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**ANNUAL REPORT of the ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY - KOREA BRANCH for 1993**

It is with some embarrassment that I present the President’s Report for the third time, as I have often expressed the opinion that it is inappropriate for the President to serve consecutive terms. To have served again last year after 35 years was one thing, but twice in a row is another

The Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society was established in 1900 by a group of foreign residents in Korea, who sought to encourage investigation of all aspects of Korean life, culture, customs, geography and literature in order to deepen their understanding of the country and its people and to make them better known to the rest of the world. The original nucleus was soon joined by many others, including a number of Korean scholars. Some of the members had great scholarly gifts and their names will forever be associated with Korean studies, while many others contributed the first, and often the only papers on many aspects of Korea, leaving a legacy in the Transactions that is still a primary source of information on Korea in many fields. It is only appropriate that at this Annual Meeting we remember the great contribution of our forbears, and remember that the primary objective of the Branch is still the encouragement of studies on Korea.

The Korea Branch is organized with a Council of twenty-six members, including the officers. To carry out its functions the Council is organized into five committees: Membership, Publications, Programs, Tours, and Finance.

Membership: At present the RAS-Korea Branch has a total of 1,541 members. This includes sixty-seven life members, 574 overseas members and 920 regular members residing in Korea.

Programs: Programs involving lectures, slide presentations and performances were held regularly on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, [page 100] except during the summer, at the Daewoo Foundation Building near Seoul Station. We are most grateful to the Foundation for allowing us the use of this centrally located space. The annual Garden Party, graciously hosted by Ambassador and Mrs. David Wright at the British Embassy, was most successful, with an enjoyable program of Korean music, special book sales, and an opportunity for members to become better acquainted with each other.

Tours: A full schedule of tours was carried out, largely during the spring and fall of 1993,with a sprinkling of special events in summer and winter. A total of some 1,700 members and non-members participated in these tours, and once again it is clear that the tours are one of the most popular activities of the Society. The worsening traffic in and out of Seoul is a continuing concern, but alternatives to bussing do not seem to be practical at this time.

Publications: The Publications Committee had another successful year supervising book sales, reviewing manuscripts, and editing Volume 68 of the Transactions for publication. A revised Book List was prepared and distributed to all members and to various libraries and institutions interested in Korean studies. Dr. Donald Clark, an overseas member at Trinity University in San Antonio, has taken on the task of being the American distributor for RAS-Korea Branch publications. We are most grateful to the Royal Netherlands Embassy for their generous donation to subsidize the publication of a new and authoritative translation of Hendrick Hamel’s Journals in 1994.

Finances: I am pleased to report that the finances of the RAS-Korea Branch remained on an even keel during 1993. 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,

Horace G. Underwood

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1993 R.A.S. Lectures

Seoul Branch

January 13 Marketing in Korea: Notes from an Academic

Prof. Chang, Dae-ryung

January 27 Legal Education in Korea: Post-Confucian Magistrates

at the Boundary Between the State and Civil Society

Dr. James West

February 10 Smuggling in the New in the Guise of the Old:

Chong Ya-gong’s Political Thought

Dr. Mark Setton

February 24 Five Days in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Mrs. Beverly Smith

March 24 Lantern Festival in China

Mr. Marnix Wells

April 14 Self-portrait of the Artist as a Young Man

Mr. Ahn,Jung-hyo

April 28 Wild Flowers of Korea

Dr. Lee, Young-no

May 12 A View of North Korea

Major General Bernard A. Sandoz

May 26 Looking Anew at the First Western Manuscript About Korea

Br. Jean-Paul Buys

June 9 Korean Shamanist Dramatic Ritual

Dr. Daniel A. Kister

June 23 Seoul: Founding of the New Capital

Dr. Kwon,Yon-ung

August 25 A Presentation of Korean Classical Music

Ms. Yang, Seung-hee and Performers of the Korea

Kayagum

Institute

September 8 Why Do Korean Buddhists Do What They Do?

Mr. Frank M. Tedesco

September 22 A Reading From Land of Exile: Contemporary Korean Fiction

Mr. Bruce Fulton[page 102]

October 13 Introduction to Ancient Egyptian Tombs and Temples

Mrs. Maissa Cholkamy

October 27 Women in Korean Politics

Dr. Chunghee Sarah Soh

November 10 The Legend of Madam Pak

Dr. Mark Peterson

November 24 Korea in the 1950s

 Mr. John Seel

December 8 On the Road: China’s Silk Road

Mr. Michael F. O’Brien [page 103]

1993 R.A.S. Tours

Date Destination Attendance

January 17 Buddhism Tour 25

January 24 Pukhansan Fortress and Dosan Temple 12

January 30 Insa-dong Restaurant Tour 18

January 31 Winter Break Tour (Kwangnung) 16

February 6 Pangsangjae Buddhist Ceremony 22

February 20-21 Sorak-san Tour 20

February 27 Kiln and Parka Crystal Factory 32

February 28 Tour of Fortune and Exotic Shrines 22

March 1 Onyang Folk Museum,Hyonchung-sa 19

March 6 Paper Crafts Tour 36

March 7 Kanghwa Island 36

March 13 Embroidery Tour 13

March 21 Choson Dynasty Seoul 37

March 27 Puyo, Kongju Tour (Paekche Kingdom 29

March 28 Realms of the Immortals 19

April 2-4 Kyongju and Yangdong Tour 28

April 9 Hanyak (Traditional Medicine) Tour 23

April 9-11 Chinhae Cherry Blossom Tour 76

April 10 Ceremony for the Ming Emperor 18

April 17 Inch’on-Suwon Railroad Tour 39

April 16-18 Cheju-do Tour 36

May 1-2 Magnolia Tour: Ch’ollopo Arboretum 52

May 7-9 Ch’ungmu and Koje Island 35

May 15 Kiln Tour 18

May 16 Odaesan National Park, Woljong-sa 24

May 22-23 Andong Tour 30

May 26-29 Hongdo, Huksando and Chiri-san 42

May 28 Buddha’s Birthday Tour 77

May 29 Shaman Ritual: Paeyunsin Kut 35

June 4-6 Wan-do and Pokil-do 27

June 12 R.A.S. Garden Party 350

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June 20 Songmo-do and Kanghwa Island 41

June 26-27 Kangnung and Tano Festival 31

July 3 Island Hopping Tour 25

July 10 Olympic Park, Han River Cruise 10

July 11 Tobong-san Mountain Hike 8

July 18 Tanyang Discovery Tour 23

August 21 Fortune Tellers and Exotic Shrines 18

August 22 Kosokjong and Sanjong Lake 28

August 28 Kiln and Parka Crystal Factory 25

August 29 Yoju Tour 12

September 4 Silk Tour 41

September 5 Ch’ongp’yong Boat Tour 47

September 11-12 Chollado Tour 34

September 12 Namhansansong and Chonjin-am 20

September 18-19 ‘93 Taejon Expo 35

September 23 Sokchonjae Confucian Ceremony 14

September 24-26 Sam’chonp’o and Namhae-do Tour 18

September 26 Kanghwa island Tour 22

Sept. 30-0ct. 1 Ullung-do Tour 26

October 8-10 Sorak-san Tour 24

October 10 Shaman Ritual: Taedong Kut (Inchon) 23

October 16 Sudok-sa Tour 21

October 22-24 Cheju-do Tour 18

October 29-31 Chiri-san Tour 43

November 6 Yongmun-san and Battlefield Tour 22

November 13 Churches Around Seoul Tour 13

November 20 Kimchi Tour . 29

November 21 Haengju-sansong, Pokwang-sa Tour 28

November 27 Shopping Spree 21

November 28 Suwanbo and Munkyong Pass 21

December 4 Shaman Ritual: Taedong Kut 27

December 11 Artist’s Studios Tour 19