

Obituaries

DERK BODDE

(March 9, 1909–November 3, 2003)

Derk Bodde's first acquaintance with China began when as a young boy he lived in Shanghai, where his father taught physics for several years. He majored in English at Harvard University, however, and his *Shakespeare and the Ireland Forgeries* was published as the second in a series of honors theses by the Harvard University Press in 1930. At that time, there were no jobs to be had, so when he learned of fellowships available in Chinese studies, he went to what was then known as Peiping to study Chinese civilization. There he joined Herrlee Creel, John Fairbank, George Kennedy, and others who later became the founders of Chinese scholarship in the United States. In Peiping he became particularly interested in Chinese philosophy and translated the first volume of Fung Yu-lan's *History of Chinese Philosophy*. He also met Galia Speshneff, whom he married in 1935.

With the onset of the Japanese war, he went first to the Netherlands, where he received his PhD under J. J. L. Duyvendak, and then came to the United States to teach at the University of Pennsylvania. He remained there for the rest of his life, except for government work during World War II. After the war, he became the first Fulbright scholar to China, where he finished the translation of the second volume of Fung's *History of Chinese Philosophy* and, as a witness to the civil war that brought the communists to power, wrote *Peking Diary: A Year of Revolution*. This was perhaps his best-known work for the general public. I even remember seeing a Japanese translation of it some years later in Tokyo.

Derk's publications covered a wide range. Beginning with his *China's First Unifier: A Study of the Ch'in Dynasty As Seen in the Life of Li Ssu . . . (280?–208 BC)* in 1938, he went on to write on such diverse subjects as popular belief (*Festivals in Classical China: New Year and Other Annual Observances during the Han Dynasty, 206 BC–AD 220*), science (*Chinese Thought, Society, and Science: The Intellectual and Social Background of Science and Technology in Pre-modern China*), and law (*Law in Imperial China: Exemplified by 190 Ch'ing Dynasty Cases; Translated from the Hsing-an hui-lan, with Historical, Social, and Juridical Commentaries*), together with his friend Clarence Morris. He even ventured into literature when, with the collaboration of his wife, he wrote *Tolstoy and China*, which the *New York Times* reviewer Ernest J. Simmons said was "solid and important." He also published a great number of articles, and a selection of them was reissued as *Essays on Chinese Civilization: Derk Bodde*, which was edited with an introduction by Charles Le Blanc and Dorothy Borei.

He was president of the American Oriental Society and received recognition as well from many other quarters. Perhaps the most important of these was the first Distinguished Scholarship Award of the Association for Asian Studies, conferred on him in 1985. In 1987 his students and colleagues presented him with *Studies in Honour of Derk Bodde*, edited by Susan Blader and Le Blanc.

As a teacher, he was rigorous in the training of students and insisted on the highest standards. I remember being required to spend five years reading classical

Chinese texts and commentaries before he allowed me to take my PhD examinations. After receiving my degree, while permitting a more friendly relationship to develop (he gave my wife a beautiful Chinese bowl upon the occasion of our marriage), he kept after me to continue my work on Chinese legal history and did not hesitate to voice his displeasure if I showed an interest in areas that he felt were of little importance. His political views were those of a convinced liberal. He was vehemently opposed to McCarthyism and the U.S. nonrecognition policy toward China in the 1950s and 1960s. Later, he took a stand against the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the University of Pennsylvania, he spent two years at Cambridge University working with Joseph Needham and upon his return to the United States moved to a retirement home in Philadelphia with his wife. Although suffering from leukemia, he kept this a secret from everyone and died peacefully in his sleep during the night of November 3, 2003. He was preceded in death by his wife, Galia, and their son, Theodore. A fine scholar and teacher, he will be long remembered by his many students and friends.

WALLACE JOHNSON
University of Kansas

FRANKLIN R. BUCHANAN
(October 18, 1914–October 11, 2003)

Franklin Buchanan, the Asianist for whom the Association for Asian Studies' Franklin R. Buchanan Prize is named, died Saturday, October 11, 2003. He is one of the three pioneers (along with Jackson Bailey and Elgin Heinz) who created the movement to improve teaching about Asia in the nation's schools. Among his many other activities, he founded the first Asian studies periodical specifically designed for elementary and secondary teachers. He taught for many years at Ohio State University, retiring in 1977.

Professor Buchanan was born on October 18, 1914, in Pleasantville, Ohio. Following service in the U.S. Army during World War II, he received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from Ohio State University. He began his teaching career at Urbana High School and then moved to Columbus to teach social studies at Ohio State's University School. While there, he received two Fulbright grants, spending a year in England and a year in Japan.

As a professor in the School of Education at Ohio State University, Buchanan established the Service Center for Teachers of Asian Studies and in 1965 founded and edited *Focus on Asian Studies*, a resource journal designed to facilitate Asian studies in elementary and secondary schools. The current Association for Asian Studies publication, *Education About Asia*, is the contemporary incarnation of Buchanan's earlier superb efforts. In 1973, as U.S. relations with China were beginning to thaw, Buchanan was the co-leader of one of the earliest groups of U.S. educators to visit China. He also was the director of the Honors Program at Ohio State University from 1969 to 1972.

The Association for Asian Studies established the Franklin R. Buchanan Prize in 1995 in honor of Buchanan, and the first award was presented in 1996. The Franklin R. Buchanan Prize is awarded annually to educators who develop curriculum materials dealing exclusively with one or more of the countries and cultures represented by the Association for Asian Studies.