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Studies

NEWS OF THE FIELD

Association for Asian Studies at Toronto, 1981

A panel on "Topics in Local History of Middle Period China" appeared on the program of the 33rd Annual Meeting of the AAS. Offering rich new material and perspectives, it featured the following papers.

Hugh R. Clark (Pennsylvania), "The Influence of the Port of Quanzhou on the Commercialization of Local Agriculture, 800-1126"

Robert Hymes (Columbia), "From Sung to Yuan: Continuities and Discontinuities in the Local Elite of Fuzhou, Jiangxi"

Mira Mihelich (Haverford), "Rural Life in Kunshan xian (Suzhou) during the Sung Dynasty"

Harriet Zerndorfer (Leiden), "Local Lineages and Local Development: A Case Study of the Fan Clan, Xiuning xien, Huizhou, 800-1600"

The panel was chaired by Robert Hartwell (Pennsylvania), while Evelyn Rawski (Pittsburg) served as discussant.

The Committee for the Study of Sung and the Conquest Dynasties again convened for its annual meeting in Toronto, attended perhaps by fewer persons than usual (about 15) but enjoying a valuable and informal exchange of news and views. John Chaffee of SUNY/Binghamton was asked to organize and chair the session for the 1982 meeting in Chicago.

Conference on Chinese Art History

Two significant scholarly meetings were held in connection with the extraordinary exhibition "Eight Dynasties of Chinese Painting" which appeared first at the Nelson Gallery in Kansas City and then at the Cleveland Museum of Art (and a sampling of which appeared at the new Asia House Gallery in New York). During the week of November 20-24, 1980 a workshop was conducted at the Nelson Gallery under the direction of Chu-tsing Li. Its theme was "Artists and Patrons: Some Social and Economic Aspects of Chinese Painting." Of the sixteen papers present, the following are relevant to the concerns of this journal.

Claudia Brown, "Some Aspects of Late Yuan Patronage in Suchou"

Wai-kam Ho, "Art Academies in Northern And Southern Sung"

Julia Murray, "Sung Kao-tsung as Artist and Patron: the Theme of Dynastic Revival"

David Sensabaugh, "Guests at Jade Mountain"

Marsha Weidner, "Aspects of Painting and Patronage at the Mongol Court of China"

Then on March 25-27, 1981 an International Symposium on Chinese Painting was held at the Cleveland Museum of Art under the direction of Sherman E. Lee and Wai-kam Ho. Scholars from several countries attended, with the Sung-Yüan period, as the following list suggests, coming in for considerable attention.

Helmut Brinker, "The Stylistic Discrepancy in Liang K'ai's Figure Painting"

Wai-kam Ho, "Li Ch'eng and His School: the Formation of Sung Tradition in Landscape Painting"

Lothar Ledderose, "The Ten Kings: the Bureaucracy of Hell"

Chu-tsing Li, "From Early Yüan to Late Yüan: some Thoughts on the Transition and Transformation"

Li Lin-ts'an, "Human Figures as a Chronological Standart for Dating Chinese Landscape Painting in the Yüan and Ming Periods"

Hiroshi Sofukawa, "A Study of Five Dynasties and Early Northern Sung Landscape Painting"

No doubt, the impact of these meetings, in terms both of work accomplished and stimulus provided, will be felt for some time to come.

A Sung Studies Seminar in Hong Kong

A Sung studies seminar jointly sponsored by the New Asia Research Institute and the Chu-hai Research Institute was held on May 9, 1981. Altogether 12 papers were presented:

An attempt to account for the drop in the price of gold from Sung to Ming in contrast to silver prices. A rise in gold production under Ming is adduced as a major factor.

金羨昇：宋明間金銀比價的變動

A total of 38 different titles of positions in Sung local schools are identified, using information found in stone inscriptions as well as in standard literary sources.

李弘祺：宋代地方學校職事考

The genealogy of the powerful Ts'ao family of Kansu during Wu-tai and early Sung and other important facts are reconstructed, in major part on the basis of Tunhwang finds.

蘇瑩輝：公沙曹氏兼事宋遼顧本

Issues of dating in the fall of Hsi-Hsia before the Mongols are discussed in the context of long-term Hsi-Hsia strategies therefore.

陳直夫：蒙古覆滅西夏之戰

Ideas of tsun-wang jang-i are seen to achieve strength with the rise of Sung but to decline once consolidation of Sung control is complete.

趙金揚：北宋初期之尊王攘夷思想

Research published in the last forty years since the appearance of

Prof. Wu's article on the subject sheds little new light on Sung's diplomatic strategy vis-à-vis Liao.

吳景宏：再論「宋金攻遼之外交」兼及四十年來海內外宋史研究之一斑

The historical thinking of Wang Ying-lin is identified as Neo-Confucian and reveals a particularly critical attitude toward the abuse of power by Sung chief ministers.

林天蔚：從困學記聞看王應麟的史學

A new view of Naito's famous hypothesis is presented.

譚汝謙：內藤德說新釋

Speculations on the Ho-t'u and Lo-shu scholarship are offered.

羅桂成：宋代圖書之學

A study of the various assignments ranking Sung officials had to take to compile historical, reference, or encyclopedic works.

梁天錫：宋宰輔帶銜編修校譯制度

A detailed study on the various ways Sung official documents were sent to the provinces.

趙效宣：宋代公文書信傳遞制度

Using primarily pi-chi materials, the author discusses the decline of Sung agriculture and the prosperity in the commercial sector during Sung.

龐德新：從宋代文士筆記及市人小說所見之當代市民生活

Considerable debate surrounded several of the papers which, it is anticipated, will be collected and edited for publication in the near future.

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Sung Panel at a Regional Meeting of the AHA

A panel entitled "Regionalism in Eleventh through Thirteenth Century China" was held at the August 19, 1981 Meeting of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association at the University of Oregon in Eugene. Aian Wood chaired the panel and also provided comments on the papers which were as follows.

Michael Freeman, "Career Patterns and Burial Patterns in Eleventh Century China"

Edward H. Kaplan, "Southern Song Local and Regional Currencies and Their Justifications"

Linda Walton, "The Rise of a Regional Elite in Song China: the Lou, Yuan, and Shi Clans in Ming Prefecture, c.1050-1250"

Conference on Legal History

A research conference was held August 10-14, 1981 at Bellagio, Italy on the subject "The Transformation of Chinese Law, T'ang Through Ming." Sponsored by ACLS and the Rockefeller Foundation, it was co-chaired by Paul H. C. Ch'en (London) and John D. Langlois, J. (Bowdoin) and included two Sung Papers:

Hoklam Chan (Washington), "Sung Laws and Regulations on Publications and Circulation"

Brian E. McKnight (Hawaii), "From Statute to Precedent: the Transformation of the Sung System of Laws"

Efforts leading to publication of the paper are underway.

Chu Hsi Conference

Most readers will by now be aware of the large-scale conference on Chu Hsi that is to take place in Honolulu July 6-15, 1982 under the joint sponsorship of the Center for Asian and Pacific Studies and ACLS. Professor Chan Wing-tsit in serving as Conference Director with no fewer than forty scholars from all over the world expected to participate. We hope to report on the work of the conference at our next opportunity.

Conference on Imperial Governance

"The Evolution of Imperial Governance in China 10th-14th Centuries" will be the subject of a research conference held August 30-September 3, 1982 at Schloss Reisenberg, West Germany. Jointly sponsored by ACLS and the DFG (Deutsche Forschungs Gesellschaft), it will be co-chaired by Charles A. Peterson (Cornell) and Rolf Trauzettel (Bonn). Focus of the conference will be the monarchy and its evolving character under Sung, the conquest dynasties and early Ming. A report on the proceedings will be provided in our next issue.

Kyoto Seminar on Chinese Urban History

Since 1978 a seminar on Chinese urban history (Chūgoku kinsei no tōshi to bunka) has been in progress at the Jinbun Kagaku Kenkyūjo in Kyoto. Under the chairmanship of Umehara Kaoru, it enjoys the participation both of members of the Institute and of scholars from other institutions in the Kansai area. It has been focussed primarily on the urbs of Southern Sung and attempting a comprehensive and concrete examination of political, economic, social and cultural aspects. Participants have made especially heavy use of the Meng-liang-lu and the Ch'ing-ming-chi, both of which they have been translating into modern Japanese (see the index to the former work listed on p.146 of our last issue).

Newsletter for Korean Studies

For readers whose interests stray up across the northeastern frontier, it should be noted that a Newsletter of the Association for Korean Studies is being issued. It features news of the field, bibliographic information, etc. Further information can be obtained by writing:

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New Bibliographic Publication

A new quarterly has been issued in Taiwan which is intended to provide up-to-date information on publications, research in progress, scholarly meetings and even profiles of academic personalities, primarily for the Taiwan scene but to some extent for the international scholarly community too. It is entitled Han-hsüeh yen-chiu t'ung-hsün ("Newsletter for Research in Chinese Studies"). Naturally, it offers coverage of a general nature rather than of the Sung-Yüan period in particular. Information about this publication can be obtained from its editorial offices at 43, Nan Hai Rd., Taipei.

Addition to the Register of Dissertations

Dr. Roderich Ptak has brought the title of his dissertation to our attention as well as an indication of its contents which, for lack of time, we must enter here rather than in the appropriate place below. Entitled "Die Dramen Cheng T'ing-yü's" and submitted to the University of Heidelberg in 1979, this study includes translations of "Chin-feng ch'ai" and Act 3 of "Ch'u Chao-kung" together with a critical analysis of structure, stylistic features, etc. It is available in paperbound form from Klemmerberg Verlag (6901 Bammental, W. Germany) or possibly from Harrassowitz in Wiesbaden.