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PACIFIC CIRCLE NEWSLETTER



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PACIFIC CIRCLE NEWS

MEETINGS. The Pacific Circle will co-sponsor a session entitled "The Naturalist Abroad: At Work in the Field," at this year's annual meeting of the History of Science Society, 26-29 October, in Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota. Organizer of the session is SANDRA HERBERT, chair is FRITZ REHBOCK. Included will be the following speakers:

SANDRA HERBERT (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), "Charles Darwin: Writing Up in the Field"; JANE CAMERINI (independent scholar), "Victorians in the Field";

ELIZABETH A. HANSON (University of Pennsylvania), "Popular Science in the Field: Collecting Animals for the National Zoo, 1937-1940";

ANNE LARSEN (Princeton), "Does a Bird in the Hand Equal a Bird in the Book? Actual and Virtual Specimens in Early English Zoology, 1800-1840";

HENRIKA KUKLICK (University of Pennsylvania), commentary.



The Circle will also sponsor a session, on "Science in the Pacific: From Voyages of Discovery into New Dimensions?" at the Third British-North American Joint Meeting of the Canadian, American and British history of science societies, to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland, 23-26 July 1996. Tentatively, speakers include ROY MACLEOD, PETER HOFFENBERG, and GORDON MCOUAT. Additional speakers are sought and should contact Roy MacLeod (Fax: +612 692 3918; E-mail: roy.macleod@history.su.edu.au) as soon as possible.



Plans continue for a Pacific symposium at the XX¹ International Congress of History of Science, hosted by the Universty of Liège, Belgium, 25-30 July 1997. The following session themes have been proposed, with conveners indicated where known:

Museums of the Pacific, Roy MacLeod Science in Japan, Jim Bartholomew Astronomy in the Pacific, Fritz Rehbock Environment and Empire, Richard Grove

Exploration and Natural History of the North Pacific, Fritz Rehbock

Suggestions of papers that might fall within any of the above topics, as well as proposals for other Pacific sessions, are now solicited and should be communicated to either Roy Macleod (Department of History, University of Sydney) or Fritz Rehbock (Department of History, University of Hawai'i at Manoa).

GIFT. The Pacific Circle is exceptionally pleased to announce the receipt of a generous donation from the Kajiyama Publications Fund, toward the production of future newsletters and other publications. The Fund was endowed by the Kajiyama family of Japan to support publications concerning Asia and the Pacific Rim. Special thanks are due to Professor Emeritus George Aktra and Professor sharon minichiello of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa for their assistance in making this award possible.

OFFICE MOVE. The editorial office of the *Pacific Circle Newsletter* has moved to a new location within the History Department, University of Hawai'i at Manoa. The new phone number is: (808) 956-7675. Although the old addresses are still valid, e-mail addresses have changed slightly: for the editor (frehbock@hawaii.edu) and the assistant to the editor (alboro@hawaii.edu).

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CONGRESSES, CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

5-8 October 1995. Peter Hoffenberg has provided the following information on a session at the forthcoming meeting of the North American Conference on British Studies 1995 to be held at ANA Hotel in Washington, D.C. The session, entitled "Colonial Subjects and Cultural Authorities: Identity, Knowledge, and Expertise Concerning Late Victorian Africa and India," and chaired by Helen Cooper (SUNY, Stony Brook), will be on Saturday 7 October, 2:15-3:45 pm. Titles and their presenters include: "Identity, Race, and the Ironic Space of the Colonial Situation: James [Africanus] Beale Horton," DOUGLAS MELVIN RAYNES (University of California, Irvine); "The Victorian Subaltern as Expert: T.N. Mukbarji, Exhibitions, and the Construction of Knowledge," PETER HOFFENBERG (University of Hawai'i, Manoa); "British Women's Periodicals and Advice Columns About Trips to India and Sojourns There, 1860-1900," NUPUR CHAUDHURI (Kansas State University). DANE KENNEDY (University of Nebraska, Lincoln) is the commentator.

18-21 October 1995. The annual meeting of 4S will take place in Charlottesville, Virginia, and will be held jointly with the Society for the History of Technology. The theme will be the impact of STS on technoscience: what implications does the latest work in STS have for the conduct of science and for science and engineering education? Should scientists be welcomed as collaborators in STS research?

Program Chair:

Michael E. Gorman

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For additional information and updates, see the 4S Homepage on the World Wide Web. The URL is: http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/~meg3c/4Shome.html

19-20 October 1995. Interface '95, the Twentieth Annual Humanities and Technology Conference, Atlanta, Georgia. An interdisciplinary conference devoted to the study and discussion of the interrelationship between the sciences, the various technologies, and the humanities. Inquiries:

Dr. Julie Newell
Social and International Studies
Southern College of Technology
1100 South Marietta Parkway
Marietta, GA 30060-2896 USA
(404) 528-7481

20-21 November 1995. "Science, Politics and Evolution in Asia and the Pacific: An Interdisciplinary Workshop for Honours Students, Postgraduates, and Junior Scholars" will be sponsored by the Division of Pacific and Asian History, RSPAS in the Humanities Research Centre Reading Room, Australian National University, Canberra, Australia. This workshop will explore how evolutionism and other scientistic models have been translated into various social and political discourses articulated in the Asia-Pacific region. The impact on different cultures and value systems will be one sub-theme, as will be the manner in which Darwinian themes were co-opted to serve various interest groups. Other sub-themes include: the reception of evolutionary theory in various national

contexts, colonial science, social Darwinisms, gender construction, imperial expansion, eugenics/race hygiene, ideologies of race and class, and population control.

While the aim of the workshop is to encourage contact and the exchange of ideas amongst students and junior academics in an informal, yet stimulating environment, we would be happy to hear from more senior academics who feel they have a positive contribution to make to such a forum. Those interested in attending the workshop, but who are not able to give a paper should also contact the conveners as soon as possible in order to be placed on the mailing list. Conveners:

Dr. Christine Dureau

Division of Pacific and Asian History

Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies

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Phone: (06) 249 4247 Fax: (06) 249 5525

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6-9 December 1995. The Twentieth Annual University of Hawai'i Pacific Islands Studies Conference, sponsored by the Center for Pacific Islands Studies, Center for Hawaiian Studies, and Population Studies Program (University of Hawai'i at Manoa) and Program for Cultural Studies (East-West Center), will be held in Honolulu, Hawai'i. Under the title "Contested Ground: Knowledge and Power in Pacific Islands Studies," key themes will include the relevance of indigenous ways of knowing; the role of scholarship; issues of gender, class and race; and the implications of recent developments for teaching and learning. The conference will be open to the public. For more information, contact:

Tisha Hickson

Center for Pacific Islands Studies University of Hawai'i at Manoa 1890 East-West Road, Moore 215

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96822 USA

Phone: (808) 956-2652 Fax: (808) 956-7053

E-mail: ctisha@hawaii.edu

18-20 February 1996. Annual gathering of the Columbia History of Science Group at Friday Harbor,

San Juan Islands, Washington. Inquiries:

Jody Bourgeois Geological Sciences University of Washington

Box 351310

Seattle, WA 98195 USA

11-12 April 1996. "Empires of Nature," the tenth international conference of the Society for the History of Natural History, will be held at Wadham College, Oxford. See PCN14 for details of the intended themes of the program. Visits to the Bodleian Library, the University Botanic Garden and Herbaria, the Museum of History of Science and the University Museum are also planned. Inquiries:

Ms Jane Pickering

Oxford University Museum

Parks Road

Oxford OX1 3PW UK

Phone: (01865) 272950 Fax: (01865) 272970

E-mail: jane.pickering@oum.ox.ac.uk

2-5 July 1996. "Margins and Metropolis: Literature, Culture and Science, 1660-1830," is the title of the Xth David Nichol Smith Memorial Seminar, hosted by the Australasian and Pacific Society for Eighteenth-Century Studies, Australian National University, Canberra. Proposals for papers addressing the theme "Margins and Metropolis" are invited from scholars working in English Literature, Gender and Women's Studies, History and Philosophy of Science, Art History, Social, Economic and Cultural History, and other relevant disciplines. Proposals of papers (25 minutes duration) should include a 300-word abstract, and should be sent to the conveners by 30 November 1995:

Dr. Ian Higgins

Phone: +61 6 249 2708

Fax: +61 6 249 3244

or

Dr. Gillian Russell

Phone: +61 6 249 0489

Fax: +61 6 249 3244

Department of English, Faculties Australian National University

Canberra, ACT 0200 Australia

9-13 July 1996. The Eleventh Pacific History

Association Conference and the 21st conference of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa Center for Pacific Islands Studies (CPIS) will convene jointly at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo. The conference will critically address the concepts of "History, Culture, and Power in the Pacific" as they have informed and continue to inform the

study of Pacific pasts. For more information on specific panel topics, or to propose or chair panels, contact the conference convener:

Dr. David Hanlon Department of History 2530 Dole St. University of Hawai'i at Manoa Honolulu, HI 96822 USA Phone: (808) 956-9957

Fax:

So that they may have an idea of the approximate number of interested people, please contact the conference coordinators if you are interested in participating in the conference in any way:

(808) 956-9600

Letitia Hickson Center for Pacific Islands Studies University of Hawai'i at Manoa Honolulu, HI 96822 USA Phone: (808) 956-2652 Fax: (808) 956-7053 E-mail: ctisha@hawaii.edu

1-4 August 1996. "Re-imagining the Pacific: A Conference on Art History and Anthropology in Honor of Bernard Smith," at the Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University, Canberra. Conveners are NICHOLAS THOMAS (Dept. of Archeology and Anthropology, ANU) and DIANE LOSCHE (Dept. of Art Theory, ANU). Inquiries:

Conference Administrator Humanities Research Centre Australian National University Canberra, ACT 0200 Australia Phone: +61 6 249 2700 Fax: +61 6 248 0054

E-mail: administration.hrc@anu.edu.au

23-26 August 1996. The Science and Other Indigenous Knowledges Conference will be held at Cairns, Queensland. For papers or presentations at Cairns send a title and an abstract or outline of the presentation of about 500 words by 27 October 1995. ASCII versions of abstracts may be sent via e-mail. Given ther commitment to indigenous participation during the first half of the conference, the conveners will make extensive use of panels and pre-circulations of working papers. For more information, contact:

The Conveners, HRC 96 Conference c/o Department of History and Politics James Cook University P.O. Q4811 Cairns, Queensland Australia E-mail: paul.turnbull@cu.edu.au

26-31 August 1996. The 8th International Conference on the History of Science in East Asia will be held at Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea. This is the official triennial meeting of the International Society for the History of East Asian Science, Technology and Medicine, at which the results will be announced of elections for new officers of the society. Three plenary lectures, on the "Current State of Scholarship in China on History of East Asian Science," "Spread of Chinese Science to the East Asian World," and "Pride and Prejudice in Historiography: the East Asian Cases" will be delivered by Zezong Xi, Shigeru Nakayama, and Seong-Rae Park respectively. A memorial session for Joseph Needham will be held. Symposia of invited papers, scientific sessions of contributed papers, exhibitions, and general assembly and business meetings of the ISHEASTM are also scheduled.

Contributed papers are solicited in all areas of history of science, technology and medicine in East Asia. The title and one-page (A-4) abstract of the paper should reach the conference office by 29 March 1996 (individual symposium organizers may choose earlier deadlines).

The pre-registration form should be returned to the conference office by 15 December 1995. By February 1996, only people who pre-register will be sent the Second Circular and Registration Form. A hardcopy of the first circular and pre-registration form may be obtained from Professor YUNG-SIK KIM at the address given below. Please note that Professor Kim cannot at present deal with inquiries by e-mail.

Professor Yung-Sik Kim Conference Office Program in History and Philosophy of Science College of Natural Sciences Seoul National University Seoul 151-742 Korea Phone: 02-880-6637 02-873-0418

Fax:

6-9 September 1996. A conference on "The Natural Sciences and the Social Sciences" will be held at the Humanities Research Centre, Australian National University, Canberra. The conference will explore "the relationship, conflicts and connections between natural and social knowledges as they have developed historically from the eighteenth to the twentieth century....Particular emphasis will be given to the relations between enlightenment derived theories of natural science, including medicine, and the social knowledges of religion, politics, history and anthropology." Convener of the conference is Dr.

DOROTHY PORTER, Birkbeck College, University of London. Proposed paper titles accompanied by a 300-word abstract should be sent to:

Professor Iain McCalman Humanities Research Centre: Australian National University Canberra, ACT 0200 Australia

Phone: +61 6 249 2700 Fax: +61 6 248 0054

July 1997. The 8th Pacific Science Inter-Congress will be hosted by the University of the South Pacific in Fiji. This inter-congress will focus on the Pacific Islands in the 21th century. Inquiries:

Dr. Mahendra Kumar
Inter-Congress Secretary- General
Secretariat, 8th Pacific Science Inter-Congress
c/o School of Pure and Applied Science
University of the South Pacific
P.O. Box 1168
Suva Fiii

Phone: (679) 313-900, ext. 2691

Fax: (679) 302-548 E-mail: psa@usp.ac.fj

SEATTLE SEMINAR

The History of Science Research Group at the University of Washington holds a speaker series every Monday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:00 pm during term time.

Meetings are held in Smith 203 on the UW campus and are open to all history of science enthusiasts. A list of forthcoming speakers can be obtained from Professor Keith Benson (E-mail: krbenson@u.washington.edu)

RECENT MEETINGS

The following summary of this year's meeting of the West Coast History of Science Society was generously provided by Peggy Champlin via our California corespondent, Janet Garber.

The West Coast History of Science Society held its annual meeting at the University of California, San Diego, on 29-30 April 1995, with fourteen papers presented on such widely ranging subjects as Feynman diagrams, early herbal illustrations, Thomas Jefferson's interest in the fossil remains of a giant sloth, and multiple sclerosis. Several papers dealt with science in Victorian Britain: the rise of scientific horticulture, the study of sunspots and their relation to meteorology, the physiology of William Benjamin Carpenter, and the variety and meaning of London's many technological exhibitions.

Of special interest to Pacific Rim science were papers by sally smith hughes of UCSF on the San Francisco AIDS epidemic and walter grunden of UC Santa Barbara on Japan's secret research on biological and chemical warfare during World War II. ROBERT WESTMAN of UC San Diego described his research on Copernicus's relation to the astrologers during his residence in Bologna 1495-1500, a period that Westman thinks was important for the development of Copernican astronomy.

Commentary was by Paula Findlen, who, incidentally, has agreed to be the president-elect of WCHSS. Kenneth Carpenter of UC Berkeley gave a somewhat less than enthusiastic review of *The Golem: What Everyone Should Know About Science*, by Harry collins and trevor pinch. Pinch was on hand to respond, and a lively discussion followed.

The conference concluded with the awarding of the graduate student prize to VINCENT GROH of UC Berkeley, whose paper dealt with the hybridization debate: issues raised by conservative members of the Anthropological Society of London during the 1860s stemming from their belief that mixing of races would cause infertility and decline of racial stocks. Next year's meeting will be held at UC Santa Barbara, with LAWRENCE BADASH in charge of local arrangements.

JOSEPH NEEDHAM 1900-1995

With all scholars east and west, the Pacific Circle mourns the passing of one of the most extraordinary historians of science of this century. From his many collaborators to those who encountered him on only a few occasions, Joseph Needham will be long remembered for his quiet wit, graciousness, and tireless dedication to elaborating the history of science and technology in China in all its richness for the benefit of world historiography. We are privileged to present the following reflections of two of his colleagues.

Dr. Joseph Needham passed away on March 24, 1995, at the age of 95. The message spread rapidly throughout Chinese academic circles. Many Chinese scholars, especially Chinese historians of science, grieved deeply for the loss of the world-renowned scientist and close friend of the Chinese people.

As early as the late 1930s and '40s, in south-west China during the anti-Japanese war, Dr. Needham tried to get in contact with many Chinese scientists to encourage and support their research.

Although he was not the first one to enter the field of the history of traditional Chinese science, he was the first scholar to embark on a magnificent project to write a multi-volume series, *Science and Civilization in China*. The first volume was published in 1954; by the time of his death the last volume, No. 7, was yet to be completed. To this great project, Dr. Needham devoted more than half of his life—studying Chinese, buying ancient Chinese books, gathering materials, studying and discussing with other scholars, and finally recording his results in English.

In his books, Dr. Needham took science as an integrated part of ancient Chinese civilization, and he introduced the comparative and comprehensive methods of study. It is his great achievement that let historians around the world know this part of Chinese civilization, so little known before. His work also promoted the study of this field in China itself, a field that has flourished since the 1950s.

For his brilliant contribution, he gained a high reputation in China. He was one of the first group of foreign members of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and was Honorary Professor of the Institute for History of Natural Science. His amazing will power deeply moved Chinese scientists. Indeed, the memory of Dr. Joseph Needham will endure forever.

Li Peishan
 Institute for History of Natural Science
 Chinese Academy of Sciences

There is a saying in Arabic:

Maut-ul-Aalim Maut-ul-Aalam

Dooth of the Scientist is the and

Death of the Scientist is the end of an epoch. This is indeed true for Joseph Needham, whose depth of knowledge and wide ranging interests were matched by few, if any.

* * * *

Joseph Needham was born on December 9, 1900. His father was a physician, and, according to Joseph, a pioneer in pathological histology who later specialized in anesthesia. His mother was a musician and a composer. He had a comfortable childhood, but showed from the beginning a sympathy for the working class and when 13 years old argued for socialism with his father. He earned a degree in natural science and taught biochemistry at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University, with which he remained associated throughout his life. He married Dorothy, also a biochemist. Both became fellows of the Royal Society. However, by 1930 he became interested in the history of science, in particular Chinese science. It was probably



his contact with Lu Gwei-Djen who later became his collaborator in the project on Chinese science, and whom he married after Dorothy's death.

Two events shaped the direction of his life's work. First, his participation in the Second International Conference on the History of Science and Technology held in London in 1931. Among the papers presented by the Russian delegation headed by N.I. Bukharin, which left a deep impression on English participants were those of Boris Hessen on the socio-economic roots of Newton's Principia, N.I. Vavitov's paper on the origins of the world's agriculture, E. Colman on crisis in mathematical sciences, and B. Zavadovsky's paper on physical and biological aspects in the process of evolution. The English side was represented by J.D. Bernal, J.B.S. Haldane, Hyman Levy, L. Hogben, Benjamin Farrington, Joseph Needham and others. Afterwards each was to work out the social, political, cultural, and economic dimensions of science in his fields of specialization.

The second important event was Needham's appointment as a counselor, appointed by the British Council in 1942 to extend Anglo-Chinese relations. As a counselor he traveled extensively in China, and brought out, in photographs, a sort of commentary on contemporary developments in science and technology in China. This was published in 1945 as *Chinese Science*. Thus began his appreciation of Communist China.

There is a photograph (no. 48) in this book showing Joseph on a donkey, along with three Chinese on an edge of the desert near the city of Yuchyachuan. I am told

that here his party was attacked by bandits. While the Chinese despaired of their and Joseph's life, Joseph got down from his donkey and did a Scottish dance. Seeing that, the leader of the bandits got down from his donkey and did a dance, after which both the parties went their way.

The book gives a bird's eye view of the organization and development of scientific research in free China, providing historical insights. But Joseph's horizon was not limited to China. For instance, talking of the cave temples of Chienfutung he compared them with the caves of Ellora and Ajanta in India. Joseph had wide ranging interests in nearly every aspect of human intellectual. social, cultural, and political activities and he commented on these with typical erudition. In his own words he was a "prowler and explorer among ideas." He had his views on science, philosophy, religion, arts, and history, but what was significant about these views was that he was always modifying them and evolving his ideas about them in the light of new knowledge. For instance, talking of science and religion he said that his earlier description of "science was rather too narrow and the description of religion certainly much too neoplatonic, idealistic, pietistic and other worldly."1

Joseph was deeply concerned with the rise of Hitler and its consequences on science. He delivered a lecture at Cornell University in 1940 in which he described its consequences for international science. In doing so he drew upon the historical development of science to show that the Nazi's attempt ran counter to the scientific tradition.² An interesting feature of the lecture was his demonstration of the decline of science in Germany as based on statistical data from the publication of papers. He also produced data on scientists of established reputation exiled from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia and Italy. In most of his articles, lectures and talks, he touched upon historical, social, cultural, political and philosophical features and also compared the developments with non-European culture areas. His systematic approach to the study of problems is brought out in his essay on "Limiting Factors in the History of Science." A chart covers nearly every possible dimension starting from the relation of the investigator to his environment, co-operation of investigators, techniques and balance between observation, experiment and speculation.

Apart from being a great scholar, he was an activist. He was involved in controversies of the period, such as those with A.V. Hill and Michael Polanyi on the nature of science and the role of scientists. He was also involved in a committee which examined germ warfare in Korea and other causes involving injustice or

hegemonistic politics.

He was greatly concerned with one question: as one of "the deepest historical questions that can be raised—why the body of systematized knowledge and theory about nature which we call science did not develop also in India or China."

Later, writing a new foreword to the papers presented at the Second International Congress on the History of Science and Technology (1931), for the second edition published in 1971, he wrote: "with the appearance on the scene of intensive studies of Mathematics, Science, Technology and medicine in the great non-European Civilizations debate is likely to sharpen, for the failure of China and India to give rise to distinctively modern science while being ahead of Europe for fourteen previous centuries is going to take some explaining."

While he concentrated on writing the history of science in China, he encouraged scholars in India, as well as those in the Islamic culture area, to write histories of science in those countries. Writing to then Secretary of the National Institute of Science of India (Now Indian National Science Academy) in March 1954 he stated, "I am profoundly convinced (with Dr. Hora) that urgent steps must be taken to put the whole subject of the History of Science and Technology in India on a proper basis, furthermore that the later history is perhaps the more promising to start with, pending the historical research into the datings of texts of antiquity."

Six years before his death he had organized a conference, which represented his perspective on non-European societies and scientific development. Explaining the purpose of the conference on "The Historical Dynamics of Oriental Societies," he wrote to the Secretary of the Commonwealth Science Council on 15 May 1984: "The conference is meant to involve a multisided discussion aimed at bringing about greater and more realistic understanding of the specificity of the histories of societies such as China, India, Japan and the Islamic World."

While Needham worked and published his Science and Civilization in China, covering nearly all the different branches of science and technology along with their social and philosophical dimensions, he gave references to the contemporary developments in particular in Asia, as well as Europe. For instance, in the second volume on the association between nature-mysticism and science he dealt with European linkages, as well as China, the Islamic world and India (p. 94-99). In his discussion on Sufism and science in the Islamic world he brought out the social features as well. In mentioning the role of Qaramatians he says: "That an

alliance of this kind should have existed between the mystical scientists and the organized workers is not the least surprising. Since, as cannot be too often repeated, the great cleavage lay between those who were prepared to engage in manual operations and those who considered them unworthy of a gentleman. Between techniques and magical recipes there was no wide gap" (vol. II, p. 96). He was the first person to recognize the division between natural Sufism and esoteric Sufism. The reason of the latter lay in the power of the governing elite in suppression of unorthodox beliefs.

There are many aspects of Needham's personality which come out in various incidents of his life. Two or three are worth recalling. Joseph was the chairman of a committee for development of the University in Sri Lanka. One of the members of this committee was Mr. Chatterjee, then Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan University, Jaipur. I called on Joseph and he started discussing with me a few points regarding the history of science in India. During our discussion the Vice Chancellor came up and reminded him about a meeting with the Governor. Joseph got up, went to his room, and brought a few books for me to go through. The Vice Chancellor seeing him carrying the load of books remarked, "There are always servants to carry things for you." Joseph retorted, "I never do that sort of things."

While Joseph was master of Gonville & Caius College, he invited me to tea. When I went there, no lights were on. Thinking that he was not in, I switched on the light and found Joseph deep in thought. I apologized for disturbing his thinking. His response was, "I was not thinking, but was only rearranging my prejudices."

Another lesson I got from Joseph began when he gave me a book to read on crusades. I had read in my childhood a book on crusades in Urdu, where Muslims were believers and Christians were infidels. Muslims were brave, generous and great fighters, while Christians were just the opposite. The book in English painted the opposite picture—Muslims were infidels, weak and not brave!

Thinking of Joseph, I am reminded of an Urdu couplet: "You who are now going away.

You would be long remembered."

—Abdur Rahman New Delhi

* * * * *

Dr. Needham kept up an energetic pace into his very last years. To illustrate: in the summer of 1986 I had the extraordinary good pleasure—as so many have—of spending an unforgettable evening with him at Caius. After a tour of the Science and Civilization in China project in its old digs on Brooklands Avenue in south Cambridge, we dined in college, where he was far and away the senior member at high table. In the course of conversation over the traditional fruit, port, and cigars around the common room's highly lacquered table, it grew quite late, whereupon Needham apologetically proposed that he drive me home as he was due shortly at his next appointment. He was then 85.

—The Editor

SASAKAWA ESSAYS ON PACIFIC ANTHROPOLOGY:

Sugiura Kenichi, Japan's Pioneer of Oceanian Research

The first Japanese anthropologist to conduct empirical research in Oceania and to publish his results internationally was Sugiura Kenichi. From early in his career, Sugiura pursued his research in Micronesia, which under Japan's rule was at the time called the South Seas. The achievements of his research on the life of the island peoples, along with his innovative, yet sound, anthropological theory and methodology, laid the cornerstones of ethnological research on Micronesia, and have since been widely acclaimed by colleagues both in and outside Japan.

Sugiura was born in Okazaki, Aichi prefecture in 1905. In 1928, he matriculated in the Faculty of Literature at Tokyo Imperial University where he majored in ethnology of religion. During his postgraduate years, he also devoted himself to the study of kulturkreislehre (hypothesis of culture complexes). After finishing graduate school in 1933, Sugiura conducted his first field work; he assisted Japan's founding father of folklore research, Yanagita Kunio, in a study entitled "Folkloristic research in rural Japan." However, he found himself critical of Yanagita's methodology which attempted to reconstruct history from vestiges of information ferreted out of inquiries of elderly people about old customs. At the same time, he also began to question the validity of kulturkreislehre, and felt a painful need to understand communities and their people in a holistic, real-life context.

In his foraging through Western literature on anthropology, Sugiura was drawn to works on "functionalism" by B. Malinowski, A.R. Radcliffe-Brown, and other leading social anthropologists at the

¹Time: The Refreshing River (George Allen & Unwin, 1945), pp. 9-50.

²History is on Our Side (George Allen & Unwin, 1946), pp. 154-198.

³Ibid., p. 147.

time. He believed that it was this functionalist methodology that could most effectively be employed in ethnographic studies. That is, for a researcher to understand the society and culture of the subject people he must live among them and conduct participatory observations. In the 1930s, however, it was difficult for a researcher in Japan to get a chance to go abroad to conduct field work. Fortunately, he happened to hear about a study of indigenous land tenure systems organized by the South Seas Government, and through the recommendation of an associate was able to join the survey team.

This study was part of a plan for implementing the government's colonization policy of the South Seas, which Japan had made a territory after its withdrawal from the League of Nations in 1933. The plan involved borrowing uninhabited land from the native people and placing immigrating Japanese farmers on it in an attempt to advance the economic development of the islands. This study offered Sugiura an opportune chance to realize his burning desire to conduct anthropological research overseas.

In 1937, he traveled to Palau, where he began his study of traditional land tenure systems. In an effort to categorize the peoples' land tenure systems by ownership and inheritance types, he traveled with government officials from village to village in Palau for three years conducting this survey. From 1940, he embarked on a land tenure survey in Pohnpei. At that time, Sugiura was commissioned by the South Seas Government to prepare a survey questionnaire on old customs and traditions throughout the territory; and he thenceforth became absorbed in a comprehensive study of Micronesian society and culture.

In 1938, Sugiura became an assistant in the humanities department of the Science Faculty at Tokyo Imperial University This position allowed him to spend half of every year in Micronesia. But with the outbreak of World War II in 1941, Sugiura was forced to end this study in the islands. However, he continued to pursue vigorously his research activities in Japan, compiling materials he had prepared in the field and in Japan, researching the body of literature, and writing. He published over ten works in the form of papers. Representative among them were "Social Organization of Palau" (1938), "Fishing Gear of Yap" (1939), "Respect Words in Ponape" (1940), and "Coconut Leaf Basketry in Micronesia" (1941). He wrote other papers on a wide variety of themes, including totemism, village dualism in Palau, and affinity relationships in Marshallese society. With regard to his land tenure survey, in 1944 Sugiura issued a voluminous paper of

150 pages entitled Traditional Land Tenure Systems in Micronesia.

Sugiura's study in Micronesia lasted for only four years, his interest having evolved to encompass the wider Oceania. From 1941 Sugiura conducted a meticulous literature survey of the region. This effort bore fruit in the publication of four works in rapid succession: Political Systems and Law in Primitive Society (1947), Study of Primitive Economy (1948), Race and Ethnic Groups (1950), and Anthropology (1951). Under a system of higher education reform, in 1953 a department of liberal arts was established at the University of Tokyo, and Sugiura became its first professor of cultural anthropology. Though much expectation was placed on his efforts to pioneer further the field of cultural anthropology in Japan, he died at the young age of 49, never having been able to return to Micronesia. Although he would be criticized by some for having taken part in the implementation of Japan's colonial policy, it is widely appreciated that both Sugiura's survey and research methodologies and his extensive study results have contributed profoundly to the development of the field of Oceanian research.

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APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS AND ELECTIONS OF PACIFIC CIRCLE MEMBERS

Professor ROD HOME (University of Melbourne) was elected president of the Commission on Bibliography and Documentation at the IUHPS/DHS Congress in Zaragosa. His report of the activities of the Commission appears in the August 1995 International History of Science Newsletter. Anyone wishing to receive the mailings of the Commission should send name and address to

Dr. Henry Lowood Stanford University Libraries Stanford, CA 94305-6004 USA

Fax: (415) 725-1068

E-mail: henry.lowood@forsythe.stanford.edu

ROCKEFELLER AWARDS

Grants to conduct research at the Rockefeller Archives Center during 1995 were awarded to the following scholars for Asia/Pacific-related projects:

YU CAO (Institute for the History of Natural Science, Chinese Academy of Science), "The Contribution and Influence of the Rockefeller Foundation in Modern Chinese Biology before 1949"

SHI-YUNG LIU (University of Pittsburgh), "The Chinese Medical Profession and the Rockefeller Foundation in China"

VICKI WEINBERG (University of Arizona), "The Anti-Mothers, Mothering Campaign: Public Health in Chile, 1880-1980."

GRANT, AWARD & FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Rockefeller Archive Center, a division of the Rockefeller University, invites applications for its program of Grants for Travel and Research at the Rockefeller Archive Center for 1996. The Competitive

program makes grants of up to \$1,500 to U.S. and Canadian researchers and up to \$2,000 to researchers from abroad in any discipline, usually graduate students or post-doctoral scholars, who are engaged in research that requires use of the collections at the Center. The deadline for applications is 30 November 1995. Grant recipients will be announced in March, 1996. Inquiries about the program and requests for applications:

Darwin H. Stapleton, Director Rockefeller Archive Center 15 Dayton Avenue North Terrytown, NY 10591-1598 USA

The University of Oklahoma announced an Andrew R. Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship for research and teaching in the area of the Historical Intersections of the Biological and Social Sciences. The Fellowship is open to candidates with doctorates in history, the history of science, or related fields. The program for the 1996-1997 academic year focuses on historical problems related to the convergence of the biological and human sciences with an orientation to rethinking the nature/culture divide. The Mellon Fellow will have residence with the University's History of Science Department and the University Libraries' History of Science Collections.

Visiting Fellowships 1997

HUMANITIES RESEARCH CENTRE

The Australian National University

Applications invited are **Visiting** Fellowships in the Humanities Research Centre in 1997. Each year the Centre concentrates upon a special theme. In 1997 the theme will be 'Identities'. The Centre intends to organise three conferences: 'Emotion in Social Life and Social Theory' (early July); 'Identities and Convergences' (to be held jointly with the Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, ANU and the Université Française de Pacifique, Nouméa in mid-July); and Indigenous Rights, Political Theory and the Reshaping of Institutions' (to be held jointly with the Research School of Social Sciences, ANU in late August).

Applications from scholars working in any area of the humanities are welcomed, as a proportion of each year's Fellowships is reserved for those without special interest in the year's theme; the majority of Fellowships, however, will be awarded to those whose work is relevant to the annual theme and its conferences. Fellows are expected to work at the Centre, but are encouraged also to visit other Australian universities. Grants usually include a travel component and a weekly living allowance.

Prospective applicants must obtain further particulars and application forms from the Centre Administrator, Humanities Research Centre, The Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200 AUSTRALIA. Fax: (61 6) 248 0054. E-mail: administration.hrc@anu.edu.au.

Applications should reach the Registrar, ANU, by 31 October 1995. Ref: HRC 20.6.1.

The fellow will teach one undergraduate or graduate course during the academic year. The fellowship carries a stipend up to \$30,000, with benefits including a budget for travel and research expenses.

Applications should be postmarked by <u>23 January</u> <u>1996</u>. For details, contact:

Dr. Marilyn Ogilvia, Curator History of Science Collections Bizzell Memorial Library, 521 NW The University of Oklahoma Norman, OK 73019-0315 USA

> Phone: (405) 325-2741 Fax: (405) 325-2363 E-mail: mogilvie@uoknor.edu

E-NEWS

The editors would like to thank those of you who have sent us your e-mail address in response to our previous inquiry. As we receive time-sensitive material, we will be sure to pass it along to you. A repeat from the last issue: to reach as many of you as possible, we ask that, if you haven't previously provided us with your e-mail address, please send us a message via e-mail so that we may add it to the list. Thank you.

As before, when subscribing: characters in **bold** should be typed as is, and the info between <>s must be provided.

EASCI. The Center for Computer Analysis of Texts at the University of Pennsylvania recently announced its new mailing list, which will allow those interested in the "History of Science, Technology, and Medicine in East Asia" to send e-mail messages to everyone else on the list. Also, the International Society for the History of East Asian Science, Technology and Medicine will post announcements of meetings and other activities to the list. For information on subscribing, send e-mail to <code>lstrv@ccat.sas.upenn.edu</code> including the following line (with nothing else):

INFO EASCI

EASCI was founded and is maintained by:
Dr. Nathan Sivin
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ISLAMIC SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The IUHPS/DHS Commission for Science and Technology in Islamic Civilization, led by its president PROFESSOR S.M. RAZAULLAH ANSARI (Aligarh Muslim University, India), now publishes a newsletter.

Newsletter editor DR. SONJA BRENTJES would appreciate receiving any of the following relating to Islamic science and/or technology: preprints or reprints of recent publications, or at least complete references; reports of research activities and topics of Ph.D. theses; topics of lectures or seminars; work in progress or future projects, etc. Materials should be sent to

Dr. Sonja-Brentjes Secretary of the Commission Institute for Advanced Study Mathematical School Princeton, NJ 08540 USA

TOPICAL ESSAYS FOR TEACHERS

The History of Science Society has issued a softcover volume of *Topical Essays for Teachers*, collected, with an introduction by HENRY STEFFENS. It is available at cost of US\$8.00 in the U.S. and Canada; \$10 to other addresses. Contents:

"Race, Geneder, and Science," by KENNETH R. MANNING

"Science and Religion in Western History," by FREDERICK GREGORY

"Big Science: Atomic Bomb Research and the Beginning of High Energy Physics," by STANLEY GOLDBERG

"Science and the Environment," by EDMUND P. RUSSELL, III

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"Conde B. McCollough, 1887-1946: Master Bridge Builder of the Pacific Northwest," by ROBERT W. HANDLOW, Washington State University, 1993.

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"Science, Technology and the Arsenal of Democracy: Production Research and Development During World War II," by PETER NEUSHUL, University of California, Santa Barbara, 1993.

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