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ANNUAL REPORT of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY — KOREA BRANCH for 1991

This is the second year I have had the honor of serving as president of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. Reflecting the enthusiasm of a neophyte, I delivered a rather lengthy annual report last year. As a seasoned veteran, this year I will endeavor to be brief.

The Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was established ninety- one years ago by a group of foreign sojourners in Korea who sought thereby to deepen their understanding of this country and its people. Some of them had scholarly gifts, and their names will be forever associated with significant contributions to our knowledge of Korean history and culture. Even those who were less gifted in a scholarly sense, through their involvement in the Society, left behind a legacy which endures to this day. In carrying on this legacy nearly a century later, truly we are their beneficiaries. As we come together once a year for this annual meeting, therefore, it is right to express our gratitude to our forbearers and to affirm once again our commitment to preserving the Society as a viable institution for the foreign community in Korea and their Korean friends.

As required by the constitution of the Society, in my capacity as president, I am pleased to report briefly on the activities of 1991 as follows:

Membership: Beginning with just seventeen members at the time of its founding in 1900, at present the RAS-Korea Branch has a total of one thousand six hundred twenty members in good standing. This includes sixty-eight life members, five hundred fourteen overseas members, and one thousand thirty- eight regular members residing in Korea. Although membership declined slightly during this year, the Society still enjoys a substantial membership with a firm commitment to its objectives. During the coming year, no doubt, the membership committee will explore ways to retain more old members and to attract some new members. [page 78]

Programs: Programs involving lectures, performances or slide presentations were scheduled regularly during 1991 on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month with the usual break during late summar. Attendance at most of these programs was up considerably over the previous year. Some of the more memorable lectures are being readied for publication in the 1991 edition (Vol. 67) of the Transactions.

Tours: A full schedule of tours was carried out largely without a hitch during the spring and fall of 1991. A total of two thousand one hundred ninety members and non-members participated in these tours, marking a gratifying increase of nearly two hundred tour participants compared with 1990. Once again, it is clear that the tour program remains one of the most successful activities of the Society despite the challenges posed by the ever more incredible congestion of Korea’s highways. Thankfully, the results of this year’s tour program permit us to be guardedly optimistic about the continuing success of this very important activity of the Society in the years to come.

Publications: The publications committee had another busy year supervising book sales, reviewing manuscripts and preparing Vol. 66 of the Transactions for publication. Additionally, the classic essay by Michael Kalton entitled Korean Ideas and Values was reprinted in a handsome new edition by special arrangement with the original publisher. The search for suitable distributors of RAS publications in Europe and other parts of the world continued during the year, but produced few tangible results. This remains one of the outstanding challenges for the publications committee and the Society as a whole during the coming year.

Finances: I am pleased to report that the finances of the RAS-Korea Branch remained on an even keel during 1991. Although operating expenses are modest, the Society depends totally upon the support you provide as members in paying annual dues, participating in tours and purchasing publications. Remember, your support continues to be critical to the financial well-being of the Society- Lastly, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge once again the generosity of the Daewoo Foundation in making these premises available for our use free of charge.

Respectfully submitted,

Frederick F. Carriere

President

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**1991 R.A.S. Lectures**

January 9 On Tour With The R.A.S.

Mr. Robert Hogarth

January 23 The Study of Korea in the United States.

Dr. Donald S. Macdonald

February 13 Kim Kwang-Kyu: A Contemporary Poet In Search of Hope

Brother Anthony Teague

February 27 The Korean Educational System

Dr. Horace H. Underwood

March 13 Kim Chun-Hung: Portrait of a Performing Artist

Prof. Judy Van Zile

March 27 The Influence of Christianity on the Life and

Thought of Chong Yak Yong Mr. William Kester

April 10 Travel to China

Dr. Donald Stauffer

April 24 The Korean Press: Past and Present

Mr. Lee Kyo-Hyun

May 8 Whatever Happened to the Big Village

They Called Seoul? Mr. David E. Halvorsen

May 22 A View of Books

Katrina L. Middleton

June 12 The First Western Inquiry on Korea,

Luis de Frois SJ., 1598

Amb. Luis Soares de Oliveira

June 26 The Right War: The Korean Conflict and U.S.

Defense Policy, 1945-1955 Dr. Alan R. Millett

August 28 Dance Performance

Mr. Bae Jung-Hye [page 80]

September 11 “Dutch in China, Japan and Korea in the 17th Century

Mr. Johannes Huber

September 25 The Differences in Culture in Japan and Korea

Prof. Kim Yong-Woon

October 9 Korean Contemporary Poets

Brother Anthony Teague

October 23 Prospects of Korean Economics

Dr. Kim Duk-Choong

November 13 Korean Values and Communication Patterns

From a Cross-Cultural Perspective Prof. Sohn Ho-Min

November 27 Arab-Korean Relationship From the Historical

Point of View

Prof. Raslan A. Bani-Yasin

December 11 Yi Dynasty Seoul Today: Yi Dynasty Seoul as a Cohesive Governmental, Cultural and Social Centre Seen Through Its Buildings and What Remains Today.

Mr. Peter Bartholomew

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**1991 R.A.S. Tours**

Date Destination Attendance

January 12 Insadong & Sanchon Restaurant 31

January 20 Winter Break Tour 29

February 2 Yong-Pyong Ski Tour 26

February 9 Kiln Tour 43

February 11 North Fortress Hiking 19

February 14 Lunar New Year Eve Restaurant 55

February 16-18 Soraksan 35

February 23 Calligraphy Studio and Art Studio Tour 22

February 24 Onyang Folk Museum, Hyoncnungsa and 19

Independence Hall

March 2 Songmo Island and Kanghwa Island 35

March 3 Yi Dynasty Seoul 26

March 9 Wonju 33

March 10 Inch’on-Suwon Railroad 43

March 16 Music and Dance Institute Tour 32

March 17 Puyo, Kongju (Paekche Kingdom) 42

March 24 North Han Valley 43

March 30-31 Muju Kuch, on-Dong Valley and Mai Mt. 17

April 5-7 Cherry Blossom Tour (Chinhae) 61

April 19-21 Cheju-do 33

April 27-28 Magnolia Tour: Ch’ollipo 31

May 3-5 Kyongju & Yangdong 26

May 10-12 Chollado, (Bamboo Market) 30

May 18-19 Popchusa & Samshin-sa 32

May 21 Buddha’s Birthday Tour 133

May 25-26 The Slope of Palgong-san 19

June 1-2 Haehoe and Andong 20

June 6-9 Komun-do & Paek-Do (Island) Adventure Tour 13

June 15-16 Kangnung & Tano Festival 28

June 22 R.A.S. Garden Party 91st Anniversary 30

(The British Embassy)

June 23 Artist Village Tour (Pyukche) 28

June 28-30 Wando and Pokildo (Islands) 30

July 13 Island Hopping (Chawol-Do Island) 41

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July 14 Triple Treat Tour: Olympic Park, Han

River Cruise, DLI 63 Bldg. 18

July 20 Panmunjom, Tunnel No. 3 & Observation Point Tora 46

August 10 Shard Collecting & Kiln Tour 20

August 15 Onyang Folk Museum, Hyonchungsa, Independence Hall Tour 22

August 17 Step Back into The Past

(ChangKyong Palace & Han Moo-Sook’s Home) 32

August 18 Inch’on-Suwon Railroad 29

August 24 Chorwon & 2nd Infiltration Tunnel 28

August 31 Ch’ollipo 31

September 7 Silk Tour 43

September 8 Ch’ongp’Yong Boat Tour 43

September 14 Chongju, Chinaware & Studio Tour 25

September 15 Kanghwa Island 45

September 22-24 Hongdo and Huksando (Islands) 29

September 28-29 Pyongsan & Sonwun-Sa Provincial Park 20

October 6 Surak-San Mt. Hiking Tour (Kyongki-do) 27

October 3-6 Ullung-do, 20

October 12 Sudok-sa and Haemi 37

October 18-20 Namhae-do, Samch’onp’o,

Songkwang-Sa 27

November 2 Embroidery Museum & Needlecraft 20

November 3 Yongmun-sa Hiking Tour 36

November 8-10 Cheju-do 27

November 16 Kiln Tour 30

November 23 The Magical Music Tour 31

November 24 Kimchi Tour 30

December 1 Mani-San Mt. Hiking 30

December 7 Artists’ Studios 32