

# News of the Profession

Prepared by ROBERT I. CRANE

## Recent Acquisitions of Chinese Diplomatic Archives, Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, Taiwan, Republic of China<sup>1</sup>

(Report prepared by Professor David Nelson Rowe, Yale University)

During 1955 the Foreign Office of the Republic of China, in Taipei, Taiwan, deposited with the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, at Nankang (a suburb of Taipei), a large part of its diplomatic archives. These materials, from the archives of the Foreign Office which were brought over from the mainland intact, cover the period from the mid-nineteenth century to the year 1926. They were sent to Academia Sinica in over two hundred cases, each case having a content of approximately nine cubic feet, thus making a total volume of documents of approximately 1,800 cubic feet.

The preponderant bulk of these materials consists in individual documents only roughly classified. There are also files of correspondence, telegrams, official intergovernmental communications, memorials, and edicts, which are arranged both topically and chronologically. In addition to these raw or semi-raw materials, there are also a number of compilations, copied from the original documents and compiled into "Files" by subject matter. The easiest way to visualize these Files is by comparing them with that well-known collection of similar documents, the *Ch'ou-pan i-wu shih-mo*, but differing from it, each file contains materials dealing primarily only with a specific topical field. The work of cataloguing and arranging these materials has been going on now for approximately two years, with adequate staff, so that much of the material can now be said to be reasonably well available for use in research. The staff members of Academia Sinica Institute of Modern History, headed by its Director, Professor Kuo T'ing-ye, are already holding periodic seminars at which research staff members report on their findings made incidental to working on the materials.

During 1955 the attention of the Asia Foundation's Taiwan office, of which the writer was Representative in charge, was called to these materials. Attention was especially focussed on the desirability of publishing documentary sources from this huge collection. It was recognized, of course, that for the present at least the vast bulk of these materials would have to be used in the original form

<sup>1</sup> This report, in an expanded form, was originally read as a paper at the American Historical Association annual meeting, December 1956.

Contributions to the "News of the Profession," to the *Newsletter* of the Association for Asian Studies, Inc., and to the *South Asia Studies Newsletter* should be sent to Professor Robert I. Crane, Department of History, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

as archives, at the Institute of Modern History. Interested scholars would necessarily have to visit Taiwan to study these archives. The sheer mass alone of these materials would preclude any attempt to publish them in toto. Fortunately, however, opportunities seemed to exist for selective publication of materials from the archives.

Attention was focussed on the so-called "Files." These Files had been prepared in the Foreign Office, to facilitate ready reference by subject matter. These compilations had been copied off from the original documents by the clerks of the Foreign Office, bound in volumes of uniform format, and brought together in series. These materials were checked over at the Institute of Modern History by Dr. William R. Schultz, the Asia Foundation Assistant Representative, on the basis of a list of them prepared by the Institute. It was then proposed by the Institute of Modern History that these compilations be made the basis for a program of publication to be subsidized by the Asia Foundation in the shape of a revolving fund for publication. The fund for publication was set up in Taiwan in June 1956, and the work got under way.

In total, the existing compilations, hereafter referred to as Files, numbered twenty-three, in a total of 3,998 *ts'e* (Chinese fascicles), comprising approximately 191,580 folios (double pages). From these figures it will be seen that any publication program limited to these Files would still have much flexibility as to choice of materials. Furthermore, the sheer size of this segment of the archives would challenge the human and financial resources available for some time to come, in the work of preparation, publication, and distribution.

For the information of the scholarly public, I will list at this point the various Files, with relevant data as to size of the file, period covered, and subjects involved (all folio numbers are estimated):

(1) Relations with the Four Powers (Great Britain, the United States, Russia, and France): 1851–60, 45 *ts'e*, 4,500 folios.

(2) Relations with Various Foreign Powers (especially devoted to the English-French alliance with regard to Chinese problems): Two sections: 1861–62 and 1861–64, 9 *ts'e*, 680 folios.

(3) Maritime Defenses of China: 1875–1911, 305 *ts'e*, 20,000 folios. This large and extremely important compilation is subdivided as follows:

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| (a) establishment of railroads       | (f) founding of the Foochow shipyards   |
| (b) purchase of ships                | (g) establishment of telegraphic communications   |
| (c) purchase of warships             | (h) mining  |
| (d) purchase of machinery            | (i) miscellaneous, including materials on shipyards, steel mills, technical schools, etc. |
| (e) construction of small steamships |   |

(4) Revision and Exchange of Treaties with Foreign Powers: 1861–91, 200 *ts'e*, 12,000 folios.

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|-------------------|--|
| (a) Germany       | (e) Great Britain and France                               |
| (b) United States | (f) treaties with France                                   |
| (c) Japan         | (g) revision of treaties with Great Britain                |
| (d) Russia        | (h) revision and exchange of treaties with various nations |

(5) Territorial Concessions to Various Nations: 1861–1908, 426 *ts'e*, 11,000 folios.

- |                   |             |
|-------------------|-------------|
| (a) Great Britain | (e) Germany |
| (b) France        | (f) Japan   |
| (c) Russia        | (g) others  |
| (d) United States |             |

(6) Foreign Missionary Activities: 1861–1908, 614 *ts'e*, 25,000 folios.

- (a) (b) cases in the various provinces  
(c) missions from the various foreign powers

(7) Treaty Ports: 1861–1902, 344 *ts'e*, 17,000 folios.

- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| (a) Great Britain | (d) Japan  |
| (b) United States | (e) Russia |
| (c) Germany       | (f) others |

(8) Establishment of Missions in Various Foreign Countries: 1881–1908, 9 *ts'e*, 100 folios.

(9) Negotiations with Various Foreign Powers, Including Cases Concluded and Pending: 1862–1911, 658 *ts'e*, 26,000 folios. This file contains the following subcategories:

- |   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| (a) negotiations conducted by the central government.             | (e) negotiations with France        |
| (b) negotiations conducted by the various provincial governments. | (f) negotiations with Japan         |
| (c) negotiations with the United States                           | (g) negotiations with Russia        |
| (d) negotiations with Great Britain                               | (h) negotiations with Germany       |
|   | (i) negotiations with other nations |

(10) Overland Trade: 1862–1902, 69 *ts'e*, 1,400 folios.

- |                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| (a) overland trade | (c) trade by sea with Russia                  |
| (b) border trade   | (d) miscellaneous materials on overland trade |

(11) Northwest Border Defense Problems: 1864–1902, 47 *ts'e*, 2,400 folios.

(12) Eastern Border Defense and Trade: 1889–1911, 45 *ts'e* and 7 loose folders, 2,000 folios.

(13) Indo-Chinese Relations: 1851–77, 110 *ts'e*, 13,000 folios. This compilation is subdivided as follows:

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|---|---|
| (a) defense problems in Indo-China                  | (i) Tseng's negotiations  |
| (b) French aggression in Indo-China                 | (j) the outbreak of hostilities between China and France        |
| (c) treaties between France and Indo-China          | (k) French troops invade Mingheh                                |
| (d) intelligence work for defense                   | (l) Li Fu's discussions and the Indo-Chinese War                |
| (e) French intentions to occupy Peichi              | (m) the initiation of Sino-French discussions                   |
| (f) the French attack on Indo-China                 | (n) the conclusion of a Sino-French Treaty and postwar measures |
| (g) planning for the Yunnan-Indo-China defense      | (o) discussions of border questions                             |
| (h) Li Pao's negotiations and defense of Indo-China |   |

(14) Korean Relations: 1865–1908, 255 *ts'e*, 9,000 folios. This compilation is subdivided into twenty-three categories, each containing materials grouped around a number of specific problems. The description here is too detailed to list as above; however, reference to one subcategory should illustrate the kind of materials included. For instance, sub-item (u) contains materials on:

- 1—the dispatch of Li Hung-chang to Japan to negotiate the Shimoneseki Treaty; and
- 2—the dispatch of Chang Yin-huan to Japan for negotiations; etc.

(15) Negotiation of Foreign Loans: 1875–1902, 85 *ts'e*, 7,500 folios.

(16) Settlement of the Boxer Incident: 1901–03, 141 *ts'e*, 6,500 folios. The compilation is subdivided as follows:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (a) negotiations on the Baron von Ketteler case                    | (g) repairs to foreign missions and other indemnities  |
| (b) negotiations with the various powers                           | (h) negotiations with the various powers concerning trade, navigation, etc.                          |
| (c) agreements concerning the capital and surrounding area         | (i) negotiations concerning the stationing of legation guards at the embassies of the various powers |
| (d) incidents concerning foreign missionaries in various provinces | (j) files on the restoration of peace in the capital   |
| (e) the punishment of Boxer leaders and implicated officials       | (k) files on the payment of indemnities and the protection of foreign residents                      |
| (f) the dispatch of a special envoy to Japan                       | (l) files on the revision of the internal revenue system   |

An attached file contains materials concerned with the above incident as reported by Manchurian provincial officials.

(17) Establishment of Missions Abroad: 1892–1911, 90 *ts'e*, 6,500 folios.

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|--------------------------|--|
| (a) in the United States | (g) in Holland and Belgium                   |
| (b) in Russia            | (h) files on Li Hung-chang's missions abroad |
| (c) in Great Britain     | (i) files on Chinese students abroad         |
| (d) in Japan             | (j) reports from Chinese foreign missions    |
| (e) in Germany           | (k) missions' expenses                       |
| (f) in France            |  |

(18) Relations with Burma: 1886–1910, 12 *ts'e*, 600 folios.

- (a) files from the Tsung-li Ya-men relating to Burmese relations
- (b) files from the Foreign Office relating to Burmese relations

(19) Tibetan Relations: 1902–14, 27 *ts'e*, 3,000 folios.

- (a) files from the Tsung-li Ya-men
- (b) files from the Wai-chiao-pu
- (c) files from the Republican Foreign Office

(20) Files from the Wai-chiao-pu Related to Amoy: 1906–11, 8 *ts'e*, 1,400 folios. These materials are arranged into 9 subject categories, dealing with such matters as the apprehension of bandits, the settlement of border problems, harbor affairs, etc.

(21) Payment of Indemnities: 1902-05, 15 *ts'e*, 1,500 folios.

(22) Navigation and Shipping Problems with the Various Foreign Powers: 1865-1909, 185 *ts'e*, 5,500 folios.

(23) Telegraphic Communications: 299 *ts'e*, 15,000 folios. These raw materials are divided into incoming and outgoing categories.

Of vital importance in connection with publication of materials of this kind is the existence of duplication, in these Files, of previously published materials. Accordingly, representative samples of these Files were compared with already published collections, such as the *Ch'ou-pan i-wu shih-mo*, *Ch'ing-chi wai-chiao shih-liao* and the two published collections on Chinese-Japanese and Chinese-French relations. It is not possible to provide a definitive statement of how much duplication exists, but estimates were that duplication would run to from ten to thirty-five per cent, in the various Files. In general, new materials in these Files, not previously published, were of uniformly high orders of importance. And up to the end of 1956, this early estimate was strongly confirmed in the course of preparing the initial Files for publication.

It was agreed to publish selected Files intact, by photo-offset, without editing. The only processes to be included in the preparatory work were the preparation of front matter and tables of contents, the provision of alternate and correct characters in the case of obvious errors of original transcription (original errors being identified by "circling" the characters in the text, but with marginal correction), and punctuation of the text. In this preparatory process, special cards would be prepared for each document, giving analysis of subject matter, and listing names and other words for final use in compilation of indexes, by reference to pagination of published Files.<sup>2</sup>

Final policy as to choice of Files for priority in publication was arrived at by a delicate balancing of numerous considerations. Among these were: inherent interest of the subject matter, cost of publication, and amount of duplication with already published documentary collections. Adjustment and reconciliation of these considerations, and arrival at a final policy, was the joint concern of the Asia Foundation Taiwan office, and The Institute of Modern History. Priorities were established as follows:

- 1—Item (3) Maritime Defenses of China
- 2—Item (13) Indo-Chinese Relations
- 3—Item (19) Tibetan Relations
- 4—Item (16) Settlement of the Boxer Incident
- 5—Item (17) Establishment of Missions Abroad
- 6—Item (8) Establishment of Missions in Various Foreign Nations.

Item (3) is now scheduled for publication in April or May 1957. This File was chosen for publication largely because it deals generally with matters related to

<sup>2</sup> Indexes will be prepared for each set of the Files published. The Academia Sinica Institute of Modern History has available the services of trained indexers. A team of these workers participated with the writer during 1954-56 in completing his own forthcoming index to the *Ch'ou-pan i-wu shih-mo*, a project which has been under way for a number of years.

the modernization of China, as can be seen from the subject matter breakdown given earlier. The second File to be published, Item (13), is expected to appear in January 1958. It is suggested that all inquiries regarding purchase of sets of the first File be sent to the Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica, 115 East Heping Road Section I, Taipei, Taiwan. The sale price of the first set is now tentatively established at U.S. \$40 for fifteen volumes with a total of 10,100 pages. This does not include the index, to appear later.

One fact should be emphasized strongly. That is, that these Files, and the newly deposited archives in general, are far from being narrowly concerned merely with formal diplomacy or international relations. It is already the opinion of the experts concerned that these archives reflect in their contents almost every major concern of the historian of society and culture. This being the case, they represent the most outstanding recent opening up of new evidence on modern Chinese history, as well as on the relations of China with the outside world during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The archives as a whole are already open to the use of qualified scholars. Inquiries about the use of them should be addressed to the Director of the Institute of Modern History, Prof. Kuo T'ing-ye, at the address cited above.

In this connection a question has already been raised as to the possibility of microfilming these materials, for deposit in libraries and at research centers outside of Taiwan. It is established that permission for microfilming these materials is not within the authority of Academia Sinica to grant, but is reserved to the Foreign Office. It is believed that given responsible applications for permission of this sort, it could be granted. Of course the Institute of Modern History does not at present possess microfilming facilities, so that any movement to secure film would necessarily be technically supported and financed by the libraries or institutes concerned. The writer is preparing a proposal for financing the micro-filming of segments of these archives.

### East Asian Studies at Stanford University

Of the various areas of the non-Western world, Eastern Asia—primarily China and Japan—receives particular attention at Stanford University. Interest in this region is reflected in the broad range of courses focussed on China and Japan, in the number of faculty members devoting the major portion of their time to teaching and research on Eastern Asia, in the creation of large collections on China and Japan in the Hoover Library, and in several special programs involving cooperative effort with Asian scholars and institutions.

*Teaching*—Stanford offers instruction related to Eastern Asia at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Undergraduate students with strongly developed interests in this area generally major in history or in the department of Asiatic and Slavic studies. The undergraduate who desires to acquaint himself with one or another aspect of China or Japan may choose among a large number of courses, e.g., Oriental Art, Chinese and Japanese Literature, the History of East Asian Civilizations, Diplomatic History of the Far East, Modern Chinese Thought and Government and Politics of Japan. A great deal of undergraduate instruction is carried on in small groups, seminars, and colloquia.

For graduate students there are varied programs combining training in a discipline with study of China or Japan. At the Masters degree level, students may enroll in one of the following departments: Anthropology, Communications and Journalism, Economics, Geography, History, Philosophy, or Political Science; or in the International Relations Program. Programs are developed according to individual needs. Students generally combine work in their discipline with a selection of courses on Eastern Asia offered by other departments. The thesis may be written on an East Asia subject in one of the departments listed above.

Most candidates for the doctorate enroll in the Department of History which offers advanced work on China and Japan, and on the diplomatic history of the Far East. Programs can be developed in the Anthropology, Economics, or Political Science departments; in the Food Research Institute; or in Special Programs in the Graduate Division. These Special Programs are designed for the unusually well qualified student whose needs can best be met by an individual program embracing work in several departments. In such cases, a special committee under the Dean of the Graduate Division supervises the candidate's program of study and his dissertation.

The Department of Asiatic and Slavic Studies offers three years of modern Chinese and Japanese, and facilities are available for more advanced instruction in the classical languages of these two countries, or in the special field of the student's interest.

*Research*—Faculty research concerning Eastern Asia tends at Stanford to be conducted on an individual basis. During recent years, however, there has been a natural convergence of research interests on certain major themes in the thought and society of China and Japan. Some faculty members work on problems in the field of intellectual history, others on philosophic systems. Some are engaged in the study of values, while others do research on political ideology and behavior. A variety of humanistic and social science approaches are represented in this work. In addition Stanford faculty members continue to have an active research interest in the field of Far Eastern international relations.

To supplement the lively informal exchange of ideas that has been characteristic of the Stanford faculty, a Committee on East Asian Research, with Professor Arthur F. Wright as chairman, was recently appointed by the president. This Committee provides advice and guidance on matters pertaining to research and advises on graduate programs concerning Eastern Asia. The Committee also sponsors, jointly with the Stanford-Tokyo University Collaborative Studies Program (described below), a research seminar on East Asian Thought and Society. This seminar, attended by faculty and advanced graduate students, serves as a forum for the presentation of the results of studies by scholars from Stanford and other institutions.

The research orientation of the Stanford faculty may be indicated by the following brief description of research interests and recent publications:

*Asiatic and Slavic Studies*—Robert Brower (Japanese language and literature) is currently engaged in a study of Japanese classical poetry through Kamakura times in collaboration with Earl Miner of UCLA. Their work is supported by a Rockefeller grant. Jin'ichi Konishi of the Tokyo University of Education, who

is coming to Stanford in May for a year's study, will advise and assist in this study. Shau Wing Chan (Chinese language and literature) is engaged in a systematic study of Chinese literature and literary movements from 1900 to the present.

*History*—Claude A. Buss (Diplomatic history of the Far East) whose book, *The Far East*, was published in 1955 is writing on British Far Eastern policy since World War II. Thomas C. Smith (Japanese economic and social history), author of *Political Change and Industrial Development in Japan* (1955), is at work on the history of the Japanese peasantry, 1600–1860. Arthur F. Wright (Chinese intellectual and social history) who edited *Studies in Chinese Thought* (1954) is working on the cultural and intellectual history of the Sui dynasty, 581–626 and on problems in the development of Chinese thought.

*Hoover Institute*—Nobutaka Ike (Japanese politics) whose book on *Japanese Politics* was published in 1957 is continuing his research on Japanese political behavior. Sir George Sansom is writing a three-volume history of Japan, the first volume of which is expected to appear shortly. Mary C. Wright (Modern Chinese history) whose work, *The Last Stand of Chinese Conservatism* appeared in 1957 is engaged in a study of the intellectual history of 20th-century China.

*Philosophy*—David S. Nivison (Chinese and comparative philosophy) has contributed essays to *Studies in Chinese Thought* and to various journals. He continues to be engaged in studies of Chinese philosophy of the 17th and 18th centuries and on a study of presuppositions for the comparative study of ideas.

*Political Science*—Kurt Steiner (Japanese government and politics) has recently published articles in the *Far Eastern Quarterly* and *American Political Science Review* on Japanese local government and is working on a monograph on local government in Japan.

*Library Collections*—The Stanford University Library has an excellent collection of Western-language works on China and Japan. The Chinese and Japanese collections in the Hoover Library, of which Mary C. Wright and Nobutaka Ike are curators, now numbers about 55,000 and 30,000 volumes respectively, and are being systematically enlarged through a continuing acquisitions program. These collections, devoted primarily to modern history and the social sciences, contain standard works, government publications, files of newspapers and periodicals, monographs, pamphlets, and leaflets. Many items cannot be duplicated elsewhere. A basic collection of Chinese and Japanese works on pre-modern history and on literature transferred some time ago from the University Library to the Hoover Library provides background material for the study of the modern period. For a fuller report on the Library, see *FEQ*, XIV (May 1955), 446–447.

*Special Programs*—The Stanford-Tokyo University Collaborative Studies Program, begun in 1955, grew out of the Stanford-Tokyo University seminar on American Studies. It is supported by private funds supplemented by Rockefeller and Fulbright grants. The aim of the program is to bring Japanese scholars to Stanford to work with American scholars on problems of mutual interest in the general field of East Asian thought and society. Sir George Sansom is Honorary



Chairman of the Program, and Thomas C. Smith serves as Director. Professor Nobushige Ukai is working under the program on aspects of the modernization of Japanese law. Professor Jin'ichi Konishi's stay at Stanford is made possible by the program; during his one year visit he will be working on the influence of Chinese literature on the development of Japanese literary traditions.

The Committee on Chinese Thought which is a standing committee of the Association for Asian Studies has its headquarters at Stanford. Arthur F. Wright serves as chairman of the Committee. The Committee's second symposium, *Thought and Institutions in China* edited by John K. Fairbank has recently been published. A new four year program supported by the Rockefeller Foundation takes as its problem theme "Confucianism in action"; a series of conferences and symposia and other publications are being planned.

Stanford, along with Harvard and Michigan, is participating in a program of cooperation with law schools in selected private and government universities in Japan. The program, supported by the Ford Foundation, involves, (1) bringing Japanese law teachers and judges to the United States for advanced study, (2) sending American law professors to teach at Japanese universities, (3) providing fellowships to enable American law school graduates to study law in Japan, and Japanese law school graduates to study American law in the United States.

In the summer of 1957 a Seminar for Business Managers of selected Japanese private universities will be held at Stanford under the auspices of the Graduate School of Business with the support of the Rockefeller Foundation. After a series of sessions at Stanford on various aspects of university financing and administration, the group of business managers will visit a number of other universities in the United States.

Finally, beginning in 1952, Stanford University has had the benefit of a series of visiting scholars from Japan, who have stayed anywhere from three months to more than a year. Among those who spent at least one year, lecturing and participating in seminars were Hajime Nakamura (Indology and comparative thought), Hideo Kishimoto (comparative philosophy of religion), Shinzo Kaji (Economics), and Nobushige Ukai (Law and political science).

### A Note on the Journal of the Siam Society

(Report contributed by Professor F. N. Trager, New York University)

The Siam Society and its *Journal* were founded in 1904. To facilitate consultation of its first forty volumes the Society published in Bangkok two indices, Volumes I to XXV and Volumes XXVI-XL, 1935 and 1955 respectively. These have a helpful threefold arrangement: the contents of each volume, seriatim; index of authors; and alphabetical index of subjects. The Society absorbed the Bangkok Natural History Society and also publishes its *Natural History Bulletin*. Perhaps the best introduction to its resources is the two-volume, fiftieth-anniversary commemorative publication: *Selected Articles from The Siam Society Journal*, Vol. I, 1904-29 and Vol. II, 1929-53, 290 and 300 pages, Bangkok, 1954.

The volumes present a cross section from the types of articles published by the Society in history, legal history, philology, and the arts. It is pleasant to record here that the publication of these two volumes was made possible through the good offices of the former and much admired American Ambassador to Thailand, the Hon. Edwin F. Stanton, and the Far Eastern Regional Production Center of the U. S. Information Service in Manila. The address of the Society is 60 Asoka Road, Bangkok, Bangkok.

CORRECTION, VOLUME XV, NUMBER 4

Page 649, lines 14-15: According to a communication from Professor Charles O. Houston, Jr. of the University of Manila, the President of the Bibliographical Society of the Philippines at the time of the report was not Professor Gabriel A. Bernardo. He was the first President, serving until April 1953, and subsequently followed in office by Professor Houston, Mr. Mauro Garcia, and Mr. Ildefonso Santos.

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ANNOUNCING—

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