot) in imperial legislation, persecutions, etc.
   e. The Pantheon. Development of the cults of Mi Leh, Kuanyin, Ti Tsang, etc.
   f. Amogha Vajara and Masses for the dead.
g. The Buddhist schools
h. Sects. Lamaism
10. Cults showing both Buddhist and Taoist Influences
11. Foreign relations other than Buddhism
   a. Nestorianism
   b. Islam
   c. Manicheeism
   d. Roman Catholicism
   e. Protestant Christianity
12. Religious Sects and Secret Societies
13. Recent State Religion; Worship of Heaven and Earth

L. China and the Outside World
   1. Expansion of Chinese Civilization (cross reference to other sections)
      a. In Early Times to other parts of Asia, particularly Korea and Japan
      b. More Recently to West
      e. Chinese travellers
   2. Foreign Relations with Iran, Turks, India, Hellenistic Orient, Mongols, Tungusians, Korea, Japan, Southeastern Asia, and Malaysia

M. Science
   1. Philology
   2. History and Archaeology
   3. Geography
   4. Mathematics
   5. Astronomy
   6. Agriculture and Botany (China is predominantly an agricultural country. This section is exceedingly important)
   7. Medicine, surgery, pharmacology, and dietetics; Materia Medica and diagnosis
   8. Mineralogy and palaeontology
   9. Zoology
   10. Chemistry, technology, engineering, and mechanics
   11. Military science
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N. Commerce and Industry
O. Archaeology and Art
   1. Interrelation of art, religion, and social life
   2. Aesthetic conception of art, art theories, and art literature
   3. Art motifs and ornamental designs
   4. Effect of art on society
   5. General development of art
   6. The archaic period (jade, bone, ivory, bronze, and ceramics)
   7. The transition period
   8. The medieval period
   9. The Sung renaissance
  10. Calligraphy and painting
  11. Architecture
  12. Sculpture
  13. Music and dances
  14. Chinese collectors and museums

Part II

Synthesis of Chinese Civilization
(Only a brief outline, not detailed)
A. The fundamental ideas and moral forces of Chinese civilization
B. Causes and effects of its tenacity, perseverance, power of resistance, and power of assimilation and absorption
C. Unity and cohesion of Chinese culture and harmony of its world-conception
D. Interaction and correlation of spiritual forces
E. China in the combined rôle of Greece and Rome in Eastern Asia. Effect of Chinese civilization on Korea, Japan, Manchuria, Mongolia, Tibet, Man-tse, Annam, Camboja, etc.
F. Evaluation of Chinese civilization on the part of Indians, Persians, and Arabs
G. Evaluation of Chinese civilization in Europe and America
H. Evaluation of Chinese art and achievements, and their significance for our modern life
Part II

PROPOSED OUTLINE FOR A SURVEY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AND FACILITIES FOR CHINESE STUDIES

INTRODUCTORY

A short statement might indicate the present condition of Chinese Studies, the reasons for compiling the information contained in the survey, and some suggestions for its use.

(1) RESOURCES

I. Libraries and Collections of Chinese Writings

A. Public and University: e.g., Vatican, Society of Jesus, Tokyo Imperial University, Morrison Library (Toyo Bunko), Salerno, Library of Congress, Bibliothèque Nationale, Widener Library of Harvard University, Peking and Nanking National Libraries; Gest Chinese Research Library of McGill University; Fryer and Kiang Chinese Library in the University of California (Berkeley); Columbia University; Metropolitan Library of Peking; Tsing Hua College; National University of Peking (190,000 vols.); British Museum; Oxford; Cambridge; Paris; Leningrad; Wason Collection on China and the Chinese, Cornell University, Newberry Library, Chicago

B. Societies: e.g., North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, American Oriental Society, China Institut of Frankfort-a-M., etc.

C. Private: e.g., Commercial Press Library (Shanghai), personal collections of individuals

(Each entry should contain a statement as to the extent of the library, its history, number of volumes, manuscript and printed works, specialties, accessibility, whether it is well catalogued or not, etc.)
II. Museums

A. Fine Arts: e.g. Imperial Collection in Peking; Metropolitan Museum of New York; R. Museo d'Arte Orientale, Venice; Museum für Ostasiatischer Kunst, Köln; private collections, such as those of Mr. Ching Hsien, in Peking, and of the family of Ts'ai Po-hao; Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.; Boston Museum of the Fine Arts; Fogg Museum, Cambridge, Mass.; Detroit Institute of Arts; University of Pennsylvania; Field Museum, Chicago; Hermitage Museum in Leningrad; Lucy Maud Buckingham Collection in the Chicago Art Institute; Eumorfopolos Collection; Simkhovitch Collection in New York; Roerich Museum of New York; Louvre, Paris

B. Archaeology, Ethnology, etc.; e.g., Field Museum, Chicago; Ostasiatische Abteilung des Museums für Volkerkunde, Berlin; Musées Guimet, Cernuschi, d'Ennery, Blue Grotto; Department of Anatomy of Peking Union Medical College; Reilly Collection of Coins at American Numismatic Society, New York City

(This section would include the many private and commercial collections of artifacts, ethnological material, skulls, hsien chih, weapons, jades, etc. Much the same kind of information should be given as is suggested under Libraries)

III. Undeveloped Resources

(This section should contain a statement as to the extent and character of the material which might be expected to exist in the places indicated, as well as its availability, measures being taken to exploit it, if any, etc.)

A. Monasteries in China
B. Unexplored regions, caves, etc.
C. Remote Temples
D. Palaces and Tombs
E. Family Archives, letters, diaries
F. Imperial Records and Archives
(2) ORGANIZATION

I. Institutes such as the China Institut of Frankfort-a-M., Institut franco-chinois de Lyon, China Institute in America
(A statement of their histories, size, activities, publications, facilities, value as centers of research, etc.)

II. Groups and Committees [Including periodical Congresses, such as the International Congress of Orientalists (7th Oxford, 1928)]

III. Foundations

IV. Universities and other centers of Instruction and Research, e.g.,
The seminars in Berlin, Göttingen, Halle, Bonn, etc.; Harvard, California, Columbia; Scuola Orientalia of Rome; School of Oriental Studies of the University of London; École nationale des Langues orientales vivantes, Paris; Theological and missionary schools; Chinese and Japanese universities; The Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America; École française d'Extrême Orient, Hanoi; Institut des hautes Études chinoises, Paris
(A statement of the size and importance of the schools, and the nature, extent, and character of the work done in them)

V. Learned Societies, e.g.,

Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, Société asiatique, Société belge d'Etudes orientales, American Oriental Society, Orientalsk Samfund of Denmark, Verband für den ferner Osten, Deutsche morgenländische Gesellschaft, Finska Orantsallskapet, Asiatic Society of Japan (Their history, aims, membership, activities, publications, resources, etc.)
VI. New National Bureau of Scientific Research of the Chinese National Government

VII. Expeditions and Explorations

VIII. Fellowships and Scholarships

(3) PUBLICATIONS

I. Bibliographies

A. General, e.g.,
Cordier's Bibliotheca Sinica and its supplement, together with the index now being prepared
Chinese bibliographies like the Ssu k' u ch' uan shu ts' ung mu and works taken from it (Wylie and Katsura)
Chang Chih-Tung, Shu mu ta wen

B. Special, e.g.,
Pelliot's Notes de bibliographie chinoise, II. Le droit chinois, in BEFEO, ix, 123–159
Sarton's Introduction to the History of Science, and continuation in Isis
Catalogue of Chinese Translations of the Tripitaka, etc.

C. Library and Booksellers' Catalogues, e.g.,
Catalogue of Library of N. C. Branch of RAS
Catalogue of Morrison Library
N. Y. State Library Bulletin No. 59, March, 1901
Bulletin Boston Public Library, January, 1895
Library of Congress lists
Catalogues of British Museum, University of Cambridge, etc.
Asia Major's list of Chinese Works in Berlin National Library
Probsthain's List, Catalogues of French and German Booksellers, etc.
Asiatica, Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Company; Paul Geuthner's Ephémérides (Paris)
II. Periodicals, e.g.,

*Journal asiatique*, 1822; *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1834; *Ostasiatische Zeitschrift; Mitteilungen des Seminars für orientalischen Sprachen*; *T'oung-pao; Bulletin de l'Ecole française d'Extrême Orient*, 1900; *Tóyó-gakuhō; China Review and New China Review; Journal of the North China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society*, 1858; *Chinese Recorder*, 1868; *Kuo hsio chi k' an; Shinagaku; Asia Major*, 1924; *Eastern Art Quarterly*, 1928; *Kokko; Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 1849; *China Journal of Science and Arts; Asiatic Review (Asiatic Quarterly Review, to 1914)*, 1886

(Those no longer published, as *Revue de l'Orient*, Paris, 1842–1852; *Asiatic Journal*, London, 1816–44, etc., might be included, and some mention might be made of periodicals devoted to specific disciplines, such as *Isis, Discovery, Zeitschrift für Ethnologie*, etc., which contain, from time to time, material relating to the Chinese phase of those disciplines. Each entry should tell the date of foundation, frequency of appearance, location of editorial offices, editors, nature of contents, size, terms of subscription, etc.)

III. Serials, e.g.,

*Variétés sinologiques*

*Annales du Musée Guimet*

*Sinica-Mitteilungen des China Instituts*

IV. Collections, etc.

(This section should include information relative to the principal printed tools of research. The extent to which bibliographical information can be given within the limits at our disposal is a question to be decided ultimately by the supervisory committee and the directors)

*e.g.* A. Chinese Government Publications
APPENDIX I

DIRECTORY OF SINOLOGUES

The Council believes that it would be useful to establish a directory of scholars throughout the world who are recognized as competent sinologues. Each entry would contain such data as full name, field of research, principal contributions to sinological knowledge, academic or other position, sojourns in China, etc.

APPENDIX II

ANNUAL HANDBOOK

The Council believes it might be useful to continue the work of the Survey by publishing each year a small handbook similar to "The Progress of Medieval Studies in the United States of America" but devoted to Chinese Studies.
Part III

NEEDS AND SUGGESTIONS FOR THE IMPROVEMENT
OF CHINESE STUDIES

A. Instruction:

1. The present state of instruction in Chinese subjects in American schools and universities. Difficulties and problems
2. Ways and means of interesting universities and academic circles in Chinese studies:
   a. Through appeals in writing
   b. Through direct propaganda by engaging a good speaker for a cruise of principal universities and colleges
   c. Avenues of approach through history, religion, philosophy, archaeology, civilization in general. Chinese departments, sinology as a science, but also the necessity of plain good teachers of Chinese
3. Would it be advisable to construct and submit to universities a standard plan for a department of Chinese studies?
4. Textbooks, scholarships, adult education, and university extension

B. Research:

1. Foundation of a Chinese Research Institute in Washington, which might eventually lead to a general Oriental Research Institute
2. Systematic survey of Chinese folk-lore and collection of vital statistics, both of which might be accomplished through a questionnaire
3. Systematic excavations on Chinese soil, especially in the oldest seats of Chinese culture, the capitals and graves of the first dynasties
4. Chinese students should be encouraged and urged to study their own civilization for a two-fold reason—to preserve the traditions of their forefathers and to become active research workers on their return to China. They are our greatest asset and hope for all future Chinese research.

5. Fellowships

C. Works of Reference:

2. A Chinese biographical dictionary. Both Giles and the *Chung-kuo jen ming ta tz'u tien* are unsatisfactory
3. Systematic bibliography
4. A good history of Chinese literature
5. General histories of China in European languages.
6. Historical geography

D. Translations into Western tongues, particularly of source materials, like the dynastic histories and the gazetteers.

E. Publication:

1. Chinese texts
2. Translations (see above)
3. Short articles, doctoral theses, etc.
4. Monographs. Foundation of a series like the Harvard Oriental Series for the publication of monographs devoted to Chinese studies of a strictly scientific character

F. Organization:

1. Would it be desirable to have a sort of permanent union, growing, possibly, out of the continued existence of a committee of this conference, of American workers in the Chinese field or an association for the advancement of Chinese studies?
2. How should the attempt be made to induce existing bodies or associations to include or emphasize Chinese studies?
3. What steps are to be taken to promote closer cooperation of sinologues with other orientalists, historians, linguists, philosophers, anthropologists, etc.?

G. Advertising and Propaganda:

1. Adoption of a clear and succinct interpretation of our aims and objects for the benefit of the public. We must first win its sympathy with our cause.

2. How can we interest our American students in the study of Chinese?

3. Librarians of public and university libraries should be urged to found collections of Chinese books, journals, and magazines for the benefit of Chinese students and our resident Chinese population toward which we have to assume obligations. Possibility of exchanges with Chinese libraries.

4. Is publicity of our cause in the press and over the radio desirable? Should we get the moral support and endorsement of our President-elect, Mr. Hoover?

5. Suggestions as to publicity to be given the activities of this conference.
APPENDIX NO. 2

PROCEEDINGS OF THE FIRST CONFERENCE ON THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE STUDIES

Held in New York City, December 1, 1928

The First Conference on the Promotion of Chinese Studies was held in the Harvard Club, New York City, on December 1, 1928. Forty persons were present,* including sinologists, scholars in related fields, officers and representatives of learned societies interested in Chinese studies, and members of the executive staff of the American Council of Learned Societies, on whose invitation the conference had assembled.

The meeting was called to order at 10 o'clock by the Assistant Secretary of the Council, Mr. Graves, who introduced the Permanent Secretary, Mr. Leland, as temporary chairman.

Mr. Leland explained the object of the Council in calling the Conference. He pointed out that one of the principal functions of the Council is to take the initiative or otherwise assist in the promotion of various studies, and especially to act as a coöordinating agency in cases like the present, where those devoted to a certain category of studies are drawn from different fields of scholarship, such as archaeology, history, linguistics, philology, etc. He stated that the Council had felt that, because of the increasing interest throughout the world in the study of Chinese history and civilization, it was appropriate that American scholars interested in these subjects from the points of view of the various disciplines should come together to consult with each other as to the most effective mode of promoting work in the field of their common interests. He explained that, under Mr. Graves's direction, an effort had been made to carry on the first stage of the discussion before the Conference should assemble, through the distribution of carefully prepared memoranda and their

* A full list of those present is given in Annex "A".
criticism by correspondence. The Conference now had before it, he pointed out, three memoranda: (1) a plan and outline for a proposed manual of Chinese studies; (2) a plan for a survey of the present resources of Chinese studies throughout the world, including collections in libraries, museums and art galleries, educational facilities, tools of research, etc.; and (3) a series of tentative suggestions as to the most urgent needs of Chinese studies, and various ways of meeting them; and these memoranda, in which Mr. Graves had incorporated the suggestions secured by correspondence, might well serve as the basis of discussion.

He stated further that the Council of Learned Societies desired the opinion of the Conference with regard to the following matters:

1. Should a continuation committee be appointed?
2. Is the time now ripe and is it practicable to undertake the preparation of a general manual of Chinese studies?
3. Should a survey of the present organization and resources of Chinese studies throughout the world be undertaken?
4. Would it serve a useful purpose to compile a directory of the sinologists of the world?
5. Is there a consensus of opinion as to the most urgent immediate needs of Chinese studies?
6. Should provision be made for holding further conferences?

Mr. Leland explained that if it should be the opinion of the Conference that a continuation committee should be appointed, the American Council of Learned Societies would undertake to create and maintain a standing committee for the promotion of Chinese studies. To this committee would naturally be referred the proceedings of the present Conference. The votes of the Conference would serve as instructions to the committee, which would also, of course, give careful consideration to the various suggestions that might be made during the course of the discussion. The committee would be charged with the compilation of a manual or of a survey, if either or both should be deemed desirable by the Conference, and also with the organization of future conferences if such are to be held. The committee would
be particularly charged with maintaining appropriate relations with other organizations or institutions interested in the Chinese field, and with endeavoring to bring about an effective coordination of activities. When the committee should have drawn up a carefully prepared program, the Council would take into consideration the problem of securing the necessary support.

After thanking the members of the Conference for their response to the Council's invitation, Mr. Leland asked them to proceed to the choice of a presiding officer for the morning session.

Mr. Laufer, on behalf of his fellow members of the Conference, thanked the Council for its good offices, and expressed the opinion that much could be accomplished by this gathering, the first of its kind in America. For the presidency of the morning session he nominated Mr. Edgerton (president of the American Oriental Society), who was thereupon unanimously elected.

Mr. Edgerton thanked the Conference for the honor conferred upon him, denied any competence in the subjects that were to be discussed, but asserted that he personally and the Oriental Society as a body were exceedingly desirous of seeing American Oriental studies fully rounded out by including the civilizations of the Far East. So far as the Society was concerned, he was certain that the Journal of the American Oriental Society—and he spoke with authority, having once been its editor—was always glad to receive articles on sinological subjects, provided that they measured up to the severe critical standards of that periodical. Moreover, at its last meeting the Society had gone on record as approving the promotion of Chinese studies, and was at present interesting itself in a plan for a special session of sinologists in connection with its annual meeting in Cambridge in the spring of 1929. He offered the collaboration of the Society in the advancement of Chinese studies.

Continuation Committee

Mr. Edgerton called for discussion of the first question presented by Mr. Leland. Opinion as to the advisability of continuing the work of the Conference by creating a standing com-
mittee for the promotion of Chinese studies was unanimous, and it was accordingly

Voted, that the Conference request the American Council of Learned Societies to appoint and maintain a standing committee on the promotion of Chinese studies.

Proposed manual of Chinese studies

Regarding the question of the compilation of a manual of Chinese studies an animated discussion ensued. As to the ultimate utility of such a guide there was little difference of opinion; considerable doubt, however, was expressed as to its immediate practicability. Mr. Pelliot feared that, since few questions in sinology have been sufficiently investigated to admit of precise answers, the compilation of a manual would do nothing but perpetuate errors which have already done irreparable harm. He was not averse to the proposal but wanted to be sure that everyone understood the great difficulties involved. Mr. Laufer agreed with Mr. Pelliot that in the present state of our knowledge the preparation of a manual was fraught with great difficulties. He thought that the efforts of scholars would at present be better expended on making new contributions to research. He likened the vast area of Chinese literature and civilization to that of the Pacific Ocean; what we know of it, to San Francisco Bay. A manual should wait until we have at least crossed the ocean. In regard to some subjects indicated in the outline of the manual, adequate information could be given, while our knowledge of many other subjects is insufficient or even a blank. He suggested that we should look forward to the day when Chinese studies should be provided with a companion analogous to the Grundriss der indo-arischen and iranischen Philologie und Altertumskunde.

Other speakers, Mr. Latourette, Mr. Swingle, Mr. Close, and Mr. Luce, concurred in the belief that a manual, in such a form as proposed, is at present impracticable, but pointed out the necessity of some guide for the person who is not a sinologist. It was suggested that even people living in immediate contact with China are in almost complete ignorance of its civilization; that
there is danger, in our schools, of knowing nothing of the Chinese subjects we are teaching, and at the same time of not even knowing the basis of our own ignorance; that it is necessary for other people than the specialist to know what are the matters about which definite statements can be made, and what are those about which we can do nothing but hazard opinions. Two points of view were brought out, that of the scholar engaged in research and that of the popularizer of knowledge. The former realizes how formidable is the task; the latter sees the necessity of making sure that what information is popularized is exact and in accord with the accepted results of research.

Mr. Kiang felt that interest in some such manual was the most hopeful sign he had seen since his arrival from China fifteen years ago. He pointed out, however, that it must not take sides on the disputed questions, like the authenticity of Yao and Shun, but must give both views impartially. The manual should serve, he said, as “a guide-book to sightseeing and not the sight itself.” He presented a copy of his own syllabus to the Conference: Sixty Lectures on Chinese Culture.

Mr. Porter wondered if somewhat the same ends as served by the publication of a manual could not be secured in a more modest way. He felt that it was, in the present state of knowledge, presumptuous to attempt to cover the whole field within the brief confines of a handbook, but that such a compilation should, nevertheless, be something to look forward to. He proposed, therefore, that the question be referred to the continuation committee, not as a definite proposal, but as a “suggestion for the improvement of Chinese studies.”

Voted, that the question of the compilation of a manual of Chinese studies be referred to the continuation committee.

Proposed survey of organization of and facilities for Chinese studies

Mr. Pelliot opened the discussion on the question of compiling a survey of the organization and resources of Chinese studies. He emphasized the necessity of such a survey, and advo-
cated its immediate execution; he indicated the importance of considering what the Chinese scholars themselves have already done, for their number is increasing and their work cannot be ignored.

Mr. KIANG offered his services in securing the requisite information and in corresponding with scholars in his native land.

Mr. PORTER remarked that the Harvard-Yenching Institute would look with much interest on such a survey, since its own program was not yet definitely outlined. He thought that the survey would block out certain definite areas that needed cultivation.

Mr. CH'RU described work he had been doing in indexing and cataloguing and submitted plans for two projects he had under way: (1) an index of the individual titles contained in the collections of ts'ung shu, and (2) a comprehensive digest of published reviews of Chinese works. He also submitted a list of such surveys of libraries in China and Japan as have been published.*

Mr. LATOURETTE proposed that an annual supplement to the survey should contain a current record of the work of Eastern and Western scholars, digests of books, articles, etc., and reports on results of research.

Mr. GRAVES presented the annual Bulletin of the Mediaeval Academy of America (Progress of Medieval Studies in the United States of America) as an example of what might be done in a publication of this type.

Mr. TANNER called attention to the unpublished survey of archaeology in China made several years ago by Langdon Warner for the Archaeological Institute of America.

Mr. SWINGLE remarked that apparently many institutions of learning are under the impression that it is possible to study Chinese books without having them. He pointed out that less than five per cent. of the worth-while Chinese works offered for sale are bought by Americans. He emphasized the necessity of inducing universities and libraries to begin the accumulation of Chinese books.

Mr. LUCE agreed with Mr. SWINGLE, but added that the survey

* Annexes B, C, D.
should take particular notice of the collections that are being formed in China, instancing the library of Yenching University. He suggested that America could assist in assuring the preservation of these collections in fire-proof buildings.

Mr. Porter assured the Conference of the cooperation of the Harvard-Yenching Institute. He suggested that an effort be made to coordinate the collecting activities of libraries, so that they would not compete with each other in trying to build up identical collections, but should specialize and endeavor to have their collections supplement each other.

Mr. Danton remarked that Tsing Hua University was specializing in Mongol and Manchu works.

Mr. Goodrich added that Columbia University was concentrating on publications of the T'ing dynasty.

Mr. Swingle called attention to the fact that there is another phase to Chinese civilization than that found in the merely literary records. He referred to the work done in agriculture, particularly by the University of Nanking, and asked Mr. Reisner to tell the conference something of that work.

Mr. Reisner described the work being carried on by the College of Agriculture and Forestry at the University of Nanking in connection with the University Library in

Making an index in English and Chinese of a number of the very important old Chinese works on agriculture,

The publication of a bibliography of Chinese literature relating to agriculture in which are listed more than 1200 separate and distinct works on agriculture and related subjects,

The preparation of an agricultural Encyclopaedia Sinica,

The collection of Chinese literature on agriculture and related subjects, including books on famine and local gazetteers. This collection now includes about 80 per cent of the known material dealing with agriculture and about one-third of the official gazetteers known to China. The total collection now numbers more than 40,000 volumes.

Mr. Hummel further contended that many institutions thought the study of Chinese civilization possible without a knowledge of the Chinese language. The survey should disabuse their minds of this error.
Mr. Laufer remarked that the question of including in the survey notices of private collections, both of Chinese writings and of art objects and other realia, presents many difficulties. Collectors vary greatly in their attitude toward research in their collections, and even toward giving information about them. He felt that all private collections should be included in the survey, or none at all. He also raised the question of the inclusion of the various China Societies, of which many are purely commercial.

Voted, that it is desirable to undertake a survey of the present state of the organization and resources of sinological studies throughout the world.

Proposed directory of sinologists

Mr. Leland referred to the directory of sinologists suggested in the second memorandum. He asked if the Harvard-Yenching Institute had not taken preliminary steps toward compiling such a directory.

Mr. Porter said that the Harvard-Yenching Institute had not as yet formulated any definite plans of its own for such a directory, but was ready to cooperate with this Conference in any way possible.

Mr. March asked what should be the definition of "sinologist."

It appeared to be the opinion of the Conference that the term "sinologist" is preferable to "sinolog" or "sinologue," and that it should be rather liberally interpreted to include all who are able to contribute something of value to Chinese studies, even though they may not be proficient in the Chinese language.

Mr. Swingle pointed out that the most important feature of such a directory would be its list of Chinese sinologists. Mr. Pelliot added that their names should be printed in Chinese characters.

Mr. Laufer thought that the Commercial Press or the Maruzen-Kabushiki-Kaisha might be interested in compiling and would certainly be interested in printing the directory.

Voted, that it is desirable to compile a directory of the sinologists of the world.
Needs and suggestions

Mr. Leland requested the Conference to consider the general problem of the advancement of Chinese studies, particularly in America. He thought that there should be some consensus of opinion as to the most immediate and urgent needs.

Romanization of Chinese characters

Mr. Malone stated that one of the greatest obstacles facing students beginning Chinese studies is the confusion resulting from the many conflicting methods of romanization of Chinese words now in use, and the lack of any satisfactory system. It would greatly facilitate the progress of Chinese studies if some agreement could be reached not only by writers in English but also by writers in other languages. This ought to be done before the present confusion is still further entrenched and there is no body of men better qualified to undertake this task than the present group or the continuation committee proposed.

Mr. Kiang remarked that the Chinese government had just published a brochure on the subject, which it was hoped would affect some amelioration of the situation.

Mr. Pelliot stated that the question had been argued at every conference of sinologists that he had attended for thirty years, without result. If the present attempt of the Chinese government is in accordance with the principles of modern linguistic science, it will be hailed with delight by sinologists all over the world, but if not, it will only add to the present confusion.

Mr. Close added that in his experience the problem of "getting Chinese names straight" was certainly one of the most difficult obstacles to overcome in arousing interest in Chinese subjects.

Reading Guides

Mr. Luce said that the most pressing need for beginning students and, in fact, teachers of Chinese subjects is a syllabus or a guide to books published in the Western languages.

Mr. Goodrich called attention to a syllabus now in use at
Columbia University, which contains a weekly reading list of works on Chinese subjects published in books and periodicals in English and French.

Mr. Hodous mentioned Mr. Hamilton's guide to readings in Buddhism in use in his courses.

University instruction

Mr. Lauffer felt that the principal problem confronting the Conference was that of interesting the universities in Chinese civilization as a subject of instruction and research and giving it an appropriate place in the curriculum.

Mr. Latourette pointed out that it is necessary, in this connection, to differentiate between graduate training and research, on the one hand, and undergraduate instruction and popularization, on the other. So far as the former are concerned he thought that, since the opportunities for teaching Chinese subjects are for the present very limited (the Institute of Pacific Relations is at present compiling a list of all such courses given in the United States), graduate instruction should be confined to a relatively few centers, say three in the East, two in the Middle West, and two on the Pacific Coast. He suggested that the American Council of Learned Societies, through the proposed committee on Chinese studies, might endeavor to bring about some selection of the universities which could appropriately undertake full graduate work.

So far as undergraduate courses are concerned, he offered the following suggestions: (1) the stimulation of interest by sending competent speakers to present the case for Chinese studies to university and college authorities and students; (2) by inducing those university departments which impinge upon Chinese studies—history, philosophy, linguistics, art, etc.—to give in their courses more attention to the Chinese contribution in those fields; (3) by advocating the formation of departments of Far Eastern studies rather than of Chinese subjects alone, since a single chair in this field is about all that can be expected of most institutions at the present time.
At this point (12:15 P.M.) the Conference adjourned for luncheon, which was served in an adjoining room. The occasion was rendered the more pleasant by the presence of Mr. G. M. Gest, who was introduced by Mr. Swingle and who described the important Gest Collection of Chinese works now on deposit at McGill University. At 1:45 the Conference reassembled and elected Mr. Pelliot to preside over the afternoon session.

Training for research

Mr. Pelliot spoke of the two phases of the problem confronting the Conference, that of research and that of popularization. With respect to the first, he pointed out that the collection of books in libraries touches only one side of the problem. He called attention to the lack, at present, of American scholars capable of carrying on research of a high type in sinology. There are many, he said, who are interested in China, in its politics, its economics and sociology, but there has been little really scholarly research by Americans in Chinese history, philology, or archaeology. One of the reasons for this state of affairs is that the American cannot commence serious work at a sufficiently early age so long as he is dependent upon American schools, while another is that he cannot have competent instruction. The scholar who engages in Chinese research must be trained in his vocation from youth. The most urgent need, at present, is to provide fellowships for a few young men who have shown their interest and aptitude, to permit them to go to China, and to Europe, and to spend five or six years without requiring them to have the appearance of rendering any special service. At the end of that period America would have a small group of men able to teach and to take the leadership in Chinese research. It is necessary first, he contended, to develop the scholars, for without them, libraries will be useless.

Regarding the libraries, he suggested, the question of coördinating them is important, but so is that of cataloguing and indexing them. An immediate need would be satisfied if indexes to the Chinese works which already exist could be prepared. There is
no country in the world with such a magnificent body of annals as China, but they are largely inaccessible to scholars through lack of proper indexing. Moreover, there is need for a good dictionary in one of the Western languages. We "get along" with Giles, but no present dictionary treats the Chinese language historically, and consequently all are faulty.

With respect to popularization, he pointed out that we meet with many difficulties because there is so little in Chinese history that, in our present state of knowledge, can be called fact. He cited as an instance in the field of chronology, the almost universally accepted date of September 6, 776 B.C., which we now know to have no value whatever, and referred to Maspero's work *La Chine antique* as the only valuable compendium of information on early Chinese history.

Mr. DANTON remarked that while it would be considered absurd to have a student begin the study of French or German in the graduate school, yet that is what he is expected to do in the case of Chinese. He believed that instruction in Chinese language and civilization ought to be offered at least as early as the junior year in college. This would give the student a certain amount of familiarity with the language before he entered the graduate school.

Mr. KIANG urged that young students should be sent to universities in China.

Mr. PELLIOIT felt that it was first necessary to acquire some command of the language; otherwise time spent in a Chinese university was very likely to be wasted. He asked how large a stipend a fellowship ought to carry.

Mr. HUMMEL replied that the stipend should range from about $1200 to $2000 a year for three years, that of the Willard Straight Fellowship being $2000. He stated that a period of three years is necessary to learn to read the colloquial language (in which periodicals and newspapers are printed) and possibly six years to acquire some familiarity with the *wen li* or classical language. He thought that a sufficient competence could be acquired in about the same time as is now given to Latin and Greek.

Mr. PORTER brought up the question of urging the universities and colleges to admit Chinese in satisfaction of entrance require-
ments, on a parity with other modern languages, such as French, German, Italian, and Spanish.

Mr. DANTON thought that the continuation committee might discuss this matter with the various associations of colleges and universities. He remarked that Oberlin College already allows credit for Chinese studied to both Chinese and other students.

Mr. MANNING pointed out that the Department of Slavonic Languages in Columbia was facing these same problems. So far the authorities of that university had preferred to deal with individual cases on their respective merits, rather than to pass a general rule adding the Slavonic languages to the accepted subjects. He felt, that, for the time being, this was the best way of handling the question, and thought that the authorities of most colleges and universities would be of this opinion.

Mr. PORTER brought up the question of the departmentalizing of Chinese subjects in the universities. Should the Conference advocate the development of departments of Chinese which should control all university courses in its field, or should the other departments share in teaching Chinese subjects.

Mr. PELLIOT suggested that the question was connected with that of degrees. For himself, he would prefer a degree in Chinese studies from a Chinese department, based on the completion of work in some obligatory Chinese subject, and in optional related subjects. If other departments are allowed to offer work in Chinese history, philosophy, linguistics, art and archaeology, what becomes of the Chinese department? The question has been raised as to whether the student could secure thorough training in the methods and technique of research if all his training took place within a Chinese department, but there is no reason why the faculty of a Chinese department should not be fully as competent to induct scholars into modern methods as that of any other department, provided the members of it are chosen with sufficient care and are competent scholars.

Mr. CLOSE told of the difficulties that confronted those who attempted to build up a Chinese department, because Chinese studies were suspected of infringing on the provinces of other departments.
Mr. Greene believed that the question of securing cooperation between departments would present no difficulties at Columbia University. He felt that the arrangements should preserve a certain amount of elasticity, pending the natural development of Chinese studies. He thought that American universities had been remiss in permitting native Chinese students to devote their attention, while in America, to Chinese subjects. They would better spend their time in mastering the technique of modern scientific methods, so that they could more profitably pursue research in Chinese studies in their own country.

Mr. Porter suggested that the committee might ask the colleges and universities to provide for series of lectures on Chinese subjects. He brought up, also, the case of students and others who are interested in Chinese matters and who wish to learn something of them, without any attempt at specialization.

Both Mr. Edgerton and Mr. Sturtevant called the attention of the Conference to the bearing that the Chinese language has on general linguistic problems. Mr. Sturtevant spoke of the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America, which, he stated, would cooperate to the best of its ability in promoting the study of Chinese.

Mr. Pelliot recalled that of all the work that had been done in Chinese phonetics, from which we have derived a certain amount of definite knowledge about the Chinese language of 500 A.D. or even earlier, none had been by an American scholar. He rejoiced, however, to see signs of awakening interest. He took this opportunity of emphasizing the vast range of Chinese studies. When a few new words are found on an Egyptian papyrus, he said, scholars of all countries pounce upon them like birds of prey. The same kind of discovery is hidden on every page of Chinese literature, a literature which both for quantity and antiquity is second to no other in the world. He spoke of the difficulty of approach and the problem of stimulating interest, especially if the student is unable to see exactly what, in terms of future employment, a long term of years devoted to Chinese studies is going to yield him.

Mr. Gage believed that a considerable interest already exists
in the secondary schools, and that it could be further stimulated if the proper measures were taken. He advised lectures to boys in preparatory schools, on the opportunities for careers in the Far East. He thought that valuable results could be obtained only if the interest was stimulated in early youth.

Mr. Hume called attention to two important collections of books on China. The first is at McGill University (loaned by Mr. G. M. Gest) and includes, besides many historical works, an excellent collection of medical works in Chinese. The second is being built up at Duke University through the generosity of Mr. J. A. Thomas.

He made inquiry as to the advisability of having some expert on China, thoroughly familiar with the people, take a group of a dozen or more college students for a year of residence there. Such a plan is now being formulated and will soon be presented to several universities.

Mr. Close described his experience in taking groups of boys to the East; eight in 1927, forty-five in 1928, most of whom had, he said, acquired a considerable interest in Oriental matters.

Mr. Edgerton remarked that an increase in interest in Chinese studies would create a demand for sinologists on the faculties of our institutions, a demand which, it was indicated, could not at present be met. He felt that the most fundamental need was for thorough scholarly training of the young men who seek careers in this field. For this purpose, fellowships which would enable such young men to study abroad were necessary.

Voted, that the establishment of fellowships for the training of competent young scholars in sinological work is one of the most urgent needs of the present time.

Voted, that this Conference express its belief that Oriental languages should be accepted by American universities in satisfaction of an entrance requirement, in approved cases.

Archaeological lectures

Mr. Tanner called attention to the lecture bureau maintained by the Archaeological Institute of America, and to the extensive
system of lectures on archaeological subjects which it provides for the forty-seven branch societies of the Institute located throughout the United States. He believed that a good lecture or series of lectures on Chinese archaeology would be most acceptable to the members of these societies and offered the collaboration of the lecture bureau in the effort to place before the public the importance and the achievements of Chinese research.

Future conferences

Mr. Porter suggested that the coming meeting of the American Oriental Society in Cambridge in April, 1929, would offer opportunity for another conference on Chinese studies. Mr. Edgerton announced that the Oriental Society was planning to hold specialized sessions, and would be pleased to devote one of them to the Far East. He asked that the Conference or the continuation committee aid the authorities of the Oriental Society in the preparation of its program.

Voted, that the continuation committee be requested to arrange for a conference and session on Far Eastern topics, as part of or in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society at Cambridge, during April of 1929.

Mr. Leland suggested that it might be advisable to make some effort to secure the attendance at such a conference of persons living at distant points, who were normally prevented from attending such meetings by the expenses of travel. Mr. Porter proposed the application of some zoning scheme, such as contributing to the expenses of those who should come from a distance of more than a thousand miles, or from west of the Mississippi River.

It was the sense of the Conference that the continuation committee should endeavor to secure funds for the partial payment of traveling expenses to the Conference on Chinese Studies to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society.
Aids to research

A general discussion of certain immediate needs for the promotion of Chinese studies indicated that among desirable publications would be a revised edition of Playfair's *Cities and Towns of China*, brought to date and containing information relative to other geographical features; a complete bibliography and index of the works of Chavannes and Pelliot; a good dictionary of Chinese biography (the *Chung-Kuo jen ming ta tzü tien*, the only one at present worthy of consideration, gives no dates); indexes to Chinese works, particularly the *ts'ung shu* and the histories.

Mr. Swingle drew attention to the Library of Congress as a centre for carrying on these studies, noting particularly the collection of *ts'ung shu* (about five hundred of them) and the fifteen hundred local gazetteers. He felt that the best use of these collections could be made by the establishment of an Oriental Institute in Washington. He remarked, also, that other organizations besides the American Council of Learned Societies were interested in the promotion of Chinese studies, instancing particularly the Institute of Pacific Relations and the National Research Council, and wondered whether arrangements could not be made to hold joint meetings with them.

Preservation of antiquities

Mr. Porter brought up the question of the preservation of historical monuments and libraries in China, during the period of civil war. He thought it would be fitting for the Conference to express to the proper authorities in China its interest in and approval of their attempts to preserve these monuments of China's cultural heritage for China and the world. It was felt that there was serious danger of misunderstanding in making too formal a declaration on this matter, particularly since, as was pointed out by Mr. Ch'iu and Mr. Kiang, Chinese bodies like the National Association for the Advancement of Education had passed innumerable resolutions to this general effect.

Mr. Ch'iu appealed to Western Scholars to cooperate with Chinese authorities in preserving the monuments of China's cul-
tural heritage, and in discouraging all attempts to take them out of China.

Mr. Von Staël-Holstein mentioned the work of the Palace Committee, of which he is a member, in attempting to preserve from the weather a temple in the Forbidden City which is a pantheon of eight hundred eighteenth-century divinities, many of them previously unknown, and thought that the Conference might tactfully express its sympathy with the efforts of the Palace Committee.

Mr. Lauffer felt that the Chinese authorities should be encouraged to prohibit all traffic in antiques, all exportation of them, and all unauthorized excavations, but was fully aware of the dangers accompanying any such restriction. An American or perhaps international school of archaeology should be founded in China and have charge of all archaeological investigations. He presented outlined suggestions for the foundation of a Chinese Research Institute and a survey of the folklore and vital statistics of China.*

It was announced that, as a result of ballots collected earlier in the session, the following were recommended by the Conference to the American Council of Learned Societies for membership on the proposed Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies: Berthold Lauffer, Arthur W. Hummel, Lewis Hodous, Lucius C. Porter, K. S. Latourette, Carl W. Bishop, and L. C. Goodrich.

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 P.M.

Mortimer Graves, recorder.

* Annexes E and F.
[ANNEX A]

LIST OF PERSONS PRESENT AT THE
FIRST CONFERENCE ON THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE STUDIES

NEW YORK CITY, DECEMBER 1, 1928

CARL W. BISHOP, Associate Curator of Oriental Art, Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.
JOE N. BOURNE, Executive Offices, American Council of Learned Societies, Washington, D. C.
ALFRED KAIMING CH’IU, Curator of the Chinese Collection, Harvard University.
UPTON CLOSE (JOSEF WASHINGTON HALL), Professor of Chinese Civilization, University of Washington, Seattle, Wash.
REV. ANTHONY COTTA, Instructor in the Chinese Language, Seminary of the Catholic Foreign Mission Society of America, Maryknoll, N. Y.
GEORGE H. DANTON, Professor of German at Oberlin College, formerly at Tsing Hua University.
FRANKLIN EDGERTON, Professor of Sanskrit at Yale University and President of the American Oriental Society.
REV. COURTENAY HUGHES FENN, Professor of Chinese Religions in Princeton Theological Seminary.
HENRY COURTENAY FENN, Lecturer in Chinese at Columbia University.
BROWNELL GAGE, Formerly of Changsha, now headmaster of Suffield (Conn.) School.
LUTHER CARRINGTON GOODRICH, Lecturer in Chinese at Columbia University.
MORTIMER GRAVES, Assistant Secretary, American Council of Learned Societies, Washington, D. C.
EVARTS B. GREENE, Professor of History at Columbia University, Second Vice-President of the American Historical Association.
CLARENCE H. HAMILTON, Professor of Chinese Culture and Dean of the College of Missions in the Hartford (Conn.) Seminary Foundation.
LEWIS HODOUS, Professor of Chinese Philosophy and Religion in the Kennedy School of Missions of the Hartford (Conn.) Seminary Foundation.
EDWARD HICKS HUME, Director of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School and Hospital, formerly President of Yale-in-China.
ARTHUR W. HUMMEL, Chief of the Oriental Collection at the Library of Congress.
WALDEMAR JOCHELSON, American Museum of Natural History.
KIANG K'ANG-HU, Library of Congress.
KENNETH SCOTT LATOURETTE, Professor of Missions and Oriental
history at Yale University. At Yale-in-China, 1910-1912.
BERTHOLD LAUFER, Curator of the Anthropological Section of the
Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.
WALDO G. LELAND, Permanent Secretary, American Council of Learned
Societies, Washington, D. C.
HENRY W. LUCE, Professor of Chinese History and Religion at the
Hartford (Conn.) Seminary Foundation.
CARROLL B. MALONE, Assistant Professor of History in Oberlin College.
CLARENCE A. MANNING, Professor of Slavonic Languages in Colum-
bia University, and Secretary of the New York Society of the Ar-
chaeological Institute of America.
BENJAMIN MARCH, Curator of Asiatic Art in the Detroit Institute of
Arts. Formerly in Yenching School of Chinese Studies.
CHARLES J. OGDEN, Lecturer on Indo-Iranian Languages in Columbia
University, and Corresponding Secretary of the American Oriental
Society.
WILLYS R. PECK, Division of Far Eastern Affairs, Department of State.
PAUL EUGENE PELLIOT, Professor of the Languages, History, and
Archaeology of Central Asia in the Collège de France.
LUCIUS C. PORTER, Formerly Professor of Chinese at Columbia Uni-
versity, and Professor of Philosophy at Peking University. Now
Professor of Chinese Philosophy at Harvard University (Harvard-
Yenching Institute.)
ALAN REED PRIEST, Curator of Far Eastern Art in the Metropolitan
Museum of Art, New York City.
JOHN H. REISNER, Formerly Dean of the College of Agriculture and
Forestry in Nanking University.
JOHN K. SHRYOCK, Lecturer on the History of Religions, University of
Pennsylvania.
ALEXANDER VON STAEL-HOLSTEIN, Professor of Chinese Culture
in the Harvard-Yenching Institute.
E. H. STURTEVANT, Professor of Linguistics at Yale University, and
Director of the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of
America.
WALTER T. SWINGLE, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of
Agriculture. Principally responsible for the Chinese Collection in
the Library of Congress.
ROLLIN H. TANNER, Professor of Archaeology in New York University,
and General Secretary of the Archaeological Institute of America.
WANG CHI-CHEN, Assistant in Charge of the Chinese Collection in the
Library of Columbia University.
WALTER F. WILLCOX, Professor of Economics and Statistics in Cornell
University, and Vice-Chairman of the American Council of Learned
Societies.
[Annex B]

A PLAN FOR AN INDEX OF THE INDIVIDUAL TITLES CONTAINED IN CHINESE TS’UNG SHU*

By A. K. Ch’iu, Harvard University

I. Purpose

1. To furnish an index for at least 50 per cent. of Chinese publications. (Approximately 1000 kinds of ts’ung shu are listed in Huei Kei Shu Mu, 1st and 2d Series.)

2. As a step towards cooperative cataloging. With this index, it would be unnecessary for libraries to catalog by analytical cards the individual titles contained in ts’ung shu.

3. As a help in purchasing of books. With this index, it will be possible to prevent buying duplicates of titles that are contained in ts’ung shu which the library has.

II. Plan

1. A clear definition of ts’ung shu, so as to include all that are really ts’ung shu and to exclude those which are not.

2. A brief history of each ts’ung shu included as to its nature and scope, compiler, date, place, publisher or printer, edition, number of works, number of volumes, etc.

3. The body of the Index shall be an “alphabetical” or “dictionary” list of the titles of individual works, arranged according to the best system of Chinese lexicography (K’ang Hsi, Wong’s Four-Corner Numeral System, Rosenberg, etc.).

4. Under each title shall be given author of the work, number of chuan, and exact reference to the ts’ung shu in which it can be found.

III. Sources for compiling this Index.

1. Harvard Chinese Library has duplicate cards for about 30 of its 64 ts’ung shu.

2. Catalogs of ts’ung shu, such as
   (a) Huei Kei Shu Mu by Koo Hsiu
   (b) Ts’ung Shu Chu Yao by Yang Shu-ching and Li Tzeting. [Continuations by Lo Chin-yu and others,
   (c) Ts’ung Shu Shu Mu Huei Pien by Shen Kan-yi.

* Ts’ung shu are collections of reprints. It might be remarked that the Library of Congress has indexed the individual titles (some 20,000 in number) of its own collection of about 500 ts’ung shu.
A PLAN FOR A COMPREHENSIVE DIGEST OF PUBLISHED BOOK REVIEWS OF CHINESE WORKS

By A. K. Ch'iu, Harvard University

I. OBJECT

To collect together into one comprehensive work all the best critical and descriptive reviews, annotations, notices, notes, etc., from the Ssu Ku Chuan Shu Mu Lu, catalogs of public and private libraries, bibliographies, and study-notes that are found in the works of famous scholars.

II. PURPOSE

1. To serve as a permanent record of what Chinese scholars say about the most important Chinese books in the different departments of knowledge.
2. As a guide for the students of sinology.
3. For use as a guide in selection of books for public and private libraries.
4. As a help in library classification and cataloging.

III. PLAN

1. To comprise from 10,000 to 50,000 titles of existing works in the different fields of knowledge. (The Ssu Ku Chuan Shu contains about 3,457 works, while the Tseng Mu lists about 6,766 works.)
2. The selection of titles is to be done by a board of experts.
3. The entries shall be on a classified basis. The system of classification is to be discussed and decided.
4. Under each entry all bibliographical details and their sources shall be given.
5. Under each title, both favorable and unfavorable reviews are to be given in the language of their authors.
6. The work shall have an author and title index, arranged according to the best system of Chinese lexicography. (K'ang Hsi, Wong's Four-Corner Numeral System, Rosenberg, etc.)
## [Annex D]

### Surveys of Libraries in China and Japan That Have Been Published

By A. K. Ch’iu, Harvard University

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Where Published</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tai, T. C.</td>
<td>Present Library Conditions in China</td>
<td>1919</td>
<td>Public Library, Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sasooka, T.</td>
<td>Libraries in Japan</td>
<td>1920</td>
<td>A.L.A. Reports, Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tai, T. C.</td>
<td>Library Movement in China</td>
<td>1923</td>
<td>Commercial Press, Shanghai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seng, T. Y.</td>
<td>Survey of Libraries in China</td>
<td>1922</td>
<td>New Education, Nanjing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FOUNDATION OF A CHINESE RESEARCH INSTITUTE IN WASHINGTON

By Berthold Laufer

The desirability and necessity of having scientific research detached from teaching and administrative obligations has for a long time been recognized in the medical and biological sciences. The Carnegie Institution, the Rockefeller Foundations, and the experiment stations of the States in cooperation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture are the best-known examples of highly organized research institutions, not to speak of the numerous state and private laboratories throughout the country devoted to chemical, botanical, mineralogical, pathological, and other technical investigations. Several universities have seen fit to endow research professorships, and some of our leading museums have appointed research associates who have no other duties than devoting all of their time to the study of specific problems. In the line of Oriental studies there is in this country but one research organization in existence,—the Oriental Institute founded by Professor Breasted in 1919 in connection with the University of Chicago, and now so well developed and organized that it has grown into a staff of 54 workers. In his last report issued in August 1928, Professor Breasted defines the Institute as “a transformation of the Department of Oriental Languages into an investigative body—a research group to whose ranks have been added other specialized groups of investigators having no teaching duties and appointed solely to carry on a series of related research projects in the vast field of early human development upon which modern human life has been built up. Geographically, this field is the ancient Near East, where the Institute has dispatched six expeditions and is now still maintaining five.”

The ancient civilizations of the Near East are extinct, while China’s civilization and the Chinese nation are still alive, with an
immense literature and an unbroken record of a history covering a span of several millenniums.

The French have always taken the lead in all matters pertaining to sinology, and Chinese studies have been generously supported by the French Government for more than a century. The Ecole française d'Extreme-Orient, founded at Hanoi, Indo-China, in 1898, by Governor General Doumer at the instigation of the Institut de France, is the only Chinese research institute now in existence. The 27 volumes of the *Bulletin* and a solid series of special monographs issued by the School stand out as splendid monuments of French scholarship which have signally advanced our knowledge of China, Japan, Indo-China, and India in almost all lines of scientific endeavor as philology, historical geography, folk-lore, ethnology, epigraphy, archaeology, numismatics, and bibliography. While it seems hopeless that anything on such a stupendous scale could ever be accomplished in this country, there is no reason why, in the interest of American scholarship and the progress of sinology, a modest start should not be made which may augur well for the future and which may lay the foundation to a structure that coming generations will complete.

A vast amount of material bearing on China has been stored up during the last quarter of a century in several of our museums and libraries, but unfortunately it is utilized by only a few, and research has not kept pace in proportion with the quantity of material that confronts us and with the number of problems awaiting solution. This deplorable situation is not due to apathy or indifference on the part of our scholars, but has its primary cause in the lack of opportunities and facilities, as hardly one of us is free to put his heart and soul in his own favorite studies.

For the advancement of American scholarship in the domain of sinology it is herewith proposed and recommended that steps be taken to found a Chinese Research Institute as an independent organization in Washington, D. C., which in view of the vast treasures of Chinese and other oriental literatures accumulated in the Library of Congress appears to be the logical centre of its location. It would be premature at this moment to discuss in detail the organization of such an institution, which would largely
depend on the endowment that could be raised for this purpose. It seems advisable for the moment to start with a comparatively modest endowment and to endeavor to raise further contributions by degrees, as the work of the proposed Institute will advance and public interest in it will grow. As a beginning, provision should be made at least for two and, if possible, three incumbents, one of whom should be a scholar of Chinese or Japanese nationality. These men should devote all of their time exclusively to intense research and to the study of specific problems that fall within the scope of the science of East-Asiatic civilizations, without having any teaching or other encumbrances. An Institute of this character may also function as a sort of clearing house, suggest problems or research projects to outsiders, and assist those who desire advice or look for guidance in their own investigations.

The ultimate ideal goal would be to see this Chinese Research Institute gradually evolve into a general Oriental Research Institute embodying the whole of Asia to the exclusion of the ancient Near East, which is adequately taken care of by the Chicago Oriental Institute. It is needless to emphasize that Chinese research holds the key to the entire scientific situation in Asia and that the interrelations of the Chinese with the other nations of Asia and the mine of information existing in Chinese records on all Asiatic countries make sinology an exceedingly complex, many-sided, and fascinating science. No other philologist at present requires a knowledge of so many languages as a sinologist: as the case may be or as his inclinations may lead him, he must be familiar with Japanese, Manchu, Mongol, Turkish, Tibetan, Sanskrit, Prakrit, Persian and other Iranian languages, and even Arabic, not to speak of the newly discovered languages revealed by the manuscript remains of Turkistan. For this reason it is clear that it would be an ideal combination and make for excellent teamwork to have a representative of each of these fields coördinated with the labors of the Chinese Research Institute.

The scheme would be approximately as follows:

3 men for Chinese
1 for Japanese
1 for Korean
There are numerous problems of vital interest that might advantageously and successfully be pursued by such a body of specialists through well-organized and intelligently directed teamwork, and in addition each number of the Institute individually would be able to make novel contributions to science that will serve as a stimulus and an inspiration to his fellow-workers.
SUGGESTIONS FOR A SURVEY OF FOLK-LORE AND VITAL STATISTICS OF CHINA

By Berthold Laufer

In view of the present disintegration of culture and the collapse of ancient traditions in China it is imperative to rescue from oblivion at the earliest opportunity all traditions and lore still lingering in the minds of the people. This task is more urgent than archaeological work, since the treasures slumbering in the soil will continue to exist for a long time, while the memories of men are fast fading and the older generation is rapidly dying out. In this respect it is five minutes to twelve in China, no less than in most other culture groups of the globe. True it is that several collections of Chinese folk-lore have been made and published, but aside from their limited scope these contributions are sadly deficient and almost useless for scientific purposes. The stories are not accurately recorded, but are merely digested or retold in a pleasant literary style to be gathered under the smiling covers of a book. What we understand by folk-lore are not merely collections of fairy-tales, stories, anecdotes, jests, nursery-rhymes, songs, proverbs, riddles, etc., although, of course, the importance of these subjects is not denied or under-rated; but what we aim at is to collect objective data and materials to enable us to comprehend the workings and functions of the popular and social mind in all its ramifications and manifestations.

Sinologues have naturally paid more attention to the official and ruling class, while a study of the middle and lower strata, the rural and laboring section of the population, the simple hard-working folks, has been unduly neglected. At this point the folk-lore investigation proposes to set in. The farmers are the backbone of Chinese society and belong to the best people of the world who command our respect and have our unstinted sympathies. We are keenly interested in all of the farmer's doings,
thoughts, and ceremonies throughout the year and need records as exact and detailed as possible of all farming operations during the calendar year from the beginning of the spring till the end of the winter. In view of the fact that there is a great deal of local variation in this as well as in most other activities of life, it is necessary to reach farmers by the hundreds in all parts of the country. The problem of variability is uppermost in the minds of ethnologists and folklorists; and only through careful study and mapping of regional and local differentiations of all phenomena may we hope to reach accurate conclusions and to stem the flood of preposterous generalizations from which China, more than any other nation, has suffered in our literature.

The cycle of life of the average individual, especially of the folks in the humbler walks of life, is an important subject of which we know but little as far as China is concerned. This inquiry offers two aspects. In the first place, it is calculated to embrace the whole chain of customs connected with the individual from the day of conception and pregnancy through birth and childhood up to the age of education, puberty, betrothal, marriage, family-life, and death. Second, it is of primary importance to have at our disposition life documents of as many individuals as possible representative of all classes of society, even including beggars, vagabonds, bandits, and pirates, who are very interesting and picturesque characters worthy of the attention of the scientist. The best method of attaining this end is through the medium of autobiographies, i.e. to request people to tell the story of their own lives and to record them in their own words as exactly as possible or to engage a Chinese teacher for the purpose of recording the story. There is no doubt that missionaries and Chinese students in China would prove of invaluable assistance in the pursuance of this task. In this country the method of autobiography has been successfully applied by our ethnologists to the American Indian. The book of the Lapp Johan Turi recorded by Mme. Emilie Demant (Frankfort, 1912) is a classical example and one of the finest documents we have for the study of the mind of primitive man. In Chinese literature there is a remarkable document in the memoirs of Chen Ting in which he recites the adventure of
his marriage with a woman of an aboriginal tribe of Yün-nan and which has been translated into French by Tang Tsai-fu (T'oungpao, 1905).

Marriage and funeral customs also exhibit a wide latitude of variation in diverse parts of China and require minute study, likewise observances at holidays and festivals. W. Grube's "Zur Pekinger Volkskunde" is a model investigation. If a similar collection of materials were available for each province of China, an excellent foundation for serious research would be provided.

The individual scholar who visits China temporarily can accomplish very little in this field which is almost as vast as an ocean; and solely concerted action and sympathetic cooperation of a host of resident workers can bring about results worth while. While in China I made a collection of some 3,000 riddles (but desire to have at least as many more), also numerous folk-songs with phonographic records and notes on customs, usages, games, and pastimes. I also had occasion to train several Chinese students in our methods of collecting folk-lore.

Considering the whole situation, it is herewith proposed and recommended that a systematic survey of Chinese folk-lore be inaugurated by enlisting the active collaboration of all intelligent persons living in China and interested in the subject, particularly Chinese students, missionaries, and teachers. For this purpose I have in mind to prepare a little guidebook that will give the necessary directions and instructions as to what and how to collect, how to do it intelligently and efficiently, and that will call attention to the most essential subjects to be covered. This booklet may be printed in a plain and unpretentious style, perhaps in an edition of 2,000 copies. The only expense involved in this undertaking would be the printing of the guide, and the addressing and mailing of copies. It is estimated that a sum of $1,000 would be adequate to cover these expenses. Use of Chinese type is required.

In this connection it seems desirable to me to obtain also a certain amount of information bearing upon vital statistics, a subject of fundamental significance and great general interest which is almost a blank as far as China is concerned. Primarily
it should be the business of the Chinese Government to establish a Bureau or Department of Vital Statistics; and the bigger issues such as growth of population, birth and mortality rates, emigration, effects of epidemics and social diseases, and other problems could be studied only on the basis of comprehensive statistical data furnished by governmental agencies. However, there are minor problems in which the associates in the folklorist inquiry could without difficulty cooperate and furnish a great deal of useful information that would be welcome to science. Such data, for instance, are: number of children in a family, proportion of male and female children, twins and multiple births, mortality, age at time of marriage, old age and longevity, average duration of a generation, hereditary traits, hereditary genius, etc. The Chinese will yield an exceedingly fruitful material for all problems of heredity and eugenics. Genealogical research also might be carried on in China with very promising results. Data like these can be gathered by means of a questionnaire listing the relevant questions and leaving space for filling in the answers. I have prepared such blanks for the use of our investigators among primitive tribes, and this form might easily be modified and adapted to the specific requirements in China.

On reading the foregoing statement, Dr. Walter T. Swingle offered the following suggestion:

"I would advise a special research unit (of, say, 2 Western scholars and three Chinese associates) to be organized to study Folk-lore and Vital Statistics in China, to work out there the technique of such research and to enlist the help of both Chinese and Western people in this work."
COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE STUDIES

BERTHOLD LAUFER, Chairman, Curator of the Department of Anthropology of Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.

CARL W. BISHOP, Associate Curator of Oriental Art, Freer Gallery of Art, Washington, D. C.

ESSON M. GALE, Lecturer in and Chairman of the Department of Oriental Languages, University of California.

L. C. GOODRICH, Lecturer in Chinese at Columbia University, New York City.

LEWIS HODOUS, Professor of Chinese Philosophy and Religion, Kennedy School of Missions, Hartford (Conn.) Seminary Foundation.

ARTHUR W. HUMMEL, Chief of the Oriental Collection, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

K. S. LATOURETTE, Professor of Missions and Oriental History at Yale University. (At Yale-in-China, 1910-1912.)

LUCIUS C. PORTER, Formerly Professor of Chinese at Columbia University and Professor of Philosophy at Peking University; now Professor of Chinese Philosophy at Harvard-Yenching Institute, Cambridge, Mass.


WALTER F. WILLCOX, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y. Member of American Council of Learned Societies.

MORTIMER GRAVES, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, American Council of Learned Societies, 907 Fifteenth Street, Washington, D. C.
APPENDIX NO. 3

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE PROMOTION OF CHINESE STUDIES

February 16–17, 1929

The first meetings of the Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies were held in the Executive Offices of the American Council of Learned Societies on Saturday and Sunday, February 16 and 17, 1929. The meetings comprised three sessions, of which the first was called to order on Saturday at 10 A.M. There were present, Mr. Laufer, chairman, Mr. Bishop, Mr. Goodrich, Mr. Hodos, Mr. Hummel, Mr. Latourette, Mr. Porter, Mr. Swingle, Mr. Willcox, and Mr. Graves, secretary, as well as, by invitation of the Committee, Mr. Leland, permanent secretary of the American Council of Learned Societies, Dr. P. W. Kuo, director of the China Institute in America, Mr. E. C. Carter, secretary of the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations, and, during part of the sessions, Mr. C. Walter Young, of George Washington University.

The Proceedings of the First Conference on the Promotion of Chinese Studies, held in New York on December 1, 1928, whose activities this present Committee was created to continue, were approved.

The following memorandum was adopted:

To the Executive Committee of the American Council of Learned Societies:

The persons named below constitute themselves, at your invitation, your Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies. This Committee, at its first meeting, February 16, 1929, desires to express its sense of the honor thus conferred upon it. It construes its function to be to advise the American Council of Learned Societies, through the Executive Committee or the Advisory Board of that body, in matters pertaining to Chinese Studies in the United States, and to assist in the promotion of those studies. It will pass judgment on specific projects or programs submitted to
it by the American Council of Learned Societies, consider and make recommendations concerning proposals emanating from any other source whatsoever, and advise upon or supervise the execution of such enterprises as the Council may undertake in the field.

To these ends it adopts the following memorandum of organization and procedure:

I. It will be pleased to suggest to the American Council of Learned Societies from time to time, the names of such other persons as might be advantageously added to its membership.

II. It holds itself subject to call by the American Council of Learned Societies, expressed through its chairman, at times and places determined by him, unless previously determined at a meeting of the Committee. Two-thirds of its members shall be considered a quorum.

III. It will make its decisions in accordance with the votes of a majority of the members present, if taken at a regular meeting, or of a majority of the whole number of the Committee, if taken by correspondence.

IV. From time to time it may appoint to assist it sub-committees, whose members need not be members of the Committee.

V. For the period of one year or until other arrangements shall be made it accepts the offer of the American Council of Learned Societies to provide for the maintenance of a secretariat for the Committee and for the expenses involved in its meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Berthold Laufer, chairman
Carl W. Bishop
L. C. Goodrich
Lewis Hodous
Arthur W. Hummel
K. S. Latourette
Lucius C. Porter
Walter T. Swingle
Walter F. Willcox
Mortimer Graves, secretary

Mr. Swingle pointed out that the importance of the institutions on the Pacific Coast now engaged in the promotion of Chinese Studies and the proximity of that area to China made the creation of a truly American committee impossible without the inclusion of at least one representative from it. The justice of Mr. Swingle’s contention was obvious, and after a canvass had disclosed several names it was
Voted, to recommend to the Executive Committee that Mr. Esson M. Gale, chairman of the Division of Oriental Languages of the University of California, Berkeley, Calif., be added to the Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies.

It was the sense of the Committee that there would be serious danger in much increasing its size and that the question of associate or corresponding members should be deferred until it became obvious that such members would have a function to perform.

The Chairman emphasized the importance of drafting a general statement explaining the aims of the Committee. He felt that much would be gained by the adoption of a few succinct sentences almost in the nature of slogans, whose value in dignified publicity he instanced by several cases.

Voted, that the Chairman, Mr. Latourette, and Mr. Porter constitute a sub-committee on publicity to draft a statement of the aims and objects of the Committee for presentation to it at its next meeting.

Voted, that the plan for a Manual of Chinese Studies, proposed at the First Conference and referred by it to this Committee, be held over for further consideration.

The proposal for a world-wide Survey of the Organization of and Facilities for Chinese Research, recommended as desirable by the First Conference was discussed. Mr. Carter described the work undertaken by the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations in compiling a list of the 289 courses in Far Eastern Studies given in 110 American colleges and universities. This list with much accompanying material, including an analysis of the information contained in it and an introduction by Professor Harley F. McNair, of the University of Chicago, will be published about April 1.

The discussion was interrupted at 12:15 for luncheon at the Library of Congress at which were present the Hon. Nelson T. Johnson, Assistant Secretary of State, Mr. Stanley K. Hornbeck, Chief of the Division of Far Eastern Affairs, Mr. F. W. Ashley, Dr. Kiang Kang-Hu, and Dr. J. Franklin Jameson of the Library of Congress.
After a visit to the Oriental Collection of the Library of Congress, the Committee re-convened at 3 o’clock in the Executive Offices, where it divided itself into two sections each to discuss in detail a part of the program presented to it. At 4:15 it met again as a whole to act upon the recommendations of its two sections.

Voted, that the Committee is of the opinion that there should be undertaken a survey of the present resources and organization of Chinese Studies throughout the world, on the basis of the “Proposed Outline” submitted to the Committee, and requests the chairman to appoint a sub-committee to draft a plan for the execution of the survey, including estimates of its probable cost, and of its requirements in personnel, time, headquarters, and centers for gathering information, to inquire into the possibilities of cooperation from other organizations, institutions, and agencies, and into possible sources of support, to make recommendations as to the choice of a director, and to report to the Committee at its next meeting.

It was estimated roughly that two years’ time and an expenditure of $30,000 would be needed to complete the work. It was also pointed out that the work fell naturally into three divisions, one respecting the United States, one Europe, and one Asia, in the order of difficulty of securing the requisite information. The Survey might accordingly appear in three parts covering the areas named in that order.

The Chairman appointed Mr. Swingle, Mr. Hummel, and Mr. Bishop to this sub-committee.

Voted, that a directory of sinologists throughout the world be included as part of the Survey.

It was the sense of the Committee that a Second Conference on the Promotion of Chinese Studies, to be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society, is desirable and Mr. Porter, for the sub-committee on collaboration with the American Oriental Society in arranging for the presentation of papers on the Eastern subjects, reported that he had secured definite promises of six papers and tentative promises of others. The Committee felt that it would be desirable to present most of
the papers at the general sessions of the American Oriental Society and to convert the proposed Far Eastern session, of Wednesday April 3, into a "round-table" discussion, initiated by one or two short papers. The Secretary was directed to draw up a suitable program for discussion in accordance with the sense of the Committee.

_Voted_, that the Committee hold a meeting during the sessions of the American Oriental Society in Cambridge, April 2–4, 1929.

It was the sense of the Committee that the most suitable time for such a meeting would be Wednesday evening, April 3.

_Voted_, that in consideration of the successful activities of the Institute of Pacific Relations in stimulating interest in Chinese Studies, the Committee in general confine its efforts in that direction to collaboration with the Institute on the latter's initiative.

_Voted_, that the American Council of Learned Societies be requested to express to the American Council of the Institute of Pacific Relations and to the China Institute in America the Committee's most cordial appreciation of the collaboration of Mr. E. C. Carter and Dr. P. W. Kuo in the meetings of the Committee.

_Voted_, to instruct the Secretary to compile a comparative table of the more common systems of the romanization of Chinese characters.

_Voted_, that the Committee adopts for the present for its official correspondence and publication the Wade system of the romanization of Chinese characters.

_Voted_, that the Secretary be directed to secure from the leading colleges and universities of the United States a statement of their attitude towards the use of the Chinese language by Occidental students in satisfaction of an entrance requirement.

_Voted_, that the Secretary compile such information as is available regarding syllabi of courses in Chinese language, literature, and history offered at universities and colleges for presentation at the next meeting of the Committee.

Mr. Bishop pointed out the difficulty encountered by Americans educated in China in having their credentials accepted by American colleges and universities, particularly where the matter consisted of offering Chinese in place of another foreign language in satisfaction of an entrance requirement. Mr. Porter added
that, as a result, many American and British schools were reluctant to teach the Chinese language. The discussion of this matter was exceedingly enlightening and seemed to suggest that an inquiry was necessary to determine at what point the problem could be best attacked.

The Committee adjourned at 6:15 for dinner, after voting to resume its session at 9:30 A.M. Sunday.

The Committee re-convened for its third session on Sunday, February 17, at 9:30 A.M.

Voted, that the Committee requests the Chairman to appoint a sub-committee to direct an enquiry into the present state of education in America and in American and British schools in China with reference to training for teaching and research in Chinese Studies and particularly with respect to questions of entrance requirements, scholarships, and fellowships, and to report to the Committee with recommendations when the enquiry shall be concluded.

The Chairman appointed Mr. Goodrich, chairman, Mr. Porter, and Mr. Hodous to the sub-committee.

It was the sense of the Committee that the inclusion of Far Eastern manuscripts in a general catalogue of foreign manuscripts in American depositories such as is proposed by the American Council of Learned Societies would greatly increase both the time and the effort required for the compilation of such a catalogue, and that it is desirable that Far Eastern manuscripts be catalogued by themselves.

Voted, to recommend to the American Council of Learned Societies that a short notice on the existence, quantity, and character of Chinese manuscripts in the United States be appended to the proposed Catalogue of Foreign Manuscripts in American depositories.

Mr. Lauffer presented a proposal, which had been mimeographed and distributed, for the collection of information respecting folk-lore and vital statistics in China. He suggested the compilation of a brief manual and a questionnaire indicating the information desirable and the proper method of collecting it
which should be distributed to missionaries, teachers, and others in China, and volunteered to undertake the preparation of such a manual if the Committee thought the procedure advisable and felt that its publication could be arranged. Discussion brought out the opinion that the vital statistics thus collected would probably be of little value. Mr. HUMMEL pointed out that such a survey of folk-lore could be made without arousing any such suspicion on the part of the Chinese as they usually attach to answering questionnaires. Mr. PORTER added that it would bring home to a host of persons working in China, but unable to read Chinese documentary material, the fact that they could make valuable contributions to our knowledge of Chinese life from their own stores of information.

_Voted_, that the Committee believes a survey of the folk-lore and social organization of China such as proposed by Dr. Laufer to be of the utmost importance, accepts with pleasure Dr. Laufer's offer to prepare a suitable manual and questionnaire for the compilation of the necessary material, and appoints Mr. HUMMEL, Mr. BISHOP and Mr. HODOUS a sub-committee to assist Dr. Laufer in its preparation.

The Library of Congress and the Field Museum of Natural History were suggested as suitable depositories for the material thus collected.

The Committee expressed its approval, in principle, of a further proposal of Mr. LAUFER for the establishment of an Institute of Oriental Research.

_Voted_, that the Committee is of the opinion that the establishment of a series for the publication of monographs and short studies in Chinese subjects would be of great value in promoting interest in that field and in making new contributions to learning.

_Voted_ that a sub-committee be appointed to investigate and report upon the compilation of an annual _Bulletin_ or report on the progress of Chinese Studies in the United States.

MR. LAUFER, MR. LATOURETTE, and MR. BISHOP were asked to serve on this sub-committee.

The Committee realized the importance of work on bibliographies and indexes and discussed at some length these matters,
together with others, such as the securing of copies of manuscripts in Chinese depositories and the establishment of an international library of translations of Chinese works, without, however, recommending any action at the present time.

_Voted_, that the Committee on the Promotion of Chinese Studies in concluding its first session desires to put on record its deep appreciation of the interest and effort of the American Council of Learned Societies in initiating this new attempt to secure in America more adequate recognition of the significance of Chinese culture for modern civilization;

The Committee further expresses its indebtedness to Mr. Waldo G. Leland, Mr. Mortimer Graves, and their staff for the careful work given to the preparation of the meetings already held and the assurance of continued help in the future.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1 P.M.

_Berthold Laufer, chairman._

_Mortimer Graves, secretary._