

E 183  
.8  
.C5  
C534  
Copy 1

# China Institute in America

*Incorporated*



China Institute in America  
119 West 57th Street  
New York City

1930

Another issue, cf. p. 15



E 183  
.8  
C 5 C 534

CP Feb 2, 1931

# China Institute in America

*Incorporated*

By DR. EUGENE SHEN and Revised by DR. FRANCIS K. PAN.

AS apparent to all workers for international goodwill, the cultivation of an adequate understanding between the peoples is principally an educational process, and, therefore, calls for cooperation among the educational leaders and organizations of the various nations. A movement of this kind has been on foot for some years. European countries, such as Great Britain, and France, have maintained in the United States centers for the dissemination of information and the promotion of closer international relations. Likewise, the United States has established abroad institutions of similar nature.

In the Far East, international relations have come to play an increasingly important part. It is gratifying to note that the history of Chinese-American relationship has been marked by a sustained feeling of friendliness. Such mutual goodwill, however, should be grounded in a broader and deeper understanding of each other. This is by no means an easy task. China, on account of her historical differences from the West, is not readily susceptible to interpretation by any casual observer, but can only be understood by the most critical, deep-thinking, and far-sighted individuals. Some Chinese and Americans have for a long time in the past tried to acquaint the American public with things Chinese, but positive, progressive, and organized efforts have been lacking, especially in the field of culture. This need is at least partly met by the creation of the CHINA INSTITUTE IN AMERICA.

The idea of the China Institute was originally conceived by Professor Paul Monroe. In May 1926, the Trustees of the China Foundation for the Promotion of Education and Culture adopted the proposal of Professor Monroe. This Foundation was created in 1924 in China to administer the funds from the Second Remission of the American portion of the Boxer Indemnity. Together with the Metropolitan Library and Department of Social Research in Peiping, the Institute represented one of the direct enterprises undertaken by the Foundation, and was to function along the following lines:

1. To disseminate information concerning Chinese and American cultures.

Shen  
Institute  
Jan. 6, 1931





2. To promote closer relationship between Chinese and American educational institutions.
3. To assist Chinese students in America in their educational pursuits, and to interest American students in the study of things Chinese.
4. To stimulate general interest in America in the study of Chinese culture.

The Board of Trustees elected as Director of the Institute Dr. P. W. Kuo, former President of National Southeastern University, Nanking, to whom credit is due for the initial drafting of the plan of organization. Under his leadership, the Institute has proved its usefulness, and won the approval of many Chinese and American leaders. Its activities can be best summarized according to the four divisions outlined as follows.

1. In the first place, the Institute has acted as a clearing house for inquiries concerning Chinese and American education. As far as possible, such inquiries have been answered through printed material and by furnishing reference to other sources. It has been a frequent experience to furnish American teachers with materials for their use in classes. An outstanding event which may be mentioned under this topic was the organization in 1926 of the Chinese educational exhibits in the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia. The exhibits were shown by the Institute upon the request of the Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education which was responsible for the collecting and sending of the material. They were intended to convey to the American public the idea of the continuity of Chinese culture, of the rapid progress in modern education, and of the evolution of a new Chinese civilization as a result of contacts with the West. They received considerable attention from visitors and called forth many favorable comments. The International Jury awarded a Grand Prize to China "for the development of a comprehensive system of public education," and the Institute received a Medal of Honor for "its unique and original presentation of the Chinese Educational Exhibits." Diplomas were also awarded to the thirty-five educational institutions and organizations which collaborated in furnishing the material for the exhibits.

2. For the past several years educational work in China has been carried on under such adverse conditions that to exchange professors between Chinese and American universities has been more or less difficult. Nevertheless, the China Foundation was able to secure Professor J. G. Needham of Cornell University to lecture and direct research in biology, and the Chinese National Association for the Advancement of Education invited Professor W. H. Kilpatrick of Teachers' College, Columbia University, to make a lecture tour on education. Other American Educators who visited China were assisted by the Institute. Similar assistance has been extended to a number of Chinese educators visiting

America. During 1929 and 1930, among those who came over were Mr. Y. C. James Yen, Director of the National Association for the Mass Education Movement, and Professor William Hung of Yenching University, who has been with the Harvard-Yenching Institute at Harvard University. Dr. Hu Shih has been invited to lecture at Yale University. Professor P. C. Chang of Nankai University will be lecturing on Chinese culture at Chicago University during the spring session of 1931. The Institute has also assisted several American universities in securing professors and instructors in their departments of Chinese.

3. In regard to Chinese students in America, the Institute has also tried to be of assistance in a number of ways. Considerable correspondence has been carried on to facilitate the admission of Chinese students in American colleges and universities, to give introductions and testimonies, to assist advanced students to secure opportunities for practical experience, and to adjust difficulties which have sometimes arisen with the immigration authorities. The Institute also participated in the administration of a loan fund which was specially created for emergency aid to Chinese students. Assistance to American students interested in Chinese studies has chiefly consisted in answering inquiries and furnishing references to original sources of information.

4. The general public in America has been very much interested in the study of China. The Institute has received a large number of requests for speakers on various topics. They have been as far as possible complied with, either by members of the Institute staff or by others recommended for their special qualifications. The Director, himself, since the establishment of the Institute, has addressed many audiences in different parts of the country. The lecture tour of His Eminence, Tai Hsu, the noted Buddhist scholar and philosopher, was arranged by the Institute. Such efforts cannot but create a clearer and more sympathetic understanding of China by the American people and the results must be far-reaching. Interest on the part of America in the study of Chinese culture has been shown by the establishment of the Harvard-Yenching Institute of Chinese Studies; the organization of a department of Oriental Art in the Toledo Museum; the creation of a Chinese National Room in the Cathedral of Learning of the University of Pittsburgh; and others. A number of Americans and Chinese have expressed their desire to create some organization on the Pacific Coast to cooperate with the Institute, and students in the University of California, interested in China, have organized a club for the study of Chinese culture. Even in high schools, students have been given opportunities to write and debate on Chinese topics.

Along with the efforts of the Institute and others in encouraging the study of Chinese culture, the American Council of Learned Societies has organized a special committee for the promotion of Chinese



studies as a result of a special conference called by the Council in December, 1928. The Institute was invited to participate in the proceedings. Conferences have been held in Washington, D. C., and Cambridge, Massachusetts and Toronto. The Director has been made a member of the Standing Committee.

Besides the activities summarized above under the four divisions, there are others in the program of the Institute which do not relate to any of the four divisions in particular. It may be worthwhile to enumerate a few of the important ones.

Publications: The publications of the Institute can be classified as Institute Bulletins and Special Bulletins. Of the first type, seven issues have been published. They are:

- a. China Institute in America (October 1926).
- b. China Institute in America (January 1927).
- c. China Institute in America (May 1927).
- d. Thesis and Dissertations by Chinese Students in America (November 1927).
- e. One Hundred Selected Books on China (March 1928).
- f. One Hundred Selected Books on China. Revised List (November 1928).
- g. Thesis and Dissertations by Chinese Students in America. Supplementary List (December 1928).

Two special bulletins published were "China Institute in America" (November 1928) and "Organic Law of the National Government of the Republic of China" (April 1929). Besides, the Institute has sent complimentary copies of "Chinese System of Public Education" to the libraries of American colleges and universities.

Dramatic and literary criticism: To correct possible misunderstanding as a result of impressions received from current publications and motion pictures in this country which often contain gross misrepresentations of Chinese life and customs, the Institute has spared no effort to bring the matter before the attention of the responsible parties. The Institute also reviews and criticizes text-books, novels, and miscellaneous manuscripts on China.

Cooperation with other institutions: The Institute has always emphasized cooperation with organizations having similar aims and objectives. An active relationship is maintained with the World Federation of Education Associations, Institute of International Education, Institute of Pacific Relations, Foreign Policy Association, American Friends of China,

etc. To other enterprises of public welfare, the Institute has likewise shown its helpfulness. The Institute is also cooperating with organizations in China, such as the National Association for the Advancement of Education, the World Chinese Students' Federation, and a number of colleges and universities.

Receptions: A description of all the receptions given by the Institute to distinguished visitors from China would be somewhat lengthy. It may suffice to mention those who have traveled in the United States during recent years. Among them were Mr. Frank W. Lee, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Y. C. James Yen, Director of the National Association of the Mass Education Movement, Dr. David Z. T. Yui, General Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Associations of China, Dr. Herman C. E. Liu, President of Shanghai College, Dr. Hawking Yen, Associate General Secretary of the Institute of Pacific Relations, Mr. C. C. Lim, Manager of the China Basketball Team, Mr. K. P. Chen, Managing Director of the Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank, Mr. Chang Kia-ngau, Governor of the Bank of China, and Chinese delegates to the Second Raw Silk Conference. To these and other visitors, the Institute has extended a cordial welcome and has offered its services. The Institute has also rendered assistance to Americans visiting China, including Messrs. H. K. Murphy and E. P. Goodrich, both advisors to the Chinese Government, Mr. Sidney Greenbie, President of the Floating University, and a group of journalists under the auspices of the Division of Intercourse and Education of the Carnegie Endowment.

Mei Lan-fang's tour: In February 1930, the famous artist, "Grand Abbot of the Chin Chung Dynasty," "Foremost of the Pear Orchard," and "Great King of Actors," Mei Lan-fang, and his company toured the United States for the first time, under the auspices of the Institute. Mei Lan-fang opened his repertoire in New York City. The success he achieved and the enthusiasm and welcome expressed by the public were to be envied by any visiting artist. Before Mr. Mei's arrival the Institute had organized a national committee of sponsors and did much to introduce Mr. Mei's art, which was altogether new to western audiences. Mr. E. K. Moy, a trustee of the Institute, directing the publicity on behalf of the Institute, edited a booklet "Mei Lan-fang," which has been widely circulated and read. The criticisms of the press have also been compiled in a pamphlet entitled "Mei Lan-fang: What New York Thinks of Him."

Until 1929 the Institute was one of the direct enterprises of the China Foundation. In January 1930 it was reorganized and incorporated as an independent institution known as the CHINA INSTITUTE IN AMERICA, Incorporated. While the China Foundation is still participating in its budget and program, the China Institute has become a joint enterprise



of the Chinese and American people. The program of the Institute embodies the following activities:

- I. To maintain:
  - a. An information service on China.
  - b. A reference library.
- II. To promote:
  - a. The exchange of professors and students between Chinese and American educational institutions.
  - b. The study of Chinese culture in America.
  - c. Lectures on Chinese subjects.
  - d. Conferences on Chinese-American problems.
  - e. Exhibits of Chinese art, education, etc.
- III. To publish:
  - a. Occasional bulletins devoted to articles of cultural interest relating to China.
  - b. Monographs on special subjects.

Owing to the fact that other duties prevent him from devoting his whole time to the work, Dr. P. W. Kuo has tendered his resignation from the directorship of the Institute. The Trustees have decided to elect, upon consultation with the China Foundation, a Director from among prominent men of letters, philosophers, scientists, educators, and others of cultural attainments in China, at frequent intervals.

At the same time, the Trustees have elected Dr. Kuo Honorary Director of the Institute in appreciation of his services and have requested him to devote as much time as possible to the furtherance of the purposes of the Institute.

Mr. Chih Meng has been elected Associate Director to take charge of the administrative work of the Institute. Mr. Meng, a student of Sino-American relations, has been General Secretary of the Chinese Students' Christian Association in North America during the past six years and has also been promoting friendly relations between China and America through lecturing and writing.

The work of the China Institute is of international interest. As contacts between China and the United States are increasing with time, the aims and objectives of the China Institute should meet with the approval and support of all those whose common endeavor is to promote understanding and goodwill among the peoples of the Pacific.

## OFFICERS OF THE CHINA INSTITUTE IN AMERICA

---

- CHAO-CHU WU, Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary of China to the United States, *Honorary President*.
- P. W. KUO, Advisor Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Labor and founder and former President National Southeastern University, *Honorary Director*.
- 

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

- PAUL MONROE, Director International Institute, *President*.
- MRS. W. MURRAY CRANE, *Vice President*.
- C. F. YAU, Managing Director of Ton Ying Company, *Vice President*.
- ERNEST K. MOY, President Association of Foreign Press Correspondents in the United States, *Secretary*.
- EDWARD H. HUME, Executive Vice President New York Post Graduate Medical School and Hospital, *Secretary pro tem*.
- D. E. DOUTY, Vice President and General Manager United States Testing Co., Inc., *Treasurer*.
- DONALD M. BRODIE, Office Manager for Charles R. Crane.
- EDWARD C. CARTER, Honorary Secretary American Council Institute of Pacific Relations.
- GROVER CLARK, Consultant on Far Eastern Affairs.
- STEPHEN P. DUGGAN, Director Institute of International Education.
- P. W. KUO, Advisor Ministry of Industry, Commerce, and Labor, and founder and former President National Southeastern University.
- WALTER H. MALLORY, Executive Director Council on Foreign Relations, Inc.
- HENRY KILLAM MURPHY, Architectural Advisor (1929) to the Chinese Government.
- EDWIN R. A. SELIGMAN, Professor of Political Economy, Columbia University.
- J. A. L. WADDELL, Consulting Engineer and Advisor to the Chinese Government.



## BOARD OF ADVISORS

JULEAN ARNOLD, Commercial Attaché American Legation in China.  
GEORGE H. BLAKESLEE, Professor of History and International Relations,  
Clark University.  
ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK, Librarian St. Louis Public Library.  
FLETCHER S. BROCKMAN, Secretary Committee on the Promotion of  
Friendship Between America and the Far East.  
MRS. WILLIAM H. BUSH, a Founder of the American Friends of China.  
CHANG KIA-NGAU, Governor Bank of China.  
CHANG POLING, President Nankai University.  
K. P. CHEN, Managing Director Shanghai Commercial and Savings Bank.  
CHIANG MONLIN, Minister of Education of China.  
JOHN DEWEY, Professor of Philosophy, Columbia University.  
MRS. JULIA ELLSWORTH FORD, Author; a Director of China Society.  
SIDNEY D. GAMBLE, Sociologist and Author.  
JEROME D. GREENE, Chairman Pacific Council Institute of Pacific Re-  
lations.  
ROGER S. GREENÉ, Acting Director Peiping Union Medical College.  
RAPHAEL HERMAN, Founder Herman-Jordan Peace Plan.  
HU SHIH, former Professor National Peking University.  
WILLIAM HUNG, Professor Yenching University.  
H. H. KUNG, Minister of Industry, Commerce and Labor of China.  
KENNETH S. LATOURETTE, Professor of Missions and Oriental History,  
Yale University.  
BERTHOLD LAUFER, Curator of Anthropology, Field Museum of Natural  
History, Chicago.  
FRANK W. LEE, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of China.  
HERMAN C. E. LIU, President Shanghai College.  
Y. C. MEI, Director Chinese Educational Mission in Washington.  
JOHN R. MOTT, President World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian  
Associations.  
FREDERICK PETERSON, Physician and Author.

T. V. SOONG, Minister of Finance of China.  
J. LEIGHTON STUART, President Yenching University.  
SUN FO, Minister of Railways of China.  
R. B. VON KLEINSMID, President University of Southern California.  
C. C. WANG, Director Educational Mission in United States, Ministry of  
Railways of China.  
C. T. WANG, Minister of Foreign Affairs of China.  
A. L. WARNSHIUS, Secretary International Missionary Council.  
RAY LYMAN WILBUR, Secretary of the Interior of the United States.  
MARY E. WOOLLEY, President Mt. Holyoke College.  
W. W. YEN, former Premier of China.  
Y. C. JAMES YEN, Director National Association of the Mass Education  
Movement of China.  
SAMUEL S. YOUNG, Consul General of China in New York.  
DAVID Z. T. YUI, General Secretary National Committee of Y. M. C. A.  
of China.  
H. C. ZEN, Director The China Foundation for the Promotion of Edu-  
cation and Culture.

---

CHIH MENG, *Associate Director*.