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IN MEMORIAM

EDWARD REYNOLDS WRIGHT, JR.

The Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society marks with special sadness the passing of one of its past Presidents, Dr. Edward R. Wright, Jr., who died on August 16,1988, in Kyoto, Japan, after a prolonged struggle with malignant melanoma. Dr. Wright was President of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society in 1975, and during his many years in Korea was active in the Society’s publications program and an enthusiastic supporter of R.A.S. tours.

Dr. Wright served from 1967 to 1978 as Director of the Korean-American Educational (Fulbright) Commission in Korea, and during those years contributed to a wide variety of academic and cultural activities. Dr. Wright taught in universities in the United States, was a Fulbright-Hays lecturer in Political Science during 1963-1964 at the University of Saigon, and in 1966 taught at Van Hahn University in Saigon. While in Korea, he taught in the Political Science Department of Seoul National University.

Dr. Wright was known as a connoisseur and collector of Korean furniture, an astute commentator on the Korean political scene, and an avid supporter of the arts in Korea. His representative collection of Korean furniture and pottery has been donated to the University of Minnesota Art Museum where it will be available as a resource for future generations. A special scholarship fund will encourage the use of the Edward Reynolds Wright Collection for research.

Upon completion of his term of service with the Fulbright Commission in Seoul in 1978,Dr. Wright became a special lecturer in the English Department at Doshisha University in Kyoto, where he served until 1987 when he resigned because of failing health. In Japan, Dr. Wright continued his involvement in American Studies as Associate Director of the Kyoto American Studies Summer Seminar.

Dr. Wright was the only child of the late Mr. Edward Reynolds Wright and Mrs. Eunice L. Wright, who resides in Florida. Korea loses a loyal friend with the passing of Dr. Wright. Many are indebted to him for encouragement and help, for keen insight and direction, and for innumerable contributions to careers, publications and projects. Dr. Wright’s friends will miss sharing his enthusiasm for exploring human achievements in [page 78] society and the arts, his colleagues and students will miss the stimulation of his inquiring mind, and all will regret that he did not live to see even more of the new Korea to which he contributed in so many varied ways.

Seoul, March 19, 1989

Edward W. Poitras

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IN MEMORIAM

GREGORY HENDERSON

Gregory Henderson died on October 16, 1988, following an accident at his home in Medford, Massachusetts. He was 66 years old and is survived by his wife, Maia von Magnus Henderson.

Scholar, diplomat, professor and friend, Professor Henderson was an iconoclast and a maker of metaphors. Possibly his most powerful metaphor was his description of Korean politics as a vortex. His book Korea: The Politics of the Vortex is still one of the best books on Korean political culture and continues to be widely read by foreign students of Korea. Presumably it has influenced Korean political scientists, historians, and politicians as well.

Koreans may remember Professor Henderson, however, not so much for his scholarship, as for the force or his personality and the role he played in many of their lives during his two tours of duty at the U.S. Embassy in Seoul. During the period of turmoil in Korea in 1960-1961, Henderson was a major presence in Seoul through his close friendship with many of the key actors of that period. Professor Henderson had a deep and genuine love for Korea. His distinctive views on the Korean situation, however, were sometimes misunderstood in Korea and elsewhere. His strong opinions also made it difficult for him to pursue a diplomatic career, which sometimes requires suppressing one’s own positions in support of government policy. He left the diplomatic service in 1964.

Mr. Henderson was a councilor of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society during both of his tours in Korea. He served as corresponding secretary (1949-1950) and as librarian (1959-1960).

From 1964 until his death, Professor Henderson pursued his research and taught at major universities in the northeastern part of the U.S. and in Germany. He lectured widely, speaking to American diplomats preparing for assignments in East Asia and at Asian Studies and international relations conferences in the U.S. and around the world. Professor Henderson visited Korea on several occasions in recent years to participate in conferences and to meet with his many friends. He also visited north Korea and was supportive of Korean aspirations for unification.

Gregory Henderson was an unusual man. His distinctive personality and sharp intellect endeared him to many and left indelible impressions on [page 80] all who encountered him. He loved Korea and the Korean people deeply. Those who knew him or were familiar with his scholarship, especially Koreans and those who love Korea, have lost a good friend and a source of inspiration.

Seoul, June 10, 1989

Ronald J. Post

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Annual Report of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society for 1988

The Royal Asiatic Society, Korea Branch, is one of several branches of its parent organization, the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Founded in London in 1824 under the royal patronage of King George IV, the purpose of the Society as a whole is to study the “progress of knowledge in Asia and the means of its extension.” Since its founding in Seoul in June 1900 by a small group of foreign residents, the Korea Branch has been devoted, as its constitution requires, to stimulating interest in, promoting the study of, and disseminating knowledge about the arts, history, literature and customs of Korea and neighboring countries. To meet these requirements, the Korea Branch sponsor lecture meetings, tours, and publications. Among the requirements of the Branch’s constitution is one that specifies an annual meeting at which a report of the year’s activities should be made to the membership. The annual report follows:

*Membership:* From its founding 17 members in 1900,the Korea Branch has increased to an impressive 1,714 members, this being the number registered in 1988 at the time of this report. The total figure includes 64 life members, 522 overseas members, and 1,128 regular members residing in Korea. Membership includes not only those who participate in the activities of the branch in Seoul but also those who are members of the Taegu Chapter.

*Meetings:* During the year, 19 lecture meetings were held in Seoul and seven in Taegu.

*Tours:* Full schedules of tours were carried out by the branch in both the spring and the fall of 1988 with participation totalling more than 1,950.

*Publications:* The Korea Branch is justifiably proud of its accomplishments in producing and distributing works in English about Korea- Besides its annual Transactions Volume 62 for 1987, which was distributed free to members, two new books were printed in i 988: Yogong: Factory Girl by Robert R Spencer and Bands, Songs, and Shamanistic Rituals by Keith Howard. [page 82]

*Finances:* Monthly statements from the treasurer report that because of the continuing sale of its publications, the Korea Branch enjoys a state of financial health which allows it to continue to meet its commitment to contribute to the “progress of knowledge” about Korea and her neighbors.

*Douglas Fund:* The Douglas Scholarship was awarded to Ms. Park, Moo-young to pursue her studies in the Department of Korean Literature at Ewha Womans University.

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1988 R.A.S. Lectures

Seoul Branch

Date Lecture Title and Lecturer

January 13 Nature Poets: Kim Sowol and Robert Frost

Dr. Daniel Kister

January 27 Korean Roof Tiles

Prof. Lee, Eun-chang

February 10 Buddhism: A Southeast Asian Perspective

Amb. Chithambaranathan Mahendran

February 24 A Visit to Manchuria and Paektu-san

Rev. Don C. Jones

March 9 Confucianism: The Tradition and Modern Transformations

Prof. Chung, Chai-sik

March 23 Korean Newspapers in China Dr. Chang, Won-ho

April 13 Early Korean Typography Dr. Sohn, Pow-key

April 27 Benevolent Dragons: Beneficent Rain

Mrs. Dorothy Middleton

May 11 The Naturally Empty Mind: Personal Experiences in Christianity

and in Buddhism

Yen. Do Gong

May 25 Confucians, Wise and Otherwise Dr. Michael Kalton

June 8 New Year’s by the Sea: The Ritual Landscape of a Cheju Island

Village

Mr. Timothy Tangherlini

June 22 Near Ink One is Stained Black: Factors in the Identity of Korean

Folk Musicians Dr. Keith Howard

August 24 Korean Traditional Classical Music: Kayagum Performance

Ms. Yang, Sung-hee

September 14 Korea, Old and New: A Multi-media Presentation

Mr. Michael O’Brien

October 12 East Meets West: The Encounter of Confucianism and Christianity

Fr. Christopher Spalatin, S.J. [page 84]

October 26 Tilting the Jar, Spilling the Moon

Fr. Kevin O’Rourke

November 9 Mass Media and the Seoul Olympics

Prof- Lee, Jae-won

November 23 The Saga of Ginseng in the Eighteenth Century Prof. A. Owen Aldridge

December 14 Unique Aspects of the Korean Mother-Infant Interaction

Dr. Elizabeth Choi

Taegu Chapter

Date Lecture Title and Lecturer

April 20 O My Prophetic Seoul, My Uncle: Uncle-Nephew Conflicts in History and Literature

Dr. John L, Leland

May 18 The Fourteenth Century Chinese Treasure Boat Excavated at Sinan, Korea

Dr. Kim, Wondong

October 20 Literary Reflections on Korean Industrial Workers

Dr. Yom, Syung-sop

November 17 Assessment of President Roh’s Detente Policy

Dr. Dan Sanford

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**1988 R.A.S. Tours**

Date Destination Attendance

January 17 Kimch’i Tour (Insadong) 25

January 25 Winter Break Tour (Kwangnung) 22

January 30 Yongpyong Ski Tour 25

January 31 Sujong-sa and Tonggu-nung 18

February 13-15 Sorak-san Tour 34

February 20 Embroidery Museum 9

February 21 Hyondung-sa Hiking 9

February 27 Kiln Tour 19

February 28 Kut (Shaman ritual) 116

March 1 North Fortress Hiking 25

March 12-13 Andong and Pusok-sa 36

March 19 Samak-san Hiking 17

March 20 Yoju (Silluk-sa & Kodal-sa) 25

March 25-27 Ch’olla-do (Whaom-sa, Tamyang) 42

April 2 Kanghwa-do 41

April 3 Realms of the Immortals 26

April 5 Kumsan-sa Arbor Day Hiking 30

April 8-10 Cherry Blossom Tour 41

April 17 Puyo & Kongju Tour 41

April 23-24 Muju Kuch,on-dong Valley 17

April 30 Naksonje and Piwon 58

April 30-May 1 Magnolia (Ch’ollip’o) Tour 18

May 1 Obong-san Hiking 28

May 7-8 Magnolia (Ch’ollip’o) Tour 18

May 13-15 Cheju-do Tour 38

May 22 Exotic Shrines Tour 16

May 22 Taedong Kut 12

May 23 Buddha’s Birthday Tour (City Temples) 82

May 28 Sudok-sa and Haemi Tour 25

May 29-30 Tanyang Discovery Tour 21

June 4-6 Koje-do Tour 63

June 18-19 Kangnung and Tano Festival Tour 35

June 25 R.A.S. Garden Party 一 88th Anniversary 250

June 26 Pyokche Environs Tour 26

July 2-4 Hongdo and Huksan-do Tour 27 [page 86]

July 9-10 Taech’on Beach Tour 16

August 20 Kiln Tour 25

August 21 Hwayang-dong Valley and Kagwon-sa 24

August 27 Hanyak (Korean Traditional Medicine) 14

August 27 Kangnam (Pongun-sa and Sonjong-nung) 8

August 28 Patriot’s Tour (Ewhajang & War Museum) 14

August 28 Town of Art Tour 8

September 3-4 Ch’o11ip’o Tour 25

September 10 Silk Tour 36

September 11 Ch’ongp’yong Boat Tour 72

September 24 Kanghwa-do and Song-do 22

October 8-10 Chiri-san Tour 25

October 14-16 Kyongju and Yangdong 19

October 16 Surak-san Hiking 40

October 22-23 Chonju Tour 28

October 29 Inch’on to Suwon Railroad Tour 25

October 30 Yongmun-san Hiking 40

November 6 Temple Talk and Dinner Tour 26

November 12-13 Odae-san Hiking 12

November 19 Hyonch’ung-sa 16

November 20 Magok-sa Tour 15

November 26 Kimch’i Factory and Market Tour 17

December 3 Panmunjom Tour 43

December 4 Artists’ Studios Tour 16

December 10 Shopping Tour 10

December 31 Ch’ilgap-san Hiking 23