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TO OUR READERS

A GLANCE at the contents of this first issue of THE FAR EASTERN QUARTERLY will, we believe, quickly disclose to those already acquainted with what is being published in the field of Far Eastern affairs that the QUARTERLY fills a gap existing between journals dealing with contemporaneous opinions and events, and the more specialized professional and academic publications.

Our aim in launching the QUARTERLY is two-fold. First, we desire to provide a medium of publication for the increasing number of specialists in the Far Eastern field, many of whom have a command of one or more of the languages of that area, in which to present the results of their own researches or to bring to the attention of Westerners, through translations and abstracts, the more fruitful and pertinent studies of Far Eastern scholars. Secondly, it is our aim to present this material in such manner that it will be of utility and interest to the general reader, as well as the student, and the instructor interested in one or more of the broad fields of history, culture, geography, economics, sociology and government and who is seeking to bring the Far Eastern aspects of these fields within the scope of his reading, research or teaching.

To attain this two-fold objective we invite the submission of substantial well-documented manuscripts for our consideration with a view to publication. Furthermore, we urge that our potential contributors bear in mind the needs of the general reader and in the presentation of the results of their studies provide such background and interpretative material as is necessary to disclose the significance of their contribution in relation to the broader fields of which it is a part. From our readers in turn we solicit suggestions as to how to make the QUARTERLY more useful to them.

The QUARTERLY is being launched without the aid of an endowment, nor is it wholly underwritten by any one institution. Several educational institutions and a number of individuals have together provided sufficient funds to see it through its first trying year of publication. Thereafter it will have to make its way primarily through the financial support of its regular subscribers. We urge, therefore, that all readers who find the QUARTERLY of interest and value contribute materially to its support by way of an immediate subscription.

We wish to take this opportunity to express to our Patrons as well as to the Committees on Chinese and Japanese Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies our gratitude for their generous support.

THE EDITORS