

Report of the Editor of *The Journal of Asian Studies*

May I begin my final report as Editor of the *Journal* by asking you to note certain features of our operations during 1968 as compared with earlier years. Tabular data, appended to these comments, will exhibit in greater detail varied aspects of the operations and problems faced by the *Journal*.

There has been a continued growth in the circulation of the *Journal*. In November, 1965 we mailed 5,197 copies, in November, 1967 we mailed 6,148 copies, and in August, 1968 we mailed 6,419. In all, we mailed 2,198 more copies of Volume XXVII than of Volume XXVI. This represents almost a 10 per cent increase.

The overall cost of printing also mounted, going up in the year (1967 to 1968) by 31 per cent. However, the increase in printing and mailing costs in part at least reflected the growth in circulation and mailing reported above and also the growth in size. Volume XXVII was 24 per cent greater in number of pages than was Volume XXVI. This in turn reflected a 10 per cent increase in the number of articles, review articles, notes and comments published in the most recent volume. In particular, the number of pages devoted to review articles increased substantially. There was, however, a small decline (5 per cent) in the number of pages devoted to book reviews and book notes. The number of book reviews, book notes, and other books received went down, I am sorry to say, by almost 10 per cent.

This unhappy development reflects several factors. On the one hand there has been some decline in the number of books sent to our journal for review in the past six months. We are now taking steps to correct that lag. In addition, our review editors report increasing difficulty in getting appropriate colleagues to agree to review books for the *Journal*. Finally, books that have been sent out for review remain unreviewed much longer than used to be the case, as a growing number of reviewers fall further behind in their commitments to meet deadlines. As was noted in my report a year ago, it is much harder than it was when I became Editor of the *Journal* to get books reviewed and to get the reviews in on time. Despite all these difficulties it should, however, be noted that our two excellent review editors did manage to secure and get into print 250 book reviews, only 13 fewer than the total number of reviews printed in the previous volume.

Among the published articles and review articles, China again led the list of Asian areas and, in fact, increased its lead over all other Asian areas by comparison with the previous volume. If I were a China specialist I know I would be accused of favoritism. Of a total of 37 items in the category, almost half (17) were on China. This is not really a healthy situation for an association with a heterogenous membership such as ours. However, quality of scholarship was in each case *the* decisive factor and on that basis the China articles led the list. Japan came second with seven articles or review articles and India third with four.

History led the list of disciplines, though the predominance of history was certainly reduced in 1968. Political Science and Economics were tied for second place and several other disciplines were adequately represented in what was a better disciplinary spread than most previous volumes have shown.

It should be noted that during 1968 we received and processed a total of 161 manuscripts, which is by far the largest number the *Journal* has ever had to process in one year. That represents better than three manuscripts through our office per week. In the previous year we had handled a record load of 141 manuscripts. (In 1966 we had only 125 manuscripts to process.)

Of the 161 manuscripts that came in during 1968, we had by February 1, 1969, rejected 50 and accepted 17. The balance, 94 manuscripts are under consideration or out for revision or awaiting a second or third referee. The steady growth in the number of incoming manuscripts has, of course, put a much greater burden upon our office, upon the associate and assistant editors and upon those loyal members upon whom we have to call to serve as referees. I fear that, inadvertently, a group of trusted scholars, known to me and my editorial associates for their ability, integrity and cooperativeness have been overburdened in the past years as the number of manuscripts to be evaluated climbed upward. To those devoted volunteers and to my unpaid editorial associates whose names appear on the masthead I owe, and the members of the Association owe, a major debt of genuine gratitude. If it were not for their unsung services in reading and evaluating manuscripts there would be no *Journal of Asian Studies*.

Among the 161 manuscripts that were submitted, 48 were concerned with India, 39 with China, and 23 with Japan. This showed a substantial increase with respect to Japan over the previous year and reflected the efforts our editorial board made in the preceding months. We also had a general increase in the number of manuscripts that were submitted dealing with Southeast Asia. There was similarly an increase in the submission of manuscripts concerned with Korea.

As always, History led the list of submissions, with 53 out of 161. Political Science counted 30 of the total submissions, and Economics ran third with 22 manuscripts. Anthropology was fourth with 11 manuscripts, while Language and Literature was tied in fifth place with Philosophy. Your Editor is very encouraged by this enhanced disciplinary spread among the manuscripts sent to the *Journal*.

Of the 250 book reviews we published in Volume XXVII, a total of 70 dealt with China, 61 with South Asia and 50 with Southeast Asia. Japan received 33 book reviews. It is my earnest hope that special efforts and remedial measures will raise the number of book reviews in Volume XXVIII by at least 10 per cent, but the membership of the AAS will have to cooperate more if my successor is to achieve that goal.

As I have noted on a previous occasion, the *Journal* does not commission articles. We *select* the best from among the manuscripts that are submitted to us. The membership, is, therefore, really responsible for what is in the *Journal*. If our scholar-readers do not send manuscripts to us we *cannot* select them for publication. Throughout the four years of my Editorship there has been no bias of which I have been aware against any area, field or discipline. Our bias has been in favor of high quality, in original research where possible or in significant and fresh interpretations. We have hoped for articles that would communicate across fields or across disciplinary boundaries and we have tried to avoid the narrowly pedantic.

A year ago, I reported that we were accumulating a backlog of accepted manuscripts. That situation is worse today than it was a year ago. The May and August 1969 issues are by now full and we have in hand enough accepted articles to fill

the November 1969 issue. In addition there are, of course, a substantial number of manuscripts now under consideration. Some of these will have been, in due course, accepted by August when I ship files and records and the Signet to Professor Harrison. The growth of the backlog is vexing, but there is no way out of it unless the Board allows me or my successor to publish 2 or 3 issues with 11 rather than 9 articles in them. The backlog *hurts* our *Journal* as good potential authors hear about it and send their best manuscripts elsewhere. I regret the growth of this backlog.

A special difficulty we faced in 1968, and will face again in 1969, was a shift in the office of the *Journal*. When the office in Durham closed, all *Journal* files and records were packed by a moving company on August 17th, but unfortunately, these files did not reach Syracuse until September 12th and the office was not properly in operation until the 15th. The gap of a month greatly slowed down our correspondence with many authors, editorial aides, and referees. This caused inconvenience and delay which we much regretted but which was beyond our control. We can only hope the removal from Syracuse to Miami in August, 1969, will be swift and painless. My staff and I will do *all* we can to smooth the transition into the capable hands of Professor Harrison and his associates.

In closing I wish to thank the members of my Advisory Editorial Board who have done so much to help me and to make the *Journal* a reality during my Editorship. Similarly, I owe more than I can express to my Associate Editor, Professor K. C. Liu, and my Assistant Editors, Bernard Silberman and Robert Tilman. They have given ungrudgingly of their time, their great abilities and their good judgment. On a few very trying occasions they have sustained a flagging morale. I owe deep thanks to my overworked and most helpful Review Editors, John Harrison, Richard Park, and Aram Yengoyan. As Editor I have been blessed with fine associates.

I must also pay heartfelt tribute to Mrs. Rose Marie Gillin who was my Editorial Assistant as long as the *Journal* was in Durham and who did a grand and utterly reliable job, and her most able and usually empathetic successor, the very skillful Mrs. Fay Krimper of Syracuse. The move to Syracuse has been greatly facilitated by the fact that Mrs. Norene Kearney serves as the entirely competent and wholly thoughtful Secretary of the *Journal* and takes as much of the burden as any secretary could from my hands.

As always, Victoria Spang and her associates in Ann Arbor give my office all of the aid and backup support we could hope for. The Editor is deeply grateful for the sympathy and help of the Ann Arbor office.

May I close by saying that it has been a privilege and a pleasure to serve the Association for Asian Studies during these four years as Editor of the *Journal*. It has at all times been my desire to keep at the highest level possible the scholarly reputation of the *Journal* and at the same time to make it valuable, lively and interesting to a broad range of the membership of the Association. I have always hoped that a clear majority of our members would look forward with anticipation to receiving each issue of the *Journal*. I trust this ambition was not misplaced.

ROBERT I. CRANE

Syracuse University

I. *Distribution:*

	<i>Mailed</i>	<i>Stored</i>	<i>Total</i>
Volume XXVII			
November 1967—No. 1...	6,148	1,025	7,173
February 1968—No. 2....	6,415	810	7,225
May 1968—No. 3.....	6,676	326	7,002
August 1968—No. 4.....	6,419	964	7,383
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	25,658	3,125	28,783
Volume XXVI			
November 1966—No. 1...	5,458	1,010	6,468
February 1967—No. 2....	5,964	704	6,668
May 1967—No. 3.....	6,184	699	6,883
August 1967—No. 4.....	5,854	1,044	6,898
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,460	3,457	26,917

II. *Advertising Revenue:*

1966	\$6,362.80
1967	6,314.00
1968	

III. *Cost:*

	<i>Pages</i>	<i>Copies</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Volume XXVII			
November 1967—No. 1...	216	7,173	\$ 8,536.47
February 1968—No. 2....	320	7,225	11,665.44
May 1968—No. 3.....	243	7,002	9,605.93
August 1968—No. 4.....	271	7,383	10,329.70
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,050	28,783	\$40,137.54
Volume XXVI			
November 1966—No. 1...	208	6,468	\$ 7,486.97
February 1967—No. 2....	192	6,668	6,784.45
May 1967—No. 3.....	216	6,883	7,823.61
August 1967—No. 4.....	240	6,898	8,432.70
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	856	26,917	\$30,527.73
Offprints			
November 1967—No. 1...	\$ 153.68		
February 1968—No. 2....	236.74		
May 1968—No. 3.....	386.40		
August 1968—No. 4.....	244.59		
	<hr/>		
	\$1,021.41		

November 1966—No. 1 . . .	114.31
February 1967—No. 2	132.42
May 1967—No. 3	147.40
August 1967—No. 4	131.63
	\$ 525.76

Editorial Office Expenses:
 Summer stipend for Editor \$1,750.00

IV. *Size and Space Division:*

	<i>Volume XXVII</i>	<i>Volume XXVI</i>
Total Pages	945	765
Articles, Notes, Comments:		
(Pages)	557	406
(Number)	36	34
Review Articles:		
(Pages)	38	15
(Number)	5	3
Book Reviews, Book Notes and Other Books Received:		
(Pages)	286	301
(Number)	491	549
Number of Books Reviewed:	250	263
Association Annual Report:		
(Pages)	22	17
Communications & Errata:		
(Pages)	4	4
(Number)	10	2

A. *Published Articles, Review Articles, Notes, & Comments*

	<i>Articles and Review Articles</i>		<i>Notes and Comments</i>	
	<i>Volume XXVII</i>	<i>XXVI</i>	<i>Volume XXVII</i>	<i>XXVI</i>
<i>Division by Area</i>				
Asia General	3	0	0	1
South Asia	3	2	0	0
Southeast Asia	3	6	0	1
China	17	11	2	2
India	4	6	1	3
Japan	7	5	1	0

A. *Published Articles, Review Articles, Notes, & Comments (Continued)*

	<i>Articles and Review Articles</i>		<i>Notes and Comments</i>	
	<i>Volume</i>		<i>Volume</i>	
	<i>XXVII</i>	<i>XXVI</i>	<i>XXVII</i>	<i>XXVI</i>
<i>Division by Discipline</i>				
Anthropology.....	2	3	0	0
Art.....	2	0	0	0
Economics.....	4	2	0	0
Geography.....	3	1	0	0
History.....	14	20	4	4
Law.....	3	0	0	0
Language & Literature..	2	1	0	0
Political Science.....	4	2	0	0
Sociology.....	2	0	0	0
Other.....	1	1	0	3

B. *Selection of Articles, Notes & Comments*

<i>Division by Area</i>	<i>Sub- mitted</i>		<i>Re- jected</i>		<i>Ac- cepted</i>		<i>Pending</i>	
	<i>'68</i>	<i>'67</i>	<i>'68</i>	<i>'67</i>	<i>'68</i>	<i>'67</i>	<i>'68</i>	<i>'67</i>
South Asia.....	2	3	1	2	1	1	0	0
Asia General.....	8	6	2	5	2	1	4	0
Central Asia.....	1	2	0	2	0	0	1	0
Southeast Asia....	3	2	2	1	0	0	1	1
Burma.....	1	4	0	3	0	0	1	1
Cambodia.....	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ceylon.....	5	4	1	2	1	2	3	0
China.....	39	44	11	13	4	15	24	16
India.....	48	49	15	23	6	7	27	19
Indonesia.....	2	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
Japan.....	23	14	8	7	1	3	14	4
Korea.....	9	3	1	1	0	0	8	2
Malaya.....	5	1	3	1	0	0	2	0
Nepal.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pakistan.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Philippines.....	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0
Thailand.....	5	3	2	1	1	1	2	1
Vietnam.....	7	3	2	3	1	0	4	0
Totals.....	161	141	50	67	17	30	94	44

<i>Division by Discipline</i>	<i>Sub- mitted</i>		<i>Re- jected</i>		<i>Ac- cepted</i>		<i>Pending</i>	
	'68	'67	'68	'67	'68	'67	'68	'67
Anthropology.....	11	6	1	2	2	1	8	3
Art.....	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Demography.....	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Economics.....	22	11	10	4	2	3	10	4
Education.....	1	4	0	2	0	1	1	1
Geography.....	1	2	0	1	0	0	1	1
History.....	53	47	16	15	4	14	33	18
Int'l Relations....	4	4	1	3	0	0	3	1
Lang. & Lit.....	9	12	4	5	0	4	5	3
Law.....	1	5	0	1	1	2	0	2
Libraries.....	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Philosophy.....	9	11	3	8	1	1	5	2
Political Science...	30	22	9	16	4	2	17	4
Religion.....	5	5	1	4	0	0	4	1
Sociology.....	7	9	2	4	1	2	4	3
Music.....	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Other.....	4	nc*	2	nc	0	nc	2	nc
Totals.....	161	141	50	67	17	30	94	44

[* nc: no category in 1967]

C. *Published Book Reviews and Book Notes*

<i>Reviews: Division by Area</i>	<i>Volume XXVII</i>	<i>Volume XXVI</i>
Asia General.....	15	10
Central Asia.....	9	4
South Asia.....	61	86
Southeast Asia.....	50	65
Ceylon.....	3	3
China.....	70	54
Japan.....	33	27
Korea.....	4	4
Pakistan.....	5	10
Totals.....	250	263

Notes: Division by Area

Asia General.....	2	7
Central Asia.....	0	0
South Asia.....	6	7
Southeast Asia.....	3	2

C. *Published Book Reviews and Book Notes (Continued)*

<i>Reviews: Division by Area</i>	<i>Volume XXVII</i>	<i>Volume XXVI</i>
Ceylon.....	0	0
China.....	5	8
Japan.....	2	2
Korea.....	0	0
Pakistan.....	0	1
	—	—
Totals.....	18	27