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Meetings and Conferences

Warren M. Tsuneishi
Edwin G. Beal
Frances Wang
Yongxiang Lai
Tao-tai Hsia

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MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

I. The Library of Congress and Asian Collections

On March 21—the first day of the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies—over 100 librarians representing Asian collections in American research libraries attended a half-day briefing by Library of Congress staff members on recent developments and activities of interest to Asian librarians. The informational session, organized and chaired by Richard C. Howard, Acting Chief, Asian Division, was held in the Woodrow Wilson Room of the Library of Congress.

Joseph H. Howard, Assistant Librarian for Processing Services, led off the presentation with a warning that fiscal retrenchments adversely affecting research libraries in recent years were also being encountered by the Library of Congress, resulting in reduced funding for book budgets, staffing, and service. All libraries will see some evidence of the resulting cuts, he said. On the other hand, the necessity to economize would provide opportunities to determine priorities in such a fashion as to minimize damage to services provided to the library community.

Acquisitions from Asia. Frank M. McGowan, Director for Acquisitions and Overseas Operations, Processing Services, provided an overview of LC's acquisitions programs covering East, Southeast, and South Asia, referring the audience to the February 1980 issue of LC Acquisition Trends for details. He reported that the Chinese/Korean Searching Project under the National Program for Acquisitions and Cataloging was now fully staffed, and that 12 outside libraries were reporting their orders, thus enriching LC's own procurement of Chinese and Korean language publications. Noting that while the Library of Congress had entered into an exchange agreement with the National Library of Beijing in late 1979 to provide imprints listed in the Quan-guo xinshumu (Chinese national bibliography), no publications had yet been received. Meanwhile, the Library's blanket order arrangement with its Hong Kong dealer would continue, with the receipt of potential duplicates being closely monitored. He indicated further that receipts from Taiwan and Korea had increased significantly, but that Japanese accessions had dropped, though not to the detriment of the Library's collections, according to an evaluation by the Asian Division. He further announced that Andrew Y. Kuroda had agreed to stay an additional year through the summer of 1981 as field director of the LC Shared Cataloging Center in Tokyo.

Turning to Southeast Asian acquisitions, McGowan stated that the microfiching of Indonesian publications had increased in fiscal 1979 to some 1,775 volumes on 2,946 fiches, and that authorization had been obtained recently to include Malaysian federal and state documents in the program. Moreover, he indicated that the possibility of expanding the program further to include Southeast Asian, South Asian, and even East African documents was being explored.
With regard to South Asia, McGowan announced a special meeting to be convened later in the day focusing on the coming reduction of the South Asia acquisitions program because of the anticipated shift in funding from Indian rupees to U.S. dollars, possibly in 3-5 years. He reported further that Alvin Moore had retired as field director of the Karachi office, and that Eunice Gupta would be rotated back to the field as director as soon as it became possible to do so.

National Union Catalog. Joseph H. Howard outlined current thinking (he made it clear it was not yet a plan) in Processing Services on improving the prospective National Union Catalog with respect to nonroman language titles, in particular those in certain languages using the Arabic and Hebrew alphabets and Chinese characters, viz., Japanese, Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, and Yiddish (JACKPHY).

For a variety of reasons JACKPHY language reports from outside libraries are imperfectly represented in the National Union Catalog. We may note that LC is now inputting, or is planning to input, in machine-readable form into the MARC database, all current cataloging except for works in JACKPHY languages. (Works in Cyrillic, Greek, and Indic scripts are first romanized and then entered into the machine record.) At the same time, LC's automated in-process file (APIF), which contains brief records of works being cataloged, will soon be expanded to permit inputting of all preliminary records in all languages, including the JACKPHY languages. Since APIF can handle only romanized records, entries in all languages will necessarily be in roman. The roman (or romanized) brief APIF record will initially contain, among other elements, the main entry and description, but not call number, notes or subject headings. These preliminary records will be available to the American library community from LC's Cataloging Distribution Service through the MARC/APIF system, and to LC readers on the premises in an on-line mode.

LC previously had announced plans for the automation of the National Union Catalog, utilizing the register index format (see Library of Congress Information Bulletin, June 17, 1977). The plan is to produce a register reproducing printed cards which give the full bibliographic description and which are arranged in unique "idiot number" order. The entries would not be cumulated, but associated with the master register would be a simultaneously produced index. In the case of the index, there would be access by author, title, series, subject, and perhaps LC call number, ISSN, and ISBN. An index by LC card number will be the Register of Additional Locations. Actually, the term "index" is something of a misnomer, since the "Index" will in fact comprise a brief entry catalog, providing information on at least the author, title, date of publication, master register number and, if available, LC call number, and LC catalog card number.

According to Howard, current LC thinking, now at the discussion stage only, is that it might be possible to expand NUC to include JACKPHY records by utilizing brief APIF entries already in the machine file. Such entries would have to be enriched to include, for example, LC call numbers and subject headings, but this could be done with a reasonably small investment of funds. Once the records were enriched, the NUC author-title-subject, etc.
indexes could be created by machine. The master register itself for JACKPHY languages would be created through a subset of manually mounted printed cards (the master register for works in other languages would of course be machine generated). Moreover, there is a distinct possibility of editing and including outside library reports in the master register (manually), in brief form in the indexes, and in the Register of Additional Locations.

In responding to questions from the floor, Howard indicated that LC's thinking related specifically to the prospective National Union Catalog (and not to the retrospective); that the inclusion of outside reports in the NUC depended on availability of editorial staff and capability to load bibliographic data onto an on-line system; and that if the Research Libraries Group/Research Libraries Information Network developed the capability of handling East Asian scripts in an automated system, the Library of Congress would adopt the system (see below for further discussion).

Minimal Level Cataloging. The Library's plans for extending bibliographic coverage to a larger quantity of materials through a Minimal Level Cataloging (MLC) program while coping with extraordinarily high costs of original cataloging with fixed levels of staffing were reported on by Lucia J. Rather, Director for Cataloging, Processing Services.

The decision to create MLC records was reported in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin of November 2, 1979. Mrs. Rather pointed out that LC catalogs about 220,000 titles annually, at a substantial cost per title. In Asian languages the total cataloged is approximately 35,000 titles: 17,000 in Japanese; 9,000 in Chinese; 3,300 in Korean; and 5,500 in South and Southeast Asian languages. Works are cataloged under an elaborate system of priorities, she observed, and it was expected that it would be possible to identify works of lesser research value to be given MLC treatment. Some 15,000 titles per year, in all languages, might be processed in this manner, at an estimated cost of about one-seventh that for works given full catalog treatment.

MLC records would be similar to APIF records. All records, including those in JACKPHY languages, would be romanized. Author or main entry and full description (title, edition, imprint, collation, series) would be provided. There would be no classification numbers or subject headings. The entries would be prepared in machine readable forms, and eventually would be distributed through the MARC service.

In responding to queries, Mrs. Rather observed that LC constantly makes decisions on whether works are of higher or lower research value under its current system of priorities; that MLC call numbers will be unique numbers and completely unrelated to standard LC classification call numbers; that in the LC on-line system, key word access would eventually be possible; and that works for which catalog copy is required by research libraries would not be given MLC treatment.

East Asian Automation. James E. Agenbroad, Computer Systems Analyst, Automated Systems Office, described the cooperative agreement between LC
and the Research Libraries Group, Inc., in the development of the capability to process East Asian bibliographic data in an automated library system, as announced in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin of February 8, 1980. The agreement, signed on November 20, 1979, calls for RLC to develop the capability to enter, manage, store, transmit, and output new bibliographic records containing East Asian script data (in Chinese characters and letters of the Japanese syllabary and the Korean alphabet) in MARC compatible format and cataloged according to Library of Congress AACR-2 standards, with LC providing instruction in the latter area. When the capability is developed, LC will commence to catalog East Asian materials on-line into the Research Libraries Information Network database. RLC anticipates a 3-year developmental period, with initial operations commencing in 1983.

When asked for elaboration on the agreement with specific attention to distribution of MARC tapes to other bibliographic utilities, such as the Washington Libraries Network and OCLC, Inc., Agenbroad stated that records input by LC, which will be in the public domain, will be available through the Library's Cataloging Distribution Service.

In response to a query relating to other nonroman script data, such as for works in South Asian languages, Agenbroad indicated that the long-range intention is to provide for inclusion of the original script in all languages in the MARC databases, but that there are no plans to develop such capability in the near term. Research on the subject is being monitored.

Conversion to AACR-2. Ben R. Tucker, Chief, Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy, Processing Services, outlined the many ways in which adoption of the second edition of the Anglo-American Cataloging Rules (AACR-2) on January 2, 1981, together with recent developments in automation, would affect cataloging routines and the resulting bibliographic records. He suggested, for example, that with the adoption of Part I of AACR-2 (the rules for bibliographic description), American cataloging philosophy would shift from our traditional emphasis on specific rules to the British reliance on principles.

The adoption of Part I of AACR-2, Tucker pointed out, means that International Standard Bibliographic Description conventions will apply to all kinds of materials cataloged by libraries, and not only those materials covered by revised Chapter 6 of AACR-1 published in 1974. In Chapter 21 of Part II relating to choice of access points Tucker observed that AACR-2 had abandoned the concept that "authorship" (in the sense of an individual human being authoring a work) is applicable to corporate bodies and had substituted a rule that lists a few categories of publications emanating from corporate bodies for which a corporate main entry will be appropriate. The net result will be a decrease in the number of publications entered under corporate bodies as main entries. As for personal name headings, he foresaw little impact on Asian names. For example, one of the major changes relates to authors whose forenames are represented on title pages only by initials, a relatively infrequent occurrence with Asian authors. He suggested, however, that fundamental changes in the form of geographic name headings would have a widespread effect on cataloging practice, in-
cluding that for Asian names, since LC had not adopted changes originally found in AACR-1, published in 1967, but had continued to follow practices dating back to 1897—for example, in the establishment of names of large cities without qualification as to name of state or country. Another change will occur for East Asian corporate bodies, where the current practice of providing the complete hierarchy, revealing organizational structure, will be amended to accord with the general practice of omitting intervening units in the heading.

Tucker also announced that LC's automated name authority file is now available, as a quarterly publication priced at $95.00 for the 1980 subscription year, from the Cataloging Distribution Service under the title of Name Authorities: Cumulative Microform Edition. Included are some 250,000 headings covering the period 1977-September 1979, with annual increments of about 250,000 headings (about 100,000 of which will be new headings). The initial objective is to include all headings found in MARC records, with lists of most frequently used headings being published in the Library's Cataloging Service Bulletin.

Asian Romanization Systems. In view of the widespread interest in the Library of Congress' tentative decision, announced in 1979, to abandon the traditional Wade-Giles system for the romanization of Chinese and to adopt the pinyin system (see Library of Congress Information Bulletin, June 29, 1979), two surveys were conducted to provide assistance in reaching a final decision. Joseph H. Howard announced that the recently concluded second survey revealed that 23 libraries were in favor of continuing Wade-Giles, and 12 supported pinyin. He suggested that while no official decision had yet been made, it appeared unlikely that LC would adopt pinyin. Change had been indicated, he continued, because switching to pinyin concurrently with the adoption of AACR-2 on January 2, 1981, would have realized efficiencies in cataloging and catalog maintenance, as card catalogs were frozen or closed off and libraries moved toward reliance on automated databases. In his view, he said, an opportunity for change had been missed, and he warned that he did not see a 2-step change—first to AACR-2 and then to pinyin years later—as a realistic possibility in the foreseeable future. (Subsequently, in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin of May 2, the Library announced its decision to continue with Wade-Giles). Eugene Wu, Harvard-Yenching Library, remarked that whatever the decision, he wished to commend the Library for consulting the East Asian library community on the issue, and he hoped that such consultation would continue into the future.

With regard to the new Burmese romanization table, Ben R. Tucker observed that the AAS Committee on Research Materials on Southeast Asia had been the prime adviser, and that a new table was expected. He also indicated that questions relating to Korean word division were being studied, as was the possibility of a new table for the romanization of Thai.

(Warren M. Tsuneishi)
East Asian Libraries and Automation

This meeting, held on the morning of March 22, was opened by Mr. Hideo Kaneko, Chairman of the Committee on East Asian Libraries. He pointed out that discussion of the possibilities of applying automated procedures to library operations had been going on for some years, but that now we were in a position to hear of some concrete steps which were being taken.

The first presentation was made by Dr. John W. Haeger, Director of the East Asian Library Program of the American Council of Learned Societies, which had developed from the work of the ACLS-SSRC Steering Committee for the Study of Problems of East Asian Libraries. He spoke on the subject "East Asian Libraries in 1984"; in this discussion, however, he gave a glimpse of what may be ahead during the coming 10 to 15 years. His discussion was divided into three main sections.

First, he made some financial projections for the next three years, using as a model a "mythical East Asian library" working on an acquisitions budget of $100,000 per year. He assumed that at present 25 percent of this budget went for serials and 75 percent for monographs, both equally divided between Chinese and Japanese; that the average cost per volume was $16; and that the acquisition of 4,500 volumes per year would cover 75 percent of the universe of publications in East Asian languages considered to be of research value. He pointed out that just to stay even, the collection which now spends $100,000 per year on acquisitions will need to spend $143,000 by 1984; and that if its budget does not increase, it will be reduced from 75 percent to 44 percent coverage. He mentioned the possibilities for dealing with this by savings in areas other than East Asia and by inter-institutional cooperation.

Second, he dealt with the character of scholarship, as he sees it changing. He believes that in the near future there will not be a great change in the number of researchers nor in circulation of material. He expects, however, that there will be a growing dominance of social science methodology in East Asian studies, at the expense of the traditional studies of Sinology and Japanology. This will be accompanied by a new kind of intellectual history, which will deal more with the history of organizations and social groupings. Probably, for example, there will be more research on Japanese company history and on Chinese guilds. This will be accompanied by a "blurring of the distinctions between archives, libraries, and museums";

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and the "overwhelming dominance of the book form as the repository for information will be eroded." This means that in the future libraries will have to collect much more than books and serials; they will collect a wide variety of ephemeral materials. Furthermore, it will mean a transition from "pre-informed" to "interrogative" research. In the past, both humanists and social scientists have tended to know their sources and to be familiar with the literature they would be using. In the future, there will be so much more information that far more sophisticated means of gaining access to the information will be required; it will be recognized that the traditional library catalog is no longer adequate.

Third, turning to automation, Dr. Haeger stated that by 1984 automation will have fundamentally affected East Asian libraries in the United States. He expects that in due course these libraries will have shared automated cataloging of East Asian materials; and that Library of Congress cataloging of East Asian materials will be available in machine-readable form. Redundant cataloging will be eliminated, since original cataloging by major collections will be available on-line. He expects also that many libraries will choose to close their card catalogs, and to provide access to post-1983 material by other mechanisms. Thus, existing card catalogs will be supplemented by reference terminals. At least in the larger libraries these terminals will have the capability to display information in the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean vernacular scripts; others may for a time have access only through romanization. Nevertheless, he believes that we can expect there will be many more "access points" than those which we are accustomed to finding in existing card catalogs. We can expect reduced access to stacks as increasing amounts of material are transferred into remote storage. We shall browse through data in automated terminals instead of in stacks. He pointed out that the directors of several major American research collections have predicted that all stacks will be closed by the year 2000. Finally, since the networks will be inter-institutional, they should help to compensate for the inevitably growing inadequacy of any single collection for research purposes, and automation will help pave the way for the integration of East Asian language material into the main data base of each library. The specialist will know what is available in many languages without the need to consult separate catalogs; and he will be made aware of material on his subject which is not available in his own research library. Dr. Haeger concluded by stating that the introduction of automation is possibly the most important innovation since the invention of foreign area studies shortly after World War II, and that this will make possible "A truly universal science of man and his works."

The second presentation was made by Mr. Karl Lo, Head of the East Asia Library, University of Washington. Mr. Lo's aim was to determine the size of the character set needed for bibliographic control of publications in the collections of East Asian libraries in America. He referred to a study made by Ms. Kiyoko Tamura on the experience of the National Diet Library in Tokyo. She has reported that the NDL uses approximately 10,000 discrete characters on its printed cards, and that these are divided into groups of higher and of lower frequency use (though she did not indicate the size of these groups). She has also estimated that from 30 to 40 percent of a standard written Japanese sentence is made up of Chinese characters (kanji), while the re-
remainder is represented by kana (though on library cards, which contain information on author, title, place, etc., without syntactical relationships, the percentage of kanji would undoubtedly be much higher). Mr. Lo then discussed the number of Chinese characters in use in North Korea (virtually none); in the People's Republic of China; in South Korea; and the "traditional environment," which consists of characters entirely in the traditional format. This bibliographic environment was formerly used in Japan, Korea, and all of China, but is currently maintained only in Taiwan, since all of the other areas are using either a mixture of simplified and traditional characters, a mixture of characters and native script, or a native script entirely. Mr. Lo then referred to the number of discrete characters used in standard Chinese, Japanese, and Korean reference works. He concluded that a repertoire of from 18,500 to 20,000 characters (including Japanese kana, Korean hangul, and simplified characters from both Japan and the People's Republic of China) would be adequate for the needs of East Asian libraries in America. He recommended that steps be taken to construct such a character set, and he proposed a set of ground rules and guidelines for this purpose. Mr. Lo had written out his paper, and copies were distributed at the meeting. Those who wish to pursue this matter further can probably secure a copy directly from him.

The third presentation of the morning was made by Professor Robert E. Ward, Director of the Center for Research in International Studies, Stanford University, who reported on some observations he had made as a member of the library committee of that University. In contrast to the more general observations of Dr. Haeger, Professor Ward told of the progress and problems he had observed on a local, or regional, scale. He reported on calculations made at Stanford for the years 1968-78 on the cost of books. During this period, the average cost of a Japanese book had increased 2.39 times. In 1978 the average Japanese book cost $16; if the same rate of increase is continued for the next ten years, the average book will cost $39. The cost of books from Taiwan had increased at approximately the same rate; but the cost of those from Hongkong had increased 3.69 times. Thus a book which cost $12 in 1968 was costing $44 in 1978. Speaking of the Stanford Library budget as a whole, he stated that it had increased an average of 13 percent per year over each of the last ten years. He stated that it would not be possible to continue the current rate of increase; and if the Stanford Library were to maintain itself he saw only two alternatives: (1) To have a large windfall of "soft money" (he considers this highly improbable); or (2) to devise cooperative measures beginning with a joint acquisitions policy.

Professor Ward stated that it is only a matter of time before automation of library procedures will be with us, whether we like it or not; and he urged that the librarians of East Asian collections join in the effort. Over the years, as he has watched the efforts of cooperative which have been carried out by Berkeley and Stanford--two major collections only some 50 miles apart--he has been impressed not so much by the technical problems (toward the solution of which progress is constantly being made as by the great variety of human problems, including psychological problems).
He pointed out that students today have generally had some experience with computers during their college years, and that he does not expect them to offer much resistance to automated procedures. However, he expects more resistance from faculty members. He agreed with Dr. Haeger that a revolution in research techniques is taking place, but added that "revolutions make for uneasy times and uneasy feelings." He believes that the faculty members will have no objection to acceptance in principle; but that the situation will be different when it comes to asking Stanford to give to Berkeley a specific part of its collection—such as Kamakura literature—in exchange for something of presumed equal value from Berkeley. He expects that at this point the individual scholar will become very difficult; and he urged the East Asian librarians to devote efforts to securing faculty cooperation. He recognizes that the East Asian librarians have developed the existing system, and that they therefore have a stake in it. Nevertheless, he believes that the library community should be in the vanguard of development; and he warned them that if they are not, the decisions will be made by others who are less qualified.

Professor Ward observed that cooperation on a national scale, or between very large and complex institutions, is difficult. He believes that there is much to be said for a more piecemeal approach, and that there are great advantages in cooperating on a smaller scale. While he believes that serials might well be coordinated on the national level, his experience has convinced him that monographs are better dealt with on a regional basis, which he called the "Jeffersonian democratic solution to problems of this sort." He has doubts about the present tendency to rush to centralization to solve all of our problems. He believes that cooperative acquisition of serials may not prove too difficult to handle, but that great difficulty will come in attempting to devise a workable cooperation in the acquisition of monographs. He emphasized that it is necessary to experiment, and that the problems will have to be approached in an experimental frame of mind.

Finally, he mentioned the problem of the lone scholar, working in an institution which does not possess a major East Asian collection. Although he has no immediate solution for this problem, Professor Ward believes that in the long run the introduction of automation and information networks will help this scholar too.

The session ended with a brief question and answer period.

Academic Journals from East Asia

This session, held on the afternoon of March 22 and chaired by Mr. John Yung-hsiang Lai of the Harvard-Yenching Library, contained three presentations dealing with academic journals published in China, Japan, and Korea. Dr. Richard C. Howard of the Library of Congress served as discussant after the papers had been presented.

The first paper, entitled "A Panoramic View of Chinese Academic Journals Today," was presented by Mr. Paul P. W. Cheng of Cornell University Library.
This paper contained a succinct description of journals published in the
People's Republic of China, in Taiwan, and in Hong Kong.

Insofar as the People's Republic of China is concerned, Mr. Cheng divided
periodical publishing activities into three broad periods: from 1949 to
1966, from 1966 to 1976, and from 1976 to the present. Many new journals,
possibly totaling as many as 1,300 titles, were published for varying
periods during the years 1949-66, though many of these were not available
to libraries in the United States after October 1959. The second period,
1966-1976, saw a great reduction in publication; it is believed that only
58 titles were being published in 1968. Beginning in 1972 there was some
increase, and by 1976 there were 148 serial titles, including seven newspa­pers and news releases and three periodicals in the English language.
Since 1976 the situation has changed dramatically, and it is reported
that about 930 periodicals and 186 newspapers were published in 1979. Many
of these titles, however, are not available to libraries in other coun­tries; as of 1980, subscriptions could be placed through the Chinese postal
system for approximately 400 titles. Although many titles are now being
published, no comprehensive index to their contents is available in the
United States. We have been informed that the index published by the
Shanghai Municipal Library during the 1950's has been continued, but no
issues later than those of 1959 have been received in the United States.

In Taiwan the number of periodicals published in 1978 was over 1,600, or
more than double the 700 being published in 1963. Several well-known pre­
war journals have been revived there: the Tung fang tsa chih, the Ta lu
tsa chih, and the Shih hua yüeh k' an (formerly the Shih hua pan yüeh k' an).
Bibliographical control is very good, since these publications are covered
by indexes published by the National Taiwan University Library and the
National Central Library. Mention should also be made of the Ch' uan kuo
tsa chih chih nan (Guide to Chinese Periodicals), by Cheng Heng-hsiung,

Mr. Cheng pointed out that although there are only two universities and
several private colleges in Hong Kong, that community has contributed more
than its share of academic journals. He stated that "The atmosphere of
freedom of speech and the concentration of scholars there promote the
growth of academic journals, though there are almost no journals devoted
to specialized subjects. A special feature of journals in Hong Kong is
the absence of political overtones in their scholarly work. Another
advantage to English-speaking scholars is that a number of journals are
bi-lingual—in English and Chinese—or are in Chinese with tables of
contents in English." Unfortunately, however, there is no adequate index
to the journals published in Hong Kong. Only a few of these are covered
by the indexes published in Taiwan. Mr. Cheng's own publication, entitled
An Annotated Guide to Chinese Periodicals in Hong Kong (Taipei, 1973), lists
and describes in English 173 titles, but does not undertake to indicate
the contents of individual issues.

The second paper, by Dr. Shizue Matsuda, Librarian for East Asian Studies,
Indiana University, was entitled "Current Japanese Serials in the Humanities
and Social Sciences, an Interim Report." This paper described the procedures followed, and the difficulties encountered, in compiling a list of current Japanese serials in the humanities and social sciences received by American libraries. This work is being conducted on a grant from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission. The first step was to send requests for information on current Japanese serial subscriptions to 89 American institutions. By the end of that year, replies had been received from 57 of these. The first response was from the Library of Congress, which sent Dr. Matsuda a printout of Japanese titles on subscription and a printout of MARC-S Japanese records. As of March 1980, the Library of Congress was subscribing for 1,081 Japanese serial titles, of which 807 were selected by Dr. Matsuda for her list, which does not include publications in natural sciences and technology. The MARC-S (Machine Readable Catalog—Serials) records covered 2,674 titles, of which Dr. Matsuda considered 1,772 to be within the scope of her survey. The MARC-S database contains only titles which have been cataloged in the LC Processing Department since September 1973. The information is given in romanized form only; bibliographical description is quite detailed, although there is no information on holdings. The subscription list contains only those titles which are currently on subscription. Dr. Matsuda did not explain how much duplication there was between these two sources of information from the Library of Congress; but since a high priority is given to cataloging new titles, there is reason to believe that in a number of cases the same title appeared in both sources. She explained further that as she received information from various university libraries throughout the country, she found that in a number of cases the same title appeared on entirely separate journals, e.g., Shisō and Jimbunkagakuka kiyō; it was necessary for her to work out ways of distinguishing them, which was sometimes difficult from the inadequate information which she had at hand. In other cases, she found that the same title would be reported by one institution under its Japanese title, by another under its English title, and by a third under its French title only. She also found, not to her surprise, that various institutions handled the matter of word division differently. The end result of her effort will be a list of Japanese language titles, with indication as to place, publisher, and institutions which have reported holding the title. These will be no attempt to present detailed information on the specific holdings of the institutions represented. When the project is completed, we hope to include a fuller account in the CEAL Bulletin.

The third paper, by Mr. Sungha Kim of the Harvard-Yenching Library, dealt with Korean college and university serial publications. Upon checking the survey of Korean periodicals issued by the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Republic of Korea, he learned that as of December 31, 1979, a total of 1,428 serial titles had been recorded. Pursuing this further, however, Mr. Kim noted that many college and university serial publications had been omitted, probably because there is no requirement for registration at the Ministry for these publications. He therefore set out to make his own count.
He found that there are at present 28 universities and 56 colleges of at least the four-year level in South Korea. He also concluded that there are now 353 research institutions in the fields of the humanities and social sciences in the various institutions. He made a detailed listing of the many publications issued by Korea University, thus illustrating the difficulty of maintaining bibliographical control over them. Mr. Kim also presented to the meeting a listing of "North Korean Serial Holdings" at the Harvard-Yenching Library as of March 1, 1980. This list includes 47 titles and gives detailed holdings. Mr. Kim also showed to the group the galley proofs of vol.3 and the index to his recently completed catalog of Korean materials in the Harvard-Yenching Library. It is expected that this catalog will be published later in the present year; and Mr. Kim has agreed to write for the CEAL Bulletin a history of the Korean collection at Harvard and a description of its special strengths.

In his comment on the papers, Dr. Howard distinguished between problems of "intellectual access," such as identifying a title in a list, and "physical access," such as gaining access to a specific issue for research purposes. He demonstrated that each of the writers of these papers had dealt with these two aspects of access, in somewhat different ways.

Rare Historical Documents in Taiwan and Their Significance for Research on Late Imperial China

This session, held on the morning of March 23, was chaired by Dr. Ramon H. Myers, Scholar-Curator of the East Asian Collection, Hoover Institution, Stanford University. The session was distinguished by a series of substantial papers which not only surveyed unpublished documentary material existing in Taiwan, but also presented in some detail the results of substantive research which has been conducted on these documents.

The first paper was presented by Dr. Chang Wei-jen of the Academia Sinica, Taipei, who explained how the Ch'ing Archives of the Grand Secretariat, which are now in the custody of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, can be used to throw light on many aspects of the Chinese judicial system under the Ch'ing. He explained how they make it possible to re-evaluate the roles of the various officials involved in the judicial process, including the role of the local officials, civil and military, the governors-general, and even the Emperor. The documents correct the previous assumption that the autumn assizes were mostly ritual; it is now clear that important and detailed preparations for these were made at the provincial level. The documents show how various punishments were meted out. They give information about the treatment of foreigners (which was usually very good) and the treatment of local minority peoples (which was usually more harsh than that given to the Chinese themselves). Dr. Chang also explained that although his interests were primarily in studying the judicial process, the documents furnish much information not available elsewhere on economic and social matters. He further pointed out that the documents are in poor physical condition, and that the Academia Sinica is doing what it can to preserve them.
The second paper, by Dr. Alan Sweeten of the University of Delaware, described the uses of the Tsung-li ya-men archives in studying local government in the late Ch'ing. Much of what he had to say dealt with conflicts between Chinese commoners and Catholic converts. The converts in some cases refused to participate in household registration, and in some cases rejected requests for contributions to local operatic performances. Dr. Sweeten concludes that there was no pattern of conspiracy to harass the converts, and that the documents do not support the claims of persecution that have often been made. He believes that, in general, the converts were more interested in preserving their communities than in destroying them. He has examined the records of more than 70 cases in 30 counties during the years 1860-95. He concludes that most of the conflicts were on non-religious issues; that deputies were frequently sent from Nanchang to aid the local officials; that the incidents were mainly local occurrences and not part of any gentry-led anti-Christian or anti-foreign movement; and that in most cases competent officials could and did cope.

The third paper, presented by Dr. William M. Speidel of the Stanford Language Center in Taipei, told of the work that he has been conducting in cooperation with Mr. Wang Shih-ch'ing and Dr. Chang Wei-jen on their collection and treatment of materials held by private individuals. By now some 2,800 documents have been borrowed, mounted with more substantial backing when necessary, reproduced in the form of electrostatic prints, and returned to their original owners. The work has been conducted with some "seed money" from the Asia Foundation and the Association for Asian Studies. It has also received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities which will permit it to continue at least until well into 1981. Copies of these documents, which are being indexed at the time of their reproduction, are being deposited in libraries in the United States, Japan, and Taiwan. Dr. Speidel has been requested to write a more detailed account of this work for publication in the CEAL Bulletin.

The fourth paper, by Dr. Michael Finnegan, presented in detail two case studies drawn from deeds and account books. One of these case studies concerned a well-to-do family in late 18th century Fukien; the other, a fairly wealthy family in 19th century Taiwan. Some of the subjects covered were the size of land holdings; the partition of land parcels when they passed from one generation to another; the various kinds of rent charges and taxation; interest rates; and sources of income. The materials on which these studies were based were secured chiefly from used-book stalls in Taiwan.

The first of the discussants was Miss Beatrice Bartlett of Yale University. Since the person who had planned to present a paper on the archives at the Palace Museum in Taipei had not been able to come, Miss Bartlett presented a general account of these archives, and discussed her own experience in using them. Her basic concern was to study the Ch'ing communication system as revealed both in the archives in the Palace Museum and in those at the Academia Sinica. In connection with this she has been studying communications terminology, in an attempt to determine who was behind the ideas which found expression in the edicts, of which there are no less than 15,000.
volumes in the Palace Museum. She explained some of the limitations of the archives, including the fact that they record official matters; the fact that the collection is not complete, and therefore tabulations are difficult; and the fact that a special "enclosure" system was developed at about the middle of the Ch'ien-lung period. After this period much important material is contained in the enclosures only, which were not circulated among the various offices of the Ch'ing government. Since the information which Miss Bartlett has been collecting would be of great interest to East Asian librarians, she has been asked to prepare an article on these archives for the CEAL Bulletin.

Professor K. C. Liu, of the University of California at Davis, gave a very detailed comment on the papers which had been presented. He pointed out that three of the papers had been case studies, and raised the fundamental question of whether the cases which had been studied were typical. He noted that Dr. Chang Wei-jen had recently completed a large work of some 1,000 pages, in which he has reproduced some 150 documents and provided a detailed annotation to clear up ambiguities. He commended the excellent work which Dr. Chang had done in studying institutional relationships between Peking and the provincial level. Turning to Dr. Sweeten's paper, Professor Liu pointed out that it threw light on the relationships between the public and the private sector, and that it will provide the basis for some reconsideration of hitherto accepted ideas about the relationship between the bureaucracy and the local communities. Nevertheless, he wondered whether discussing incidents in 30 counties provided an adequate basis for generalization. He then commended Dr. Finnegan for his extremely careful and detailed work, and pointed out that this is one of the very few studies which have yet been made of individual household units. He raised the question of whether the members of the Lai family discussed by Dr. Finnegan were holders of degrees; and pointed out that much of Chinese history is actually private history, and that as yet little is known about the private sector. He also raised the question of the relative importance and validity of the "white" deeds and the "red" deeds. He pointed out that Ch'ing cultural policy toward Taiwan has not been adequately studied, and that the proposed examination of temple records may reveal much of value.

The final discussant was Preston Torbert of the Baker and McKenzie law firm of Chicago. He pointed out that at present the materials available for research in Taiwan far exceed those on the Chinese mainland; and that the chances of finding collections of land deeds are remote, since many of these were burned during the land-reform period. He referred to three additional groups of archives which could be used: A major collection of Ch'ing period material from Taiwan, important for research on judicial matters, Tang-Hsin-tang-an, now available in some 30 reels of microfilm from the University of Washington Library; the archives of the former Japanese Government-General, which are now stored in a warehouse in Taichung, and some of which are being reproduced by the Taiwan Historical Commission; and household registers compiled by the Japanese. He believes that some of Professor Liu's reservations about the adequacy of the database could be reduced by adding consideration of these materials; and he asked for cooperation between those persons who are engaged in the detailed
study of individual archives and those who are working on broad issues and general theoretical questions.

(Edwin G. Beal, Jr.)

III. Meeting of the Southern California Asian Librarians' Group

The Tenth Annual Meeting of the Southern California Asian Librarians' Group met at the Honnold Library of the Claremont Colleges on May 9, 1980. It is the general practice of the Group for the Chairperson and the host institution to rotate among the members. This year the Honnold Library hosted the luncheon, and Frances Wang chaired the meeting.

The membership has expanded to include Chinese librarians from the University of California at Riverside and the University of Southern California. The University of California at Irvine is an associate member. Since the University of California at San Diego is now expanding its language program and Asian collection, an invitation will be extended to its Chinese librarian to join the Group.

Ten members representing six institutions (San Diego State University, the University of Southern California, the University of California at Los Angeles, the University of California at Santa Barbara, the University of California at Riverside, and Claremont Colleges) met in the Founder's Room at the Honnold Library after lunch. The discussion centered on cooperative projects and exchange programs. The exchange of cards representing original cataloging was reviewed. The agreement to exchange such cards on a quarterly basis is generally observed. The University of California at Santa Barbara and San Diego State University distributed updated serial lists and lists of duplicate materials. Claremont Colleges distributed a list of duplicate copies of reference works, and lists of duplicates in the Chinese and Japanese languages.

Three members of the Group who had attended the Annual Meeting of the Association for Asian Studies and the CEAL meeting held in Washington, D.C., on March 20 to 23 made brief reports on important matters discussed there, including the automation of Oriental scripts, the decision not to adopt pinyin for Chinese cataloging, and the meeting at the Library of Congress. The annual meeting of the Group is scheduled after the AAS Annual Meeting and the CEAL Meeting, in order to acquaint the Group's members with the highlights of those meetings, and with important issues which had been under discussion there.

Mr. George Bailey, Associate Director of the Honnold Library, showed the members of the Group the use of automation in the acquisition and circulation departments. The members were also shown briefly the Library's new computer -- a Hewlett Packard 3000.

(Frances Wang)
IV. Meeting of the Chinese-American Librarians' Association

The eighth annual meeting of the Chinese-American Librarians' Association (CALA) was scheduled for June 30, 1980, in the auditorium of the Jung Hung Public School, 40 Division Street, New York City. All members and friends were invited to attend this meeting, which was also the second annual meeting of the Association's Northeast Chapter. Even though the present issue of the CEAL Bulletin will probably not be distributed before the time of this meeting, it is important that this activity be recorded.

The day's program began with a membership meeting, followed by a panel on current issues in descriptive cataloging, with Lee-hsia Ting of Western Illinois University presiding. Speakers listed were both from the Library of Congress: Ben R. Tucker, Chief, Office for Descriptive Cataloging Policy, and Beatrice Ohta, Head, Chinese and Korean Section, Descriptive Cataloging Division, Processing Department. Discussants were Bessie K. Kahn, Assistant Librarian, Johns Hopkins University Library, and David Liu, Director, Pharr Memorial Library, Pharr, Texas.

A fellowship lunch was scheduled to be followed by a round table on contributions to library literature by Chinese-American librarians, presided over by Marjorte Li of Rutgers University Library. Panelists were Ching-chih Chen, Simmons College School of Library Science; John Yung-hsiang Lai, Harvard-Yenching Library; Hong-chan Li, School of Social Work Library, University of Connecticut; and Tze-chung Li, Rosary College.

Three afternoon meetings completed the program: A business meeting of CALA's Northeast Chapter, a meeting of the organizing committee of CALA's mid-Atlantic Chapter, and a meeting of the CALA Board.

The annual meetings of the Chinese-American Librarians' Association are held in conjunction with the summer Conference of the American Library Association. For further information, write John Yung-hsiang Lai, Harvard-Yenching Library, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138. Inquiries regarding membership should be addressed to Ms. Sally Tseng, CALA Membership Officer, 7920 Sandalwood Drive, Lincoln, NE 68510. Annual membership dues are $15.00.

(John Yung-hsiang Lai)

V. USICA Jointly Sponsored Library Symposium Opens in Beijing (Peking)
(From FBIS-PRC, Daily Report, 3 April 1980)

Beijing, April 1 (XINHUA)—A symposium on library services jointly sponsored by the Chinese Society of Library Science and the International Communication Agency of the United States was inaugurated at the Beijing University Library yesterday afternoon.

The ceremony was addressed by Liu Jiping, President of the Chinese Society
of Library Science and curator of the National Beijing Library, and Mr. Leonard Woodcock, U.S. Ambassador to China.

The symposium will later move to Shanghai. It is attended by representatives of libraries in various Chinese provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Chinese and American librarians will exchange views and discuss the scientific management of libraries, building up of libraries and care of books, automation of cataloging and retrieving systems and formation of a network of library services, construction of libraries and training of librarians.

(Tao-tai Hsia)

VI. Asian Librarians' Group in the American Library Association

The Asian Caucus of the Social Responsibilities Round Table of the ALA was formed in 1974. The Caucus held a program entitled "Contributions of Asian Americans to the United States" in June 1975 and was named the Asian American Librarians Caucus. There were 120 names on the Caucus Membership Roster issued in August 1976. In June 1977, the Caucus held its annual conference in Detroit and was renamed Asian American Librarians Association (AALA). Yet since then we have not heard any more about AALA.

In conjunction with ALA's Dallas Conference, on June 26, 1979, the Chinese-American Librarians Association (CALA) held a panel entitled "Asian American Library Administrators: Experiences and Perspectives". Its theme was enthusiastically received, not only by Chinese-Americans, but also by other Asian-Americans and non-Asian Americans. Once again, the need for a professional organization for Asian American librarians has become a subject for discussion.

Now a group of Asian-American librarians is planning to form a new professional organization on the national level and to hold a discussion meeting during the ALA's New York Conference to be held on June 29-July 5, 1980. Though Americans of Asian descent from areas covering China & Inner Asia, Northeast Asia, South Asia and Southeast Asia may become the major body of the group, its membership will certainly be open to any individual, regardless of race, creed, or national origin.

Anyone who wishes to join the group, or to be listed in its directory, please contact John Yung-hsiang Lai, Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, 2 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138.