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ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY KOREA BRANCH GENERAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1960

During 1960 the membership of the Royal Asiatic Society grew from 355 to 562. Due to the interest of the members in things Korean and the battery of talent available, the long established usage of “no meetings during July and August” was discarded. Twelve regular meetings were held. Dates, speakers, and subjects on which they spoke follow.

January 6th Dr Glenn Paiere, of USOM, Minnesota Group; “Oriental Studies in the Soviet Union”

February 3rd Professor George Rainer, of Seoul National University: “The Chinese Book of Songs”

March 2nd Mr Chester Fennell, of Civilian Personnel, 8th Army: “Korean Birds”

April 6th Associate Professor Kim Chin-man, Chairman of

the English Depertment of the Songgyun-gwan University: “History of the Songgyungwan”

May 4th Dr Kim Che-won，Director of the National Museum: “Excavation on the Site of Kamunsa.” (感恩寺) This lecture was illustrated with colour¬ed slides,

June 8th Mr Alan C. Hey man, an authority on Korean

folk music, assisted by Professor Chi Yong-hi, Prof essor of the Korean Folk Music Arts School: “An Introduction to Korean Folk Music.” The lecture was followed by an excellent programme.

July 13th Dr John King Fairbanks Henry Lee Higginson

Professor of History, Harvard: “An Historian Looks at Modern China.” A reception and dinner for Dr Fairbank preceded the lecture.

August 3rd Dr Edward Wagner, of the Harvard-Yenching

Institute: “The Political Structure of the Early Yi Dynasty”

September 7th Dr David Chung, member of the Faculty of

Kon-guk University: “The Three Religions Are One Principle”

October 6th Dr Edwin Reischauer, Director of the Harvard

Yenching Institute: “Korean History as Part of World History.” A reception and dinner preceded the lecture.

November 2nd Mr Han Kap-su, one of the Directors of the

Han’gul Society: “The History of Han’gul and its [page114]

Movement”

December 7th The Revd Edward Poitras, of the Methodist

Mission: “Japanese Agricultural Policy in Korea During the Period of Annexation.” This was also the annual meeting at which the election of officers for the coming year took place and the General Report of the Council for the year 1960 was read.

With the exception of the September meeting which, through the courtesy of the Cheil Bank, was held in its handsome auditorium, all meetings were held at Korea House. Our continued thanks go to its management for their constant and courteous co-operation in making this most suitable place available to the Society, as well as to the management and staff of the Diplomats Club for the tea and coffee they provide for our refreshment.

In addition to the 12 regular meetings held during 1960 there were 10 special meetings. They were:

January 20th An evening of Korean games conducted by Mr Yo Un-hong, now a member of the House of Councillors. Members of the Society were taught how to play a variety of Korean games, both traditional and new.

February 24th A showing of films on Korea. Shown were Ted

Conant’s “Korean Fantasy”, “Calligraphy”, “Mail Boat” , “Cheju-do” , “Winter Comes to the Mountain” , “Sports Festival” , “The Dike”, and “Korea—Pattern for Progress”, The showing was held in OPI Studio B and was a benefit for the Choe Byung Woo Memorial Fund project initiated by the Society during 1959. No admiss¬ion was charged but contributions amounted to hwan 131,000 and dollars 106.00. Thanks for the success of the evening are due to the Office of Public Information for the studio, Mr Ted Conant for its organization and Mr Lee Chung-hak, of the Diplomats Club, for the delicious cakes served.

July 5th A repeat performance of Mr Alan Heyman’s

introduction to Korean folk mustic was given so that those members desirous of making tape recordings and taking movies might have the opportunity to do so.

July 19th Mr Robert Garfias, a Rockefeller grantee doing [page115]

graduate work in Japan on kagaku (Japanese classical music) spoke on “The Korean Musical Element in Japanese Court Music.”

November 4th Tea at the National Museum and a private viewing of the collection of National Treasures which is to tour Europe.

November 9th Mrs Pearl Buck spoke to the Society on the important role incumbent on its members to make Korea sympathetically known to the rest of the world. A reception and dinner in her honour which, because of an indisposition, she was unable to attend, preceded her address.

December 3rd Kimchi making was held at the home of Mr. Carl Miller, that members of the Society might learn to make their own.

December 9th A tea and showing of watercolour paintings of Mr Yi Hi-se at the Korea Information Center.

December 21st A slide show and black and white photograph competition held at St Bede’s House. Special

Christmas refreshments were served. Koryo and Yi vases were given as prizes to the winners as adjudged by the group.

To Korean folklore and plays the members of the Society were introduced on 13th April through a puppet Show given at the Wongak-sa Theatre under the direction of Professor Choe Sang-su, President of the Korean Folklore Society; a mudang performance in the garden of the residence of Mr Carl Miller on 15th September; and an excellently presented Pongsan Mask Drama, conducted by Professor Choe Sang-su at the Wongak-sa Theatre on 19th October.

On Saturday afternoon, 21st May, a Garden Party was held at the hitherto closed Chilgung Ancestral Shrine, a shrine honouring seven concubine mothers of kings of the Yi dynasty. Folk music and farmers’ dances, the beautiful surroundings and the beautiful weather made the event a tremendous success.

On 1st July Queen Yun, on the occasion of receiving Honorary Membership in the Royal Asiatic Society, received its members at tea in the Ch’angdŏk Palace. Thanks are due Mr Oh Chae-kyong for his part in making the arrangements.

On 16th September a reception was held at Kyongmudae at which the President and Mrs Yun Po-sun welcomed the members of the Society. This was followed by a banquet in the candle-lit [page 116]

Kyonghoe-ru, the pavilion in the Lotus Pond of the Kyongbok Palace. The regal repast was followed by an excellent programme of Korean classical music, again under the able direction of Mr. Alan Heyman; and a talk by Dr Kim Che-won on his recent excavations. The affair was a fund-raising one for an archaeological project sponsored by the RAS to open a Paekche tomb in the area of Naju, Cholla Namdo. Hwan 1,220,000 was realized. Thanks for the delightful occasion go to the Tomb Committee: Mrs Hubert J, Evans, Honorary Chairman, and Mesdames Fred Annis, Wilson Beveridge, Kurt R. Mattusch, Eugene Sullivan, John Caspersen, Daniel B. Curll, Miss Angela Ahn and Mr Carl Miller.

On 29th September Mrs Evans gave an English Tea and Card Party in her residence at the British Embassy for RAS wives and their friends, as a further fund raising event. 125 dollars were realized.

On 16tn December a farewell reception was held at Korea House in honour of His Excellency the British Ambassador and Mrs Hubert Evans, who are due to depart from Korea early in the new year.

**TOURS**

In spite of the cancellation, for lack of snow, of the proposed ski trip to Taegwallyong; and the cancellation, because of unsettled conditions, of the late April and early May trips, a total of 19 trips was made during the year, 17 in Korea, 1 to Hong Kong and 1 to Taiwan. With a few exceptions the trips in Korea were to places of beauty not previously visited by the Society. The dates of the trips, the places visited, and the number of people availing themselves of the opportunity offered, follow.

February 11-18 Hong Kong by plane(100,000 Hwan, realized from this trip was put into the Choe Byung-woo Memorial Fund) 73

February 27-28 Kyongju and Pulguk-sa (by train) 25

April 7,8,9 Chinhae and Chinju (Naval Academy 152

Graduation, Cherry Blossom Festival, Farmers

Bands, Archery Contest, Bull Fighting) (by train) April 16-17 Sudok-sa, via Onyang Hot Springs (by bus) 41 May 22 Yoju (by bus) Sillŏk-sa Temple, Tomb of 153

King Sejong

May 27-31 Honam and Puyo, visiting the temples of 70

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Togap-sa, Mui-sa, Taehung-sa, Kwanch’ok- sa (by train, boat, and bus) June 25-26 Pohang Area, Yonil Peninsula, Kamun-sa 86

Temple, Kyongju, Pyonghae Hot Springs (by train and bus) July 16,17,18 Malli’po Beach (by boat from Inch’on) 50

July 24 Chongp’yong Dam (by train) 150

July 30-31 Cholla Pukto, visiting the temples of 30

Kumsan-sa; Sonun-sa; Naesosa; and Wolmyong-am and Pyonsan Beach (Train

& bus)

August 13-16 Cheju-do (by plane and bus) 21

September 1-5 Mallip’o (by boat from Inchon). This trip 45

was in the nature of a farewell to our President,

Dr Richard Hertz.

September 24-25 Sonun-sa, where each took his own food. 21

(by train and bus) October 1-5 Climbing Mudung-san and Chiri-san 5 October 8-10 Maritime excursion from Inchon, exploring 19

the little known islands of the Yellow Sea： Och’ong-do, Oey ondo, Pung-do and Tokchok-do.

October 15-16 Haein-sa (train and bus) 50

October 22-24 Naju for the opening of the Paekche 50

tomb; visiting the temples of Paegyang-sa,

Kwanch’oksa, Kap-sa, lunching at the villa of Pak

Chung-sik， and bathing at Yusong Hot Springs. November 5-8 Cheju-do (by plane) 22

November 19-27 Taiwan(by plane) 70

To coordinate tour activities a Tour Committee has been established with the following members: Mr. Daniel B. Curll, Miss Grace Stone, Mrs Lurabelle Annis, Mrs Hope Sullivan, Mrs Margaret Barrett, Mrs Kurt Mattusch, Mr Carl Miller and Mr Donald Herring. A comprehensive tour schedule for 1961 has been drawn up and approved and will be distributed in the near future.

**OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The Constitution and By-Laws of the Society, unpublished since 1948, were amended by affirmative vote of the Society on 8th June.

150 copies of Transaction XXXV were mailed to various interested institutions. Transaction XXXVI was received and [page118] distributed to members. All material for the printing of Transac¬tion XXXVII is assembled.

89 books have been added to the Society’s library. The present total of 321 volumes is, through the courtesy of Dr Dong Chon, given shelf room at the Korean Research Centre, and is available to members of the Society for reference.

A brochure, designed by Mrs Maya Henderson, has been published. It contains a brief resume of RAS activities with an attached application blank. A supply of these brochures has been sent to various foreign missions for inclusion in the envelopes prepared for newcomers desirous of discovering Korea.

A Post Office Box has been acquired by the Society: PO Box 255, Central Post Office, Seoul.

The Society now boasts a full-time paid secretary, the agreeable and efficient Mr Pak Tae-yong. He can be reached at all times for any information regarding RAS activities at Mr Miller’s office, Bank of Korea, Tel. 2-9141,Extension 223.

A Project Committee has been established and is busily engaged in planning activities for 1961.

In conclusion, the council wishes to greet the Society’s overseas members and assure them of its appreciation of their continued interest and to salute our President of 1959 and 1960, Dr. Richard Hertz, who left in mid-September for his post as German Ambassador to Mexico. [page119]

**REPORT OF THE EXCAVATION OF TWO PAEKCHE TOMBS**

by Kim Wŏn-yong (金元龍)

Curator of the Research Department, National Museum of Korea

The reporter and Mr. Kim Chŏng-gi (金正基), Associate Curator of the Educational Department of the National Museum, excavated two Paekche tombs in Naedongni, Sijong-myŏn, Yŏng-am-gun, Chŏlla Namdo (全羅南道靈岩郡始終面內洞里) from 12th to 26th October 1960 with the aid of funds donated by the Royal Asiatic Society. This is a brief account of the excavation.

Tong-San Ch’ong (洞山塚)

The tomb is so named because it is located on Tong-san.

The Yong-am area, which is bounded on the east by Naju-gun, is noted for numerous Paekche tombs containing jar coffins. Most of them have already been robbed and destroyed by illegal diggers since the late 19th century. However, there are tombs of considerable size that seem to be undamaged. Although these tombs are burials of local chiefs and lesser ranking officers, they may be the only Paekche tombs to reveal the original conditions of Paekche burial, since all the larger, more elaborate tombs around Paekche’s various capitals, such as Puyŏ and Kongiu, have been completely robbed of their contents.

We expected the Tong-san Ch’ong to be one of those virgin tombs far away from Paekche’s central area, but our excavation proved that the tomb had been robbed twice.

The tomb was constructed on a low hill which overlooks the entire village. The mound is roughly circular in plan, and has a diametre of about 24 metres at the base. [page120] Its upper part at a height of about 3 metres from the bottom seemed to have been cut away and levelled by villagers long ago in order to use the place as a kind of summer garden. Several big acacias and a pine tree surround the flat terrace-like top. The mound is made of sand and clay beaten so hard that even picks found difficulty in breaking it. However, the western part of the mound was of softer clay and the difference was easily recognized. Considerable amounts of Paekche potsherds were discovered daring our excavation of crosswise trenches, particularly from the softer section, showing traces of previous robberies.

The main structure of the tomb was found in the southwestern part of the mound at the depth of 0.7 m. from the surface. It was a coffin-like chamber made of a mixture of clay and plaster. Its measurements are: length, 2.14 metres; width, 1.6. metres; height, ca. 0.7 metres; thickness of wall, 0.25 to 0.37 metres. Its long axis runs in a northeasterly direction. The chamber has a longitudinal central wall that divides it into two elongated rooms. The entire chamber is constructed on a hardened bed made of a mixture of clay and charcoal which in turn overlies the virgin soil below. The front side of the chamber had been cut open and a semicircular hole large enough for the removal of funerary gifts had also been made at the eastern side of the ceiling. Not a single object was found inside the chamber this time.

Judging from the potsherds, which must once have been inside the chamber, but were found in the softer section of the mound, the tomb may belong to the sixth century. This type of burial chamber is a new discovery among Paekche tombs. The small clay chamber may be linked with the idea of the jar-coffin. Or, it may be a clay version of the stone chamber or a burial cist necessitated by the fact that the Naju-Yongam area does not produce proper stone slabs for burial use. In any case, it was a new addition to our knowledge of Paekche [page121] burial practices.

**Naedongni Tomb No. 7**

About three hundred yards to the east of the Tong-san Chong there are seven tombs with low flat mounds. They are constructed along the slope of a small hill, and No. 7 tomb occupies the lowest spot. The mound is square in general plan with the two sides measuring 13 metres (N-S) and 9 metres (E-W). The height at the south is ca. 1 metre and at the northern side ca. 1.5 metres. The tomb had been partially destroyed and we could see the exposed edge of a jar coffin already broken by robbers. The purpose of our excavation was to discover the original plan of the tomb, since the broken coffins seemed to be in their original positions.

The mound was made of soft reddish clay and the coffins were buried shallow. Two jar coffins whose upper halves had been broken and lost were found side by side in the southern part of the mound. They both face north and the distance between them was about one metre. A third coffin was discoverd in the western part of the mound some 40 cm below the surface. The coffin was undamaged and consisted of one large jar and two smaller jars. The three jars were put together end to end, and the jar in the middle had its bottom cut out in order to make a tube connecting the other two jars. The total length of the three jars was 1.48 metres. The jars were filled with fine dried mud apparently carried in by water and accumulated. Several glass beads and traces of human bones were discovered from the largest jar, which faces east. A small long-necked jar with a round bottom was found inside the second jar, and nothing was found in the third jar. However, several jars with covers were placed around the coffin as funerary gifts. They are of an early type and may date from the late fifth or early sixth century A.D.

Away from the jar coffin complex, in the northwestern section of the tomb was a simple earth-bed burial [page122] aligned N-S. The depth of the bed from the surface was about 0.5 m. No traces of human remains could be found. However, several small jars were placed at both ends of the bed. These jars are of a later type, probably around the 7th century. Thus the jar coffins section and the earth-bed burial are separated from each other chronologically by at least a century or more. This difference in date was also noticed by the variation in the soil that covers the two sections. Apparently the original jar-coffin tomb was dug up at the time of the second burial in the northwestern section and the size of the mound was enlarged somewhat toward that direction.

Mounded tombs containing several jar coffins under one mound are common in the Naju-Yongam area. However, the combination of jar coffins and a later earth-bed burial under one mound was very interesting.

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