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Annual Report of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for 1977

The Korea Branch of the RAS was founded 77 years ago by a small group of foreigners living in Korea who were concerned with the scholarly investigation of Korea and her neighbors. The Korea Branch of the RAS has grown tremendously from the original 37 members to a large society of over 1000 members with fifty meetings and tours in Seoul and Taegu this year.

*Membership* — As of December 5, 1977 the total membership in the Korea Branch of the RAS was 1,105 consisting of 49 Life members, 351 Overseas members and 705 Local members. Our Quarterly (overseas) Newsletter and the Monthly (local) Notices have served to keep the membership informed of our activities.

*Meetings* — During 1977 we had 28 meetings, 22 in Seoul and 6 in Taegu. The average attendance was 160 in Seoul and 50 in Taegu with a total of 3,720 attendees. We have offered a variety of programs including a kayagum demonstration, a mask dance presentation, 7 slide lectures, and 3 film evenings. A detailed list follows.

*Tours* — We had 21 day tours and 2 overnight tours this year. The average number of participants was 59 on day tours and 32 on overnighters, with a total of 1,300 tourgoers. Two tours had over 100 participants. The Annual Garden Party was held at the American Ambassador’s new Residence.

*Publications* — New books published:

RAS Transaction vol. 51

RAS Transaction vol. 43 - reprint

Virtues in Conflict: Tradition and the Korean Woman Today, edited by

Sandra Mattielli

Fifteen Years Among the Topknots, L.H. Underwood (first published in 1904)

An Introduction to Korean Music and Dance, Dr. Lee Hye-gu

Confucian Gentlemen and Barbarian Envoys, Dr. Martina Deuchler

RAS Zodiac Animals Calendar for 1978

The Korea Review vol. 1-6 (Periodicals from 1901-1906)

*Douglas Fund*─This spring we distributed two Douglas Scholarships to Mr. Chang Moo Koo and Mr. Yim Joong Ho, graduate students in Korean Studies at Sung Kyun Kwan University. Mn Yim’s scholarship was renewed for the fall semester.

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1977 Meetings

Date Event Attendance

Jan.12 Kayagum Demonstration Lecture 150

(Miss Cathy Shaffer)

Jan. 26 Shamanism and Ecstasy 100

(Dr. Arthur Kinsler)

Feb. 9 Slide Lecture: “From Hongkong to Bonn 400

by Train”

(Dr. Karl Leuteritz)

Feb. 23 Yuan Shih-k’ai 66

(Dr. Arthur McTaggart)

March 9 Film Evening: “Anapchi Pond” and 180

“Kimchi”

March 23 Slide Lecture: “Korean Wild Flowers” 100

(Mrs. Jean Macdonald)

April 6 Slide Lecture: “Korean Funerals” 340

(Mr. Norman Sibley)

April 20 Slide Lecture: “Korean Superstition and 180

Remarkable Number Three”

(Mr. John Hughston)

May 4 Korean Royal Symbols and Chinese 186

Traditional Philosophy

(Dr. Kim Yong-won)

May 18 Mask Dance Presentation: “Yangju P’yol 286

Sandai Nori”

(Miss Laurel Kendall)

June 8 Reflections on Traditional Korean 180

Dance or Dionysus in Seoul

(Miss Eleanor King)

June 22 The Influence of Religion on Oriental Art 86

(Mr. John Gould)

July 20 Film Evening: “The Legacy” and 160

“Koryo Ceramics”

August 17 Film Evening: “Gift of our Forefathers” 280

and “Korean Genre Painter: Shin Yun Bok”

Sept. 7 Slide Lecture: “Caught Between 120

Ancestors & Spirit: A Korean Shaman’s

Healing Kut”

(Miss Laurel Kendall) [page 73]

Sept. 21 The Sonless Dilemma: An Inquiry into 100

Adoption, Divorce & Concubinage

Practices in Yi Dynasty Korea

(Mr. Mark Peterson)

Oct. 5 Zen and the Enlightenment Experience: 80

An Intellectual Approach

(Dr. Lee Chung-yong)

Oct. 19 Traditional Korean Medicine and 200

Modern Health Practices

(Dr. Dorothea Sich)

Nov. 2 Slide Lecture: “Traditional and Modern 100

Forms of Cooperation in Rice Farming”

(Mr. Edward Reed)

Nov. 16 Political Implications of the “Songs of 60

the Dragons”

(Dr. James Hoyt)

Nov. 30 Family Organization in Rural Korea 65

(Mr. Ted Sorensen)

Dec. 14 Slide Lecture: “Pictoral Journey Through

Old Korea”

(Mr. Robert A. Kinney)

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1977 Tours

Date Place Participants

April 2 Namhan-sansong 38

April 9 Churches in Seoul 37

April 16 Hiking Tour 18

April 24 Puyo, Nonsan & Kongju 102

April 30 Realms of the Immortals; Beyond the 38 92

May 7 Dam Tour 23

May 14 Puyo, Nonsan & Kongju 63

May 14 Inch’on 34

May 21 Ch’ungchong-namdo 67

June 5 Yi Dynasty Seoul 24

June 11 Anniversary Garden Party 300

June 18-19 Haein-sa 33

September 3 Chongp’yong Boat Trip 36

September 10 Through the East Gate of Seoul 25

September 17 Emillle Museum Tour 33

October 1 Hwayang Dong 72

October 13-15 Kyongju & Haein-sa 31

October 15 Inch’on-Suwon Railroad Tour 62

October 22 Popchu-sa & Songni-san 58

October 29 Magok-sa & Kongju 103

November 12 Sudok-sa 33

November 16 Vegetarian Dinner Tour 44

December 3 Hiking Tour 23