**GENERAL REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR 1962**

The year 1962 ended with the membership of the Korea Branch, Royal Asiatic Society, totaling 450. This represents a slight reduction from the previous year, but it is a reduction more apparent than real since we removed from our books the names of a number of people who had not paid their dues for many years. Members are now almost completely paid up. Once again the Branch had an active and successful year, and most meetings and tours were very well attended. Meetings were held as follows:

January 17 Mr Gregory Henderson, of the American Embassy, spoke on “The Pottery of the Early Yi Dynasty (Part I)” at Korea House.

February 21 Mr Gregory Henderson, of the American Embassy, spoke on “The Pottery of the Early Yi Dynasty (Part II)” at Korea House. These two very scholarly and interestng lectures were illustrated by excellent slides and examples from Mr Henderson’s collection. They have been printed as an article in Volume XXXIX of the Transactions.

March 14 Dr Kim Che-won, Director of the National Museum, spoke on “Silla Tombs and Recent Excavations” at the National Classical Music Institute.

April 4 The Rev Richard Rutt spoke on “Plum Blossoms in Temple Gardens: Problems of Koreanology”, at the National Classical Music Institute.

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May 2 Dr Lee Sun-keun spoke on “Some Lesserknown Facts about Taewongun and his Foreign Policy”, at the National Classical Music Institute. This paper is published in Volume XXXIX of the Transactions.

June 13 Dr E. Beuchelt spoke on “The Popular Religion of Cheju-do”, at the National Classical Music Institute.

July 11 Dr Yi Ki-yong’s paper on “Wonhyo, the Great Monk of Silla” was read by Mr Peter Smart, of the British Embassy, at the National Classical Music Institute.

July 12 Following a reception and dinner in his honor, Dr L. Carrington Goodrich, professor of Chinese History at Columbia University, spoke on “Foreign Influences on Chinese Culture”, illustrated by slides.

September 12 Dr Pak Tong-so’s paper, “A Study of the Bureaucratic Structure in Korea” was read by Mr Stephen Whitwell of the British Embassy, at the National Classical Music Institute After the paper Mr Whitwell spoke briefly on the British Occupation of Port Hamilton.

October 10 Reception at the Seoul Club for Mademoiselle Madeleine David, Deputy Curator of the Musee Cernuschi, Paris, who afterward spoke on “The Identification of Ceramics”.

November 14 Mr Stephen Whitwell, of the British Em-bassy, spoke on “Britons in Korea” at the National Classical Music Institute.

December 12 His Excellency Monsieur Roger Chambard, French Ambassador, President of the [page 90] Branch, spoke on “Chinese and Korean Buddhist Pilgrims in India”, at the National Classical Music Institute. After the paper, the Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held, at which the Council for 1963 was elected and the Treasurer’s Report for 1962 read and adopted.

In addition to the meetings, two Garden Parties were held: the first at the British Embassy on May 26, by kind permission of His Excellency Mr Walter Godfrey, at which Lim Sung-nam and his Corps de Ballet performed; the second on October 6 at Kyonghoe-ru, Kyŏngbok Palace, when a performance of the Pyŏngyang Bridge Shaman Ceremony was given.

On April 21, by courtesy of our President, members visited the recently-completed French Embassy, designed by Kim Chung-op a pupil of Le Corbusier in Paris. It is the finest complex of modern buildings in Korea. On April 1 a showing of the prizewinning Korean film “The Man in the Guest Room”, with a reception, was givin at the Headquaters of the National Reconstruction Movement, in order to raise funds for achaeological and other cultural projects. Thanks largely to the efforts of Mrs George Pressey and Mrs Elwyn Mauck, this was a perfect success. Mrs Mauck also arranged for members to attend a special performance of the Pongsan Mask Dance play at the National Theatre on May 23. Members of the Branch also attended the opening (on May 12) and closing (on May 16) ceremonies of the Ninth Asian Film Festival, held in Seoul.

Other social occasions were a Tea Party on 11 June at the Korean Information Center on the occasion of the opening of an exhibition of collages by Yi Ung-no, and two film shows, “Under the Roofs of Seoul” on June 20, and “The Evergreen” on June 27, at OPI Studio B.

Finally, on December 8, Mr Carl Miller entertained [page 91] members to tea and provided a demonstration of kimchi making in the garden and an exhibition of paintings by Yi Hi-Se.

The following restaurant tours were held with the number of participants.

February 28 Uraeok, specializing in pulgogi 50

March 21 Grand Hotel, Cantonese food 80

April 19 Hyangjin, Japanese food 40

May 2 Sinying Fandien, Chinese Restaurant, specializing in jaotze 16

May 9 Hankuk Hoegwan, Korean food 16

June 19 Pulgogi party on the Han river, at Kwangnaru Bridge 120

July 13 Seoul Station Restaurant, Russian food 115

Tours outside Seoul were again a great success, and this year were not interrupted by unsettled conditions. Dates, places visited, and numbers of participants are as follows:

February22-24 Weekend trip to Taegwallyong ski slopes 25

March 25-29 Cheju-do, the famous tropical island greeted us with howling winds and snow storm, but even so the visit proved worthwhile. 18

April 5-9 Cherry Blossom tour to Chinhae and Chinju 120

April 13-16 Kyongju and Pulguk-sa 70

May 5-8 Second vistit to Cheju-do. On this occasion we visited Mara-do, the most southerly island of Korea, very rarely visited by Westerners.11

May 11-12 Popchu-sa, one of the great temples of Korea., a particularly s uccessful visit at a perfect time of year.

May 19-20 Songgwang-sa, a remote temple in Cholla Namdo with its White Rice Tree. [page92]

July 7-8 Sonun-sa and the Pyonsan Peninsula, Cho- lla Pukto. As an experiment, we did this very successful tour on the cheap, omitting the usual luxurious meal service.

July 14-17 Mallipo Beach 60

July 18-29 Pusan-Yosu Inland Sea Tour, a very 40 successful trip in fine weather

September 1-3 Mallipo Beach 65

September Komun-do (Port Hamilton). We took a boat from Yosu, stopped on the beach at Oenara-do, and spent the night on board at remote Komun-do, a group of three islands occupied by the British 1885-87. On the way to Yosu we visited, Sunchon and inspected recent flood damage there.

September Sorak-san tour 35

October 13-14 Paengnyong-do, the island in the Yellow Sea lying N.W. of the Han estuary and near the coast of North Korea. 15

October 20-21 Trip to the newly-discovered Sokkuram at Kunwi-gun, Taeyul dong, Kyongsang Pukto We also visited a number of antiquities in and near Andong, as well as Pusok-sa, one of the greatest Korean temples with the oldest surviving temple hall (c. 1350) in Korea. This was a particularly valuable and in teresting tour, undertaken at the picturesque time of the rice harvest. 42

November 28- Overseas tour to Taiwan 20

December 2

December 20- Overseas tour to Hong Kong and Thailand 40

January 7, ‘63

Financial assistance was rendered by the Society during 1962 as follows:

April 15 A contribution of 25,000 won to the Korean Research Conter

July 27 Research grant to Dr. Beuchelt, 35,000 won [page 93]

Members of the Council for 1962 were

:

President His Excellency Roger Chambard

Vicepresident His Excellency Gabriele Paresce

Treasurer Mr Carl Ferris Miller

Corresponding Secretary Mr Peter Smart

Recording Secretary Miss Grace Haskell

Librarian Father Richard Rutt

Councilors Dr Dong Chon, Mr Gregory Henderson, Dr Kirn Che-wont Dr Lee Sun-keun, Mrs Inez Kong Pai, Col Waldemar Solf Mr Stephen John Whitwell

We are lucky in 1962 that the Council served throughout the year without losses except for Mrs Pae, who had to resign on her departure for Japan. We shall not be so fortunate in 1963 when the usual partings of diplomatic and military personnel will cause many changes.