

NEWS OF THE PROFESSION

Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica

Contributed by Kuo Ting-ye, Director

Organized in 1955, the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, has now resumed the publication of documents from the foreign affairs archives of the late Ch'ing period. It is thus continuing the work begun during the 1930's by the publication of the *I-wu shih-mo* and other collections of documents stored in the Palace Museum in Peiping. The Institute of Modern History has also received custody of the diplomatic archives of the early Republican period and is beginning to publish them. The first products of this new combined program have been the *Documents on Maritime Defense (Hai-fang tang)*, covering many aspects of modernization in the period 1860-1911, published in 1958 in nine volumes with over 7000 pages; and *Historical Materials on Sino-Russian Relations: Vol. I. Outer Mongolia, 1907-1919* (1959, 746 pp.), *Volumes II and III, the Chinese Eastern Railway, 1917-1919* (1960, 1004 pp.). Some twenty-five further collections on late Ch'ing foreign relations or modernization are being prepared for publication, from the archives of the Tsungli Yamen and Foreign Office, together with materials on some thirty major topics in the foreign relations of the Chinese Republic up to 1927. The printing of scores and indeed hundreds of volumes of historical source materials is thus in prospect, with all that this means for the fuller understanding of China's relations with the outside world in recent times.

Organization of the Institute and its Materials

The Institute staff includes a total of twenty-four—research fellows, associates, and assistants—most of whom are full time, and eight corresponding fellows abroad. The Institute's new building is situated among the Academia Sinica buildings at Nan-kang in the suburbs of Taipei, easily accessible from the city. It houses a grow-

ing research library of 20,000 Chinese volumes together with 2500 volumes in Western languages, 2400 in Japanese, 1200 bound volumes of newspapers, and about 100 current periodicals. A staff dormitory, with space for visiting researchers, is just being completed.

In 1955, the Institute received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs 224 cases of documents, of which all but 35, dealing with the period after 1927, are open for research. The late Ch'ing documents of the Tsungli Yamen and Wai-wu pu totaled 6,000 bound volumes and 300 packages; those of the Peking Government in the Republican period totaled also 6,000 bound volumes and 1,100 packages. In addition were 258 original treaties, 317 maps of national boundaries and 170 of leaseholds. The small Institute staff was thus faced with the considerable problem of getting these materials under control.

The late Ch'ing documents were in three forms: originals bound in volumes by subject, originals in packages grouped roughly by subjects, and clean copies (*Ch'ing-tang*) made from the originals and bound by subjects chronologically for deposit in the archives. (It is these last that are being published, by photo-offset, after collation with the originals.) The documents of the Republican period were in the same three forms but proportionately fewer of them had been reproduced in clean copies for the archives.

The Institute's first tasks involved a great deal of listing and indexing. (1) A union catalogue was made, for all the library collections in Taipei dealing with Chinese modern history, totalling 7000 Chinese works, 500 in Western languages and 200 periodicals of all kinds. (2) A comprehensive calendar in 1,660 pages was made, listing and summarizing briefly each document and giving tables of contents for the

volumes of clean copies (*Ch'ing-tang*) of the late Ch'ing period. (3) A card index with some 30,000 entries has been compiled for the unbound diplomatic documents of the Republican period, but this laborious task is still incomplete. (4) A similar task, sponsored by Dr. David N. Rowe, has been the making of an index and classified table of contents, on 21,000 and 9,000 cards respectively, for the 260 published volumes of the *I-wu shih-mo* series, in order to create this long-needed tool for historical research. (5) The original maps and treaties, being unique and perishable, were photographed on 700 films, and tables of contents and explanatory notes added to them.

Progress in Publication to Date

The expensive and time-consuming task of publication has received generous and invaluable support from the Asia Foundation and the Far Eastern and Russian Institute, University of Washington, Seattle. For each collection it involves paginating, punctuating, and proof-reading, adding both Chinese and Western dates, and composing brief summaries of each document, and also compiling chronologies to be appended. In addition to the *Documents on Maritime Defense, 1860-1911* published in 1958, the following are in process:

Documents on Modern Mining, 1865-1911, now in press, to appear in 7 volumes totaling about 5,000 pages.

Documents on Sino-French Negotiations over Indo-China, 1875-1911, scheduled for printing in August 1960, to appear in 6 volumes of about 4,000 pages. (The above have all been subsidized by the Asia Foundation.)

Documents on Sino-Russian Relations, 1917-1919. In addition to the volumes on *Outer Mongolia* and the *Chinese Eastern Railway*, already published, the following are in process: *The Russian Revolution and Sino-Russian Relations in General*, *The Northeastern Frontier and its Defense*, *The Frontier Defense of Sinkiang*, and *The Siberian Expedition*. The entire set will make 9 volumes of 5,000 pages, with the addition of a chronology, who's who and glossary.

Documents on Sino-American Relations, 1784-1874, to appear in one or two volumes. (Like the volumes immediately preceding,

this collection has received support from the Far Eastern and Russian Institute, University of Washington.)

Documents on Missionary Cases, 1860-1911. This is one of the most complete collections and is being prepared for publication in the same manner as the *Documents on Maritime Defense*.

Modern Chinese Conceptions of the West, 1821-1927. This is a selection of writings, made by the Institute staff, showing the knowledge and attitudes of Chinese individuals with reference to the Western nations, their peoples and cultures. Eight volumes are planned, in a chronological series. The first volume, now under way, deals with the period 1821-1861.

In addition to these works in progress, the Institute has been compiling since 1955 a clipping file from the current Taiwan and Hong Kong press, which now runs to more than 300 volumes. The Institute has also inaugurated an oral history project in order to record on tape in planned interviews the narratives of individuals active in the history of the Republican period. Some seventy discussion-seminar meetings have been held by the Institute staff, to which research workers have submitted their work for criticism. Some twenty theses or research monographs have been completed.

Future Program of the Institute of Modern History

Work in the future will be directed along three major lines. (1) Continued compilation of research aids and reference works. Among these projects are (a) a volume providing tables of contents and indices for important Chinese historical works concerning the modern period, (b) an index of articles in major historical journals and periodicals, (c) completion of the cataloguing of diplomatic documents of the Republican period, and (d) compilation of annual chronicles of important events in the history of the Chinese Communist Party. (2) Continued publication of collections of documents. In addition to series mentioned above as already in process of publication, it is hoped in the near future to inaugurate work on collections of *Documents on Korean Affairs (1864-1910)*,

and *Documents on the First World War (1914-1918)*. Financing of continued publication is a persistent problem. (3) Monographic studies. It is hoped that henceforth the staff of the Insti-

tute, which has been heavily engaged in compilation work, may devote half its time to monographic research on the many problems of modern history awaiting attention.

The Association for Asian Studies: Summary of the Year 1959-1960

I. Membership

The year 1959 marked a turning point in the history of the growth of the Association. Under the chairmanship and stimulus of Ward Morehouse, and the active support of a large membership committee located regionally, an active campaign was organized. As a result, the total membership rose dramatically to the highest in the Association's history. As of March 1, the number was 1,532, in contrast to a membership of 1,124 on March 1, 1959.

The total of 1,532 included the following classification of members: 5 honorary, 11 life,

57 supporting, 1,061 regular, 364 student (a new category), 34 associate. Of the present membership, 1,343 reside in the United States and 155 are foreign members. Membership increased in all geographical areas of the United States, and particularly noteworthy is the sharp rise registered in such states as Vermont, North Carolina, and Arizona where new Asian studies programs were begun. Largest representation was from the Middle Atlantic states (354) and the Pacific states (281). The following figures reflect the field, status, and area of primary interest of the membership (excluding associate members):

Professional Field

History	368
Political Science and International Relations	270
Lang., Lit., and Linguistics	106
Anthropology	105
Far Eastern Studies	28
Economics	82
Fine Arts	35
Geography	48
Library Work	17
Philosophy and Religion	47
Education	22
Law	13
Psychology	6
Sociology	46
Medicine	1
Indology	2
Natural Sciences	3
Journalism	3
Unknown	296
Total	1,498

Professional Status

Faculty	644
Student	364
Government	119
Others	185
Unknown	186
Total	1,498

Area of Primary Interest

General Far East	124
China	374
Japan	233
Southeast Asia	199
South Asia	206
Central Asia	9
Korea	18
Russian Asia	8
East Asia	25
Northeast Asia	59
Middle East	6
Unknown	237
Total	1,498