



EAST
ASIAN LIBRARIANS'
GROUP OF AUSTRALIA
newsletter

no.4 june 1980

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East Asian Librarian's Group of Australia,
c/- Orientalia,
National Library of Australia,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600. AUSTRALIA.

1. Editorial Notes

This issue is designed to inform members of EALGA of the arrangements being made for the August meeting at Griffith University. The Editor feels sorry that he is unable to include more papers and news items in this issue.

The next issue No. 5 is planned to be published in December 1980. It is hoped that all papers delivered at the August meeting will be published here and important news concerning East Asian librarianship will be selected and used.

Contributions from members and people interested in East Asian libraries and materials are invited. Please send them to the following address before 31 October 1980 :

S.W. Wang, Editor, EALGA Newsletter,
c/- Orientalia Section,
National Library of Australia,
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.



2. National Library of Australia Delegation's Visit to China

At the invitation of Mr Liu Chi-p'ing, Director, National Library of Peking, a delegation comprising Dr and Mrs George Chandler, Mr W.D. Thorn, Miss Judith Baskin and Mr S.W. Wang of the National Library of Australia visited the following 11 libraries in Peking, Shanghai, Hangchou, and Kuangchou from 6 to 21 January 1980:

National Library of Peking,
 Academia Sinica Library,
 Shanghai Library
 Chechiang Library,
 Chungshan Library,
 Peking University Library,
 Shanghai Normal University Library,
 Shanghai Chiaot'ung University Library,
 Chechiang University Library,
 Chungshan University Library,
 High school Library attached to the
 Shanghai Normal University.

Excepting the Shanghai High School all libraries had more than one million books. The holdings of the National Library of Peking and Shanghai Library reached 9.8 million and 6.9 million volumes respectively.

Reading Rooms in these libraries were well patronised, particularly those for foreign scientific and technological journals and for scientific and technological information indexes and abstracts. About 2,000 to 4,000 titles of these journals were displayed and most indexes and abstracts were compiled by various levels of Chinese institutes of scientific and technological information.

The National Library of Peking is no longer the sole agency handling international exchange of publications for libraries in China. All provincial and university libraries are now able to establish their own exchange relations with foreign libraries. The delegates were asked to pass the news on to Australian libraries.

While in Peking and Shanghai, Dr Chandler gave librarians in each place a talk on the future pattern of library and information services. About 800 in Peking and 400 in Shanghai were present. The talks were well received.

The newly formed Chinese Society of Librarianship in Peking and the Kuangtung Society of Librarianship in Kuangchou had respectively invited the delegates to their tea parties. At these parties and other occasions, the delegates were able to exchange views with Chinese librarians. All discussions were sincere and frank. Most of the questions they asked concerned library automation and library development in Australia. The delegates gained the impression that all Chinese libraries were anxious to modernise their services in order to support the Four Modernisations.

Apart from visiting libraries, the delegates were also accompanied by hosts to see places of historical significance, factories, scenic spots and theatres, such as the Great Wall, Ming Tombs, Summer Palace and Imperial Palace in Peking; the Bund (banks of the Huangp'u River), Ming Garden and City Museum in Shanghai, West Lake, Ling Yin Buddhist Temple and a tapestry factory in Hangchou and the 12 Martyrs Memorial,

Fushan pottery and handicraft factories in Kuangchou.

Before leaving Peking for Shanghai on the morning of 11 January, the delegates were unexpectedly given an audience by Apei Awang Chimmei, Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress at the Great Hall of the People. After the reception, the delegates were taken to tour the building.

Throughout the visit, the delegates were very kindly treated by the National Library of Peking, other libraries visited and Shanghai, Chechiang and Kuangchou Cultural Bureaux. Mr Tan Hsiang-chin, Deputy-Director of the National library of Peking travelled all the time with the delegates. All delegates expressed that they had a wonderful time in China. It goes without saying that the relationship between Australian and Chinese libraries will be further strengthened after this visit.

(S.W. Wang)

3. Chinese Society of Librarianship

The inaugural meeting of the Chinese Society of Librarianship was held in Tai yuen, capital of the province of Shanhsi on 9-16 July 1979. 200 librarians from various types of Chinese libraries attended the meeting. Mr Liu Chi p'ing, Director, and Mr Tai Hsiang-chin, Deputy Director of the National Library of Peking were elected Chairman and Secretary-General respectively. The following is the Constitution of the Society translated into English by S.W. Wang.

The Constitution of the Chinese Society of Librarianship

(Adopted at the General Meeting of Representatives of the Society on 13 July 1979.)

Chapter 1 General Principles

- Article 1, The Chinese Society of Librarianship (elsewhere called the Society) shall be a learned society under the leadership of the Communist Party of China.
- Article 2, Through the theoretical guidance of Marxism, Leninism and Mao Zedong thought, the society shall implement the Communist Party of China's policy "Let a hundred flowers blossom, a hundred schools of thought contend," insist on the principle "Integrate theory with practice", unite the nation's library workers, undertake academic activities and accelerate the development of librarianship and library services in order to make contributions to the four modernisations.

Article 3, The objectives of the Society are:

- a. To organize research projects and all kinds of academic activities.
- b. To compile journals and publications on all aspects of library services.
- c. To make publicly known the basic knowledge of librarianship, introduce and spread information about research results done by foreign and domestic library circles.
- d. To take part in international research projects and activities and develop good relations with foreign library workers.

Chapter 2 Membership

Article 4, The Society's membership shall be of two types:

Group members:

All societies of librarianship established in provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities and organised by special libraries shall automatically become group members.

Individual members:

Any person who supports the leadership of the Communist Party of China, abides by the Constitution of the Peoples' Republic of China, devotes himself to library work, accepts the Constitution of the Society, conforms with at least one of the following requirements has applied for membership and whose membership is recommended by local and special societies of librarianship and approved by the Board of Directors shall become an individual member. When necessary the Society can directly appoint any one as individual member.

- a. Lecturers and above who are engaged in teaching, research assistants and above who are involved in research projects and library workers.
- b. Graduates from university departments of librarianship and from other subject departments who have taught or studied library science or have worked in a library for more than three years and have the ability to do research work and their academic standing has reached a recognised level.
- c. Those who have worked in a library for more than 5 years and demonstrated their ability to work independently and their academic standing has reached a recognised level.
- d. Those who have made important contributions to librarianship and library services.
- e. Leading members of various government departments who are interested in the work of the Society and actively support the activities of the Society.

Those who are engaged in other fields of work, but who are interested in the study of library science and have made contributions to it.

Article 5, A Member shall have Rights:

1. To elect someone and to be elected.
2. To make suggestions and criticisms concerning the activities of the Society.
3. To attend the Society's conferences and other activities.
4. To receive publications issued by the Society in advance.

A Member shall have Obligations:

1. To observe the Constitution of the Society.
2. To carry out the resolutions of the Society, and complete the tasks assigned by the Society.
3. To actively write scholarly essays and books, prepare reports and compile and translate information of value to the Society.
4. To make suggestions concerning the future development of library services in China.

Article 6, Any member who has produced fruitful results after undertaking research and made contributions, the Society may either accord him honours or award him prizes and recommend him to appropriate government departments.

Article 7, Any member may resign from the Society. If a member has not attended the activities sponsored by the Society or local societies for three consecutive years, the member shall be treated as having resigned.

Chapter 3 Structure

Article 8, The highest authority of the Society shall be the General Meeting of Representatives, (elsewhere called the General Meeting). The General Meeting should be held once in every three years. When necessary the General Meeting may be advanced or postponed.

The General Meeting shall be composed of representatives elected by group and individual members and representatives of the retired Board of Directors.

Functions and powers of the General Meeting are:

1. To examine reports of the Board of Directors.
2. To revise the Constitution of the Society.
3. To elect the Board of Directors.
4. To determine the Society's programmes.

Article 9, The Board of Directors shall be the executive body of the General Meeting.

Functions and powers of the Board of Directors are:

1. To execute the resolutions of the General meeting.
2. To convene annual conferences on librarianship and lead or encourage affiliated organisations to undertake research activities.
3. To prepare the Society's programmes and research projects and examine the work done by the Society.
4. To convene the next General Meeting.
5. To review and manage the Society's business.

The Board of Directors shall elect Chairman, Vice-Chairmen, Executive Directors and Secretary-General who form the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the Society's daily business and exercises leadership during the period when the Board of Directors is not in session.

Directors shall be elected for three years. Two-thirds of them may be re-elected. According to the needs for carrying out the Society's programmes, the Board of Directors may set up special departments. The heads of these departments may be appointed by the Board of Director or headed by Directors concurrently.

Article 10, In order to achieve the goals set out by the Society, the Society may appoint two committees under the direction of the Board of Directors; the Research Committee and the Compilation and Translation Committee. Under the Research Committee there shall be also special research units and under the Compilation and Translation Committee there shall be an Editorial Department.

Chapter 4 Finance

Article 11, The finance of the Society shall be supported by

1. State allowance
2. Gifts
3. Other incomes

Chapter 5 Additional provision

Article 12, The Constitution shall come into effect after it is adopted by the General Meeting. The revision of the Constitution shall follow the same procedures as above. The Board of Directors shall have the authority over the interpretation of the Constitution.

(Translated by Sidney S.W. Wang.)

4. East Asian Library NewsAustraliaa. National Library of Australia

Late 1979, the National Library of Australia had looked at the possibility of putting the East Asian Union List of Serials onto computer-output microfiche, using the SALSSAH (Serials in Australian Libraries: Social Sciences and Humanities) format and programme. A preliminary discussion on this matter was held. Putting the East Asian Union List of Serials onto computer for distribution on microfiche was considered quickest and most staff-time-saving way of getting the catalogue published. No characters would appear in it in this form, of course, but the information loss was believed to be acceptable, especially in view of the advantages of finally having such a union list in print. However, because of current staff restrictions, the National Library is unable to undertake this task. Therefore the proposed project has been delayed.

Korean Serials in the National Library of Australia and Thai Serials in the National Library of Australia

These two publications, formerly only available in limited xerox editions, have been published on microfiche, complete with vernacular script. The reduction ratio is 24x and they are available as two separate publications of one or two fiches each. They may be ordered from the Sales and Subscriptions Unit, National Library of Australia, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600.

Recent Acquisitions

The National Library of Peking recently presented the National Library of Australia with the following 7 titles in 60 volumes of reprints of Chinese books:

Chu-hsüeh-chai ch'ao-pen "Liao-chai chih-i".
12 volumes
Chung-kuo li-tai hui-hua. Volume 1
Ku-kung po-wu-yüan tsang li-tai shu-fa hsuan-chi,
Series 2 in 20 volumes
Nuan-hung-shih hui-k'o "Hsi-hsang-chi",
16 volumes.
Pai-ch'eng yen-shui. 5 volumes
Tao-tzu mo-pao. 1 volume
Tun-huang ts'ai-su. 1 volume

The Library has also subscribed to the following newspapers and 320 serials published in China.

Jen-min jih-pao
Kuang-ming jih-pao
Chung-kuo ch'ing-nien pao
Ti yü pao
Kung-jen jih-pao
Pei-ching jih pao
Wen-hui pao
Chieh-fang jih pao
Nan-fang jih pao
Chung-kuo hsiao-nien pao

Tien-chin jih pao
Chien-kang pao
Ta-chung jih pao
Che-chiang jih pao
Ssu-chuan jih pao

Recent Japanese acquisitions include the National Diet Library's name authority file for Japanese authors, Kokuritsu Kokkai Toshokan choshamei tenkyoroku, published in 3 volumes, including index, by Kiinokuniya Shoten, 1979. A number of books on Australia by Japanese authors were also received, such as Onna ga mita Osutoraria by Ryoko Adachi, Tokyo, Japan Times, 1979.

Additions to the Korean collection include Yoksahak nonjo chonghap saegin, Seoul, Mirae ch'ulp'ansa, 1976, an index to 16,874 books and periodicals on Korean history and geography between 1900 and 1975; and Ch'ongo taebang, Seoul, Asea Munhwasa, 1975, a biographical dictionary of 12,000 eminent Koreans.

Staff Changes

Ms Beatrice Tam, formerly of the State Library of Victoria, joined the Orientalia Section's staff, as a Librarian Class 1 cataloguer and reference librarian for the Chinese section at the end of January this year. She replaces Mr Yuan who retired last year.

Mr Tsutomu Satoh, the Japanese librarian on secondment from the National Diet Library, left for Japan at the end of March, by ship. He was given two farewells - one by his friends and colleagues from Orientalia at Mr Wang's home and one on a more formal level by Dr Chandler and the senior staff of ANHUL. At Mr Wang's home, he was presented with a pewter mug engraved with 'Orientalia, National Library of Australia, 1977-80' which was bought with contributions from his friends in the Library. Dr Chandler presented him with some of the National Library's publications on behalf of the library. Mr Satoh's successor has not been announced yet.

(N. White)

b. Australian National University Library

There have been quite a few comings and goings in the Japanese Section of the Asian Studies Division of late. Soon after Yumiko Mills was appointed the Head, she gave birth to her first son, Edwin. Miss Helen Szaday who filled Yumiko's old position briefly, left after two months' stay to take up a better job in the Public Service. Mrs Brenda Attridge who succeeded Helen, is now on leave to spend time in Europe. Her job is again filled by a temporary appointment. Such rapid changes have been unprecedented in the history of this Division.

At the invitation of the National Library of Beijing, Y.S. Chan spent two weeks in China during December last year. He visited all the major university libraries in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou as well as other libraries in Beijing. The main purpose of his visit was to observe recent developments in the library field since the fall of the Gang as well as to explore the possibilities of further improvements in cooperative arrangements between ANU and libraries in China. On the eve of his departure from China, he gave a talk sponsored by Zhongshan University entitled "Chinese Libraries: Present and Future" to about two hundred librarians in Guangzhou.

With the upsurge in publishing activity in China during the last two years, the Chinese Section is hard pressed with bibliographical control of new publications, particularly new serial titles which are pouring in every month. At present, the Library is regularly receiving approximately 450 serial titles with more expected within the next few months.

(Y.S. Chan)

c. Murdoch University Library, Perth

The Murdoch University Library will soon be going ahead with its computerisation programme for issuing books. All current holdings of the library have already been recorded on computer and it was planned to go over completely to the computerised system at the beginning of this year. After some holdups, we now hope to start in second semester.

In future, cataloguing of western language materials will be fully computerised, but to assist readers by providing information in the original script as well as in romanisation, East Asian language material will still go through additional manual processing.

Although emphasis in the Murdoch University Library has been placed on collecting English language material for use by undergraduates, the library has a small Chinese language holding to complement its Chinese Studies Programme, which has been in existence since 1975. Our collection of basic reference material for Chinese Studies in Chinese, Japanese and European languages has now reached respectable proportions, but academic staff are at times worried by gaps in specialised fields, especially now that we see the likelihood of increasing numbers of honours and post graduate students in the Programme.

The current financial climate has persuaded both library and academic staff at Murdoch of the necessity for making the greatest possible use of the resources we do have. Murdoch University Library has an excellent readers' services section, but as a member of the academic staff, I feel it is important for us to co-operate in increasing students' knowledge of library resources in our own specialist areas. To that end, I have compiled, as part of the Murdoch Bibliographies series, a Library Guide for Chinese Studies which is about to be published by Murdoch University.

The Library guide is not designed to be a comprehensive listing of reference materials for Chinese Studies, but rather a guide for our own undergraduate students to reference materials and periodicals available to them in Perth. It consists of three sections. The first two sections cover reference material exclusively in Murdoch University Library, while the third section lists relevant periodicals held in Murdoch, the University of Western Australia and the Western Australian Institute of Technology Libraries. A published union list of periodicals in all areas of study held in these libraries exists, but I was surprised to find the amount of unbound periodical material on East Asia, especially in Chinese and Japanese, which had managed to slip through the net when the union list was compiled.

I received a great deal of encouragement in this project from Murdoch University Library Staff and staff and students of the Chinese Studies Programme. I am particularly grateful to Mr V. Nadanasabapathy who heads the cataloguing section of Murdoch University Library, for making a careful check of my manuscript and advising me on how to present it in technically acceptable form. I feel sure our students will find

the guide useful and hope it may provide some help to students elsewhere. Compiling the guide certainly taught me a great deal about library resources in Perth!

(Penny Herbert)

(Temporary Lecturer, Chinese Studies Programme, Murdoch University and member of the Murdoch University Library Committee).)

China:

Union Catalogue of Rare Chinese Books

Ch'ian-kuo ku-chi shan-pen tsung-mu

(Union catalogue of rare Chinese books) containing manuscripts, editions published before 1644 and rare and fine editions published in the Ch'ing dynasty, 1644-1911, compiled by the National Library of Peking will be published at the end of this year.

(T'u-shu-kuan t'ung-hsin,
Peking, No. 1, 1979)

Japan:

Library and Information Science University

A university named Toshokan Joho Daigaku under the jurisdiction of the Japanese Ministry of Education was formally established in October 1979 and started its teaching activities in April 1980. It is designed to produce graduates with a wide range of skills and knowledge in both library and information science. Computerised indexing and information transmission training are included.

(Kosei hodo, Tokyo, No. 158,
August 1979 and Japan Library
Group Newsletter, No. 2,
April 1980)

United States of America:

L.C. Considering Pinyin Romanisation

The Library of Congress has made a tentative decision to adopt Pinyin for all Chinese-language publications at the time AACR 2 is implemented (January 1981). Because this decision will have a wide ranging effect, however, the Library is interested in soliciting the views of others who handle Chinese materials.

(L.C. Information Bulletin
Vol. 38, No. 26 : 29 June 1979)

The Library (of Congress) is still considering the possibility of a change from the Wade-Giles to the Pinyin system for the romanisation of Chinese.

(L.C. Information Bulletin
Vol. 39, No. 8, 22 Feb. 1980)

CEAL Advising L.C. to Defer Its Decision to Adopt Pinyin

The Committee on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), Association for Asian Studies wrote to the Library of Congress on 28 November 1979 expressing different views on the adoption of Pinyin. In their letter they said: A consensus emerging out of the East Asian library community seems to be that we have no overwhelmingly compelling reasons to switch to pinyin in 1981 at this time. We therefore strongly urge LC to defer the decision to switch until such time as machine readable processing is available for Chinese and other East Asian script materials. This sentiment is now definitely much stronger than was indicated in the numerical results of the national survey on this question conducted by the Committee on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) and submitted to you in August".

(CEAL Bulletin No. 60
October 1979)

Automation of East Asian Serials in the Pacific Coast Area

The 1979 annual meeting of Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast was held at the Evergreen State College, Olympia, Washington, June 15-17. At a panel entitled "The Automation of East Asian Serials in the Pacific Coast Area", five librarians from West Coast institutions shared their experience with the automation of East Asian serials. One of the Panel discussants, Karl Lo, University of Washington, proposed the compilation of a Union List of East Asian Serials on the West Coast, not only to serve regional needs, but also to hasten the realisation of a national union list of East Asian serials.

(CEAL Bulletin No. 60
October 1979)

Great Britain:Chinese Automation Grant to Cambridge University Library

The British Library has awarded Cambridge University Library a grant of £65,400 over three years to investigate processing of Chinese and Japanese characters in automated library catalogues using the newly developed Ideographic Encoder for input. A project team will explore the possibilities of producing an automated catalogue with integrated roman and ideographic scripts, and it will develop the Encoder to handle about 15,000 characters. With the aid of suitably designed programs on a minicomputer, the user will be able to input Chinese and Japanese characters, their romanised forms and the Standard Telegraphic Code... Further information can be obtained from the project head, Mr Alan Tucker, Cambridge University Library, West Road, Cambridge CB3 9DR.

(British Library News,
Aug. 1979)

Bodleian Library Japanese Holdings

In December 1979 the main collections of Japanese books in the Bodleian were counted with a view to assessing the present value of the collections. At the time of counting, the books in the two main collections, shelfmarked Jap. and Ikeda., numbered 8,636 titles in 18,832 volumes, plus 1,772 volumes of bound periodicals - in all 20,604 volumes.

Apart from some 300 volumes of literary translations, Western language material is excluded from these figures, as are manuscripts, a small collection of mainly late 19th century books and all Japanese books in the main Bodleian collections, these being mostly library catalogues.

By J.M. Bunn
(Japan Library Group
Newsletter, No. 2,
April 1980)

Mr K.B. Gardner in Japan

Mr K.B. Gardner, Curator of the Japanese Collection - British Library visited Japan in August and September 1979. The objects of his visit were to convey six illustrated manuscripts from the British Library and British Museum to and from Japan for exhibition in Tokyo and Kyoto; to attend an international study-conference on illustrated manuscripts of the 16th and 17th centuries (Nara-ehon and Nara-emaki); and to keep a weather eye open for Japanese antiquarian books and manuscripts which might be worth acquiring for the British Library.

(Japan Library Group
Newsletter No. 2,
April 1980)

Europe:

Korean Periodicals

A union catalogue of Korean periodicals in European libraries is currently being compiled by Mr Norbert Adami of Bochum University. Mr Adami has already (late March) visited several UK and German libraries, as well as that of the University of Vienna; he plans to cover the Parisian libraries and that of Leiden in April and May. It is hoped to cover Eastern European, Scandinavian and Southern European collections.

The catalogue will include only periodicals in the Korean language, from both South and North Korea; undoubtedly it will be of the greatest value to librarians concerned with Korea. Mr Adami is the author of Die Russische Koreaforschung, Bibliographie 1682-1976, Wiesbaden 1978, a particularly thorough work in a field which has received little attention in Western Europe.

(Japan Library Group
Newsletter, No. 2,
April 1980)

5. EALGA Activities

a. EALGA Seminar to be held in August 1980

There will be another EALGA AGM-cum-seminar this year, this time during the Asian Studies Association of Australia's biennial conference at Griffith University in Brisbane. The date and time have been fixed as the evening of Thursday 28 August, which has been set aside by the ASAA Conference committee for special interest groups. The meeting will be followed by a dinner, such as was done at the previous ASAA conference in Sydney. At the meeting, Dr Penny Herbert will present a paper on

the history of libraries in China; Mr Sidney Wang will present a report on modern Chinese libraries based on his recent visit to the PRC. Mr I.S. Chan will give a paper on Chinese publications in China and Taiwan. There may also be a paper on an aspect of Japanese publishing and bookselling, and the high cost of books to libraries.

If anyone has any suggestions either for the programme or for the agenda of the AGM, please send them to Mr S.W. Wang, Orientalia, National Library of Australia, Canberra A.C.T. 2600.

b. Committee on Automation of East Asian Cataloguing

The Committee of Automation of East Asian Cataloguing. Remember this? It was established at the August 1979 AGM, during the LAA Conference in Canberra to liaise between East Asian libraries thinking of going into automation. So far the Committee has not heard from anyone about such activities or anything else. The Committee would like to present a report to the 1980 AGM so needs input from members. If you have any news, views, comments relating to automating East Asian catalogues, please send them either to Ms Susan Prentice, Asian Studies Division, The Library, Australian National University, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600 or Ms Nikki White, Orientalia, National Library of Australia, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600.

c. Election

On 5 November 1979 nominations were called for the Executive Committee of the East Asian Librarians' Group of Australia. There were three positions to be filled, namely Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson/Editor and Secretary/Treasurer.

Only three nominations were received by the Returning Officer by the closing date of 14 December 1979, being one nomination for each position. Therefore the following people were elected to form the Committee for 1980-1981.

Chairperson - Mr I.S. Chan, Australian National
University Library
Vice-Chairperson/Editor - Mr S.W. Wang, National
Library of Australia
Secretary/Treasurer - Ms N.D. White, National
Library of Australia