

Underwood & Underwood.
Lin Seng, President of the
Republic of China



Wide World.
Chiang Kai-Shek, Chinese
Commander-in-chief

China— Changing and Yet Unchanged

By C. T. Wang

Ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs

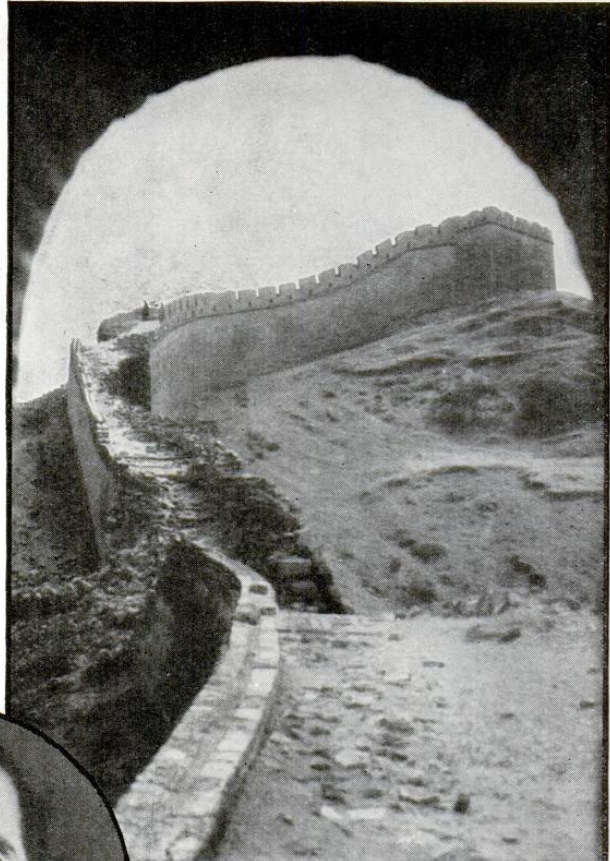
TO THE world at large, China has always been little understood and still less appreciated. In large measure she has only herself to blame.

To begin with, she was born far too early. Long before Greece came to be a nation or the Great Roman Empire was still in its incubation stage on the Seven Hills of Rome, China was already flourishing as a full-fledged state. Henry C. Fenn's "Chinese Culture Visualized" gives a very vivid picture of the comparative stages of the march of civilization between China and the ancient states of Europe and Western Asia. To understand China, with a historical past dating back to 2357 B.C., requires not only time but a large measure of patient effort even for a student of history.

Then there is her enormous size with an area of nearly 4,300,000 square miles. She is larger than the whole continent of Europe, including European Russia, by more than 300,000 square miles. But for the uniformity of her written language, the country



The late Dr. Sun Yat-sen, father of the
movement that established the republic.



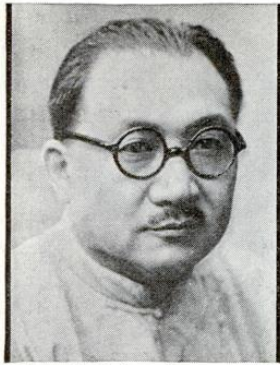
Photos: Underwood & Underwood (left), Ewing Galloway (above).

The Great Wall—1500 miles long, 22 feet high, 20 feet wide—built more than 2000 years ago over mountain and plain to repel the Tartars.

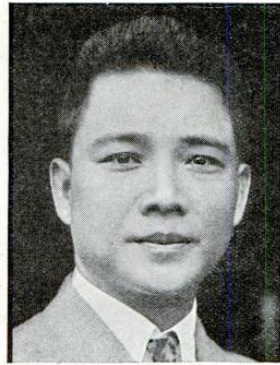
presents just as much diversity in customs, manners, and dialects of the people, in the pursuits of life due to climatic and geological differences, in the peculiar traits or characteristics of the various components of her people, as we find in Europe.

On the top of these two great barriers to a full understanding of China, there has been, until recently, but little means of rapid transportation to enable a traveller to cover the country in a short time. Tourist parties from Europe and America merely touch a few cities along the coast which do not represent fully the real life of the bulk of China's four hundred millions.

To make matters still worse, our people, I believe, have the least ability in making themselves known to others. We follow too closely the attitude taken by Confucius: "If others do not see our merits and yet we feel none the worse, is that not what is expected of a gentleman?" From our government down to the



Underwood & Underwood.
*Dr. H. H. Kung, Chinese
Minister of Finance*



Wide World.
*Wang Chen-Wei, Minister
of Foreign Affairs*



Harris & Ewing.
*Dr. Sao-Kee Alfred Sze,
Minister at Washington*



*C. T. Wang, author
of this article*

lowly trader, the art of publicity is very little known and still less practiced.

Now of the four counts against us for being so little understood by the world at large, we cannot help ourselves on the first two. Our age and size, like those of any individual, are matters over which we have no control. But on the last two counts it behooves us to make amends. So when "Peter" Harris, a past president of the Shanghai Rotary Club, asked me whether I would write something on China

Publishers Photo Service.



for THE ROTARIAN, I gladly agreed to do so, forgetting at the time that I might lose the status of a gentleman if I dabble in the game of publicity.

China, for a long time—longer than most people in the West could imagine—had remained unchanged. Her form of government, for instance, till as late as 1911 A.D. was patterned after the Han dynasty which was founded in 206 B.C. Without any danger of making an oversweeping statement, I may say that life in China by the end of the eighteenth century A.D. was but a repetition of what it was since the time of Emperor Ts'in Shih Huang who shattered the feudal system and brought about a unified central government between 249 and 210 B.C.

THIS Man of the Iron Will, the Builder of the Great Wall, was indeed a very remarkable and great ruler. He laid the foundation so well that every dynasty thereafter has inevitably copied it with a few modifications. His greatest mistake was to stifle free thinking and expression of thoughts by ruthlessly burning all the books he could lay his hand on and by causing the death of over four hundred of the leading scholars of the day.

Emperors of later dynasties did not go so far as Ts'in Shih Huang in actually burning books or destroying lives, but they took care that the literati were kept under control by such subtle means as making literary tests on rigid forms as a prerequisite to appointments as officials of the realm. The so-called "eight-legged essays" examinations were abolished only as late as 1905.

With the dawn of the twentieth century came new

China envisions the day when squealing, unlubricated wheelbarrows will be replaced by automobiles. Provinces are now vying with each other in making good roads.

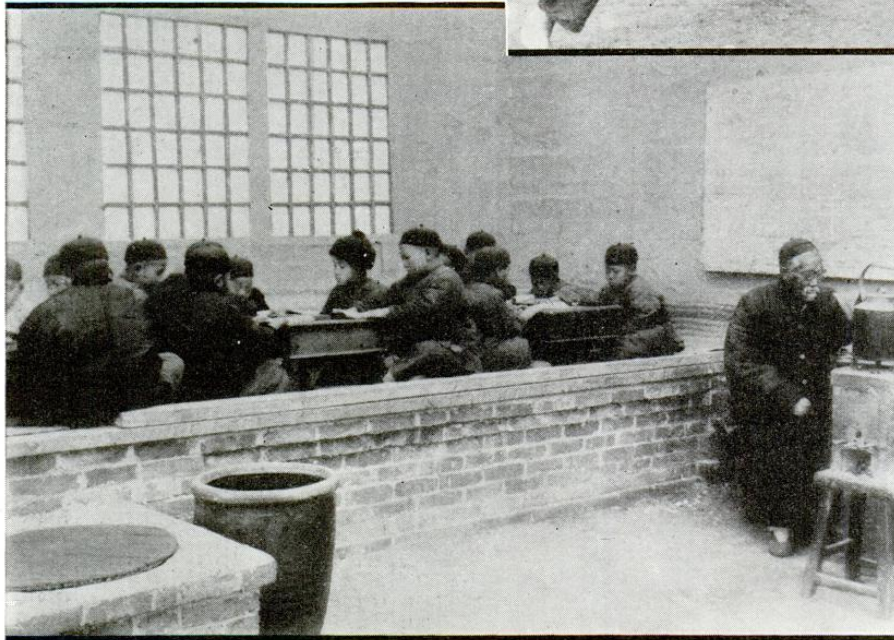
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forces into China which have brought about simultaneous revolutions in four main directions—political, intellectual, industrial, and social. Under the leadership of Dr. Sun Yat-sen, one of the great miracles of the age was displayed before an astonished world when China threw overboard the monarchical form of government of over twenty-one centuries standing and set up a new republic.

THIS political revolution, important and spectacular as it is, would have very little value to the nation if it were not accompanied by the other revolutions along intellectual, industrial, and social lines. In my opinion, the intellectual revolution is the most fundamental and vital while the industrial and social revolutions are more sustaining and abiding. The fact that China was already at the peak of civilization before the advent of the Christian era, when most of the European nations were merely at its fringe, should lead us to expect that with the march of the centuries, China would make further progress in the essentials which constitute civilization. But she did not.

For more than ten centuries, from T'ang dynasty down to the end of the eighteenth century, China remained stagnant, making no progress in any direction whatever. There may be other causes for this singular arrest to the continual advancement of civilization, but the main factor, it seems to me, was the

Photo: Publishers' Photo Service.



Baseball is "catching on" in China as it has in Japan and the Philippines. "Batterup" is a much-translated word—but it means the same thing in any language!

This village school at Chili, in northwestern China, contrasts startlingly with some of the modern schools springing up in the cities. Many vocational opportunities besides literature are now opened to the educated Chinese.

intellectual bondage to which the nation had been subjected.

With the introduction of modern education in China, supplemented by tens of thousands of students going abroad to pursue special courses of study, the way is now open for free and full investigation into the whole realm of knowledge and for free and full expression in whatever branch of knowledge any student desires to dwell upon. This will lead China out of the pond of stagnation back into the road of progress and we believe, in due course of time, we shall be able to contribute our share to the advancement of world civilization.

Turning now to the industrial progress of China, the signs indicate a strong [Continued on page 50]

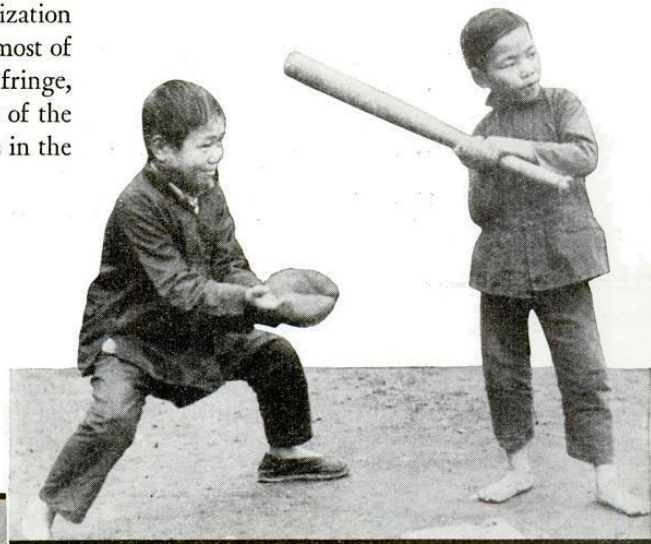
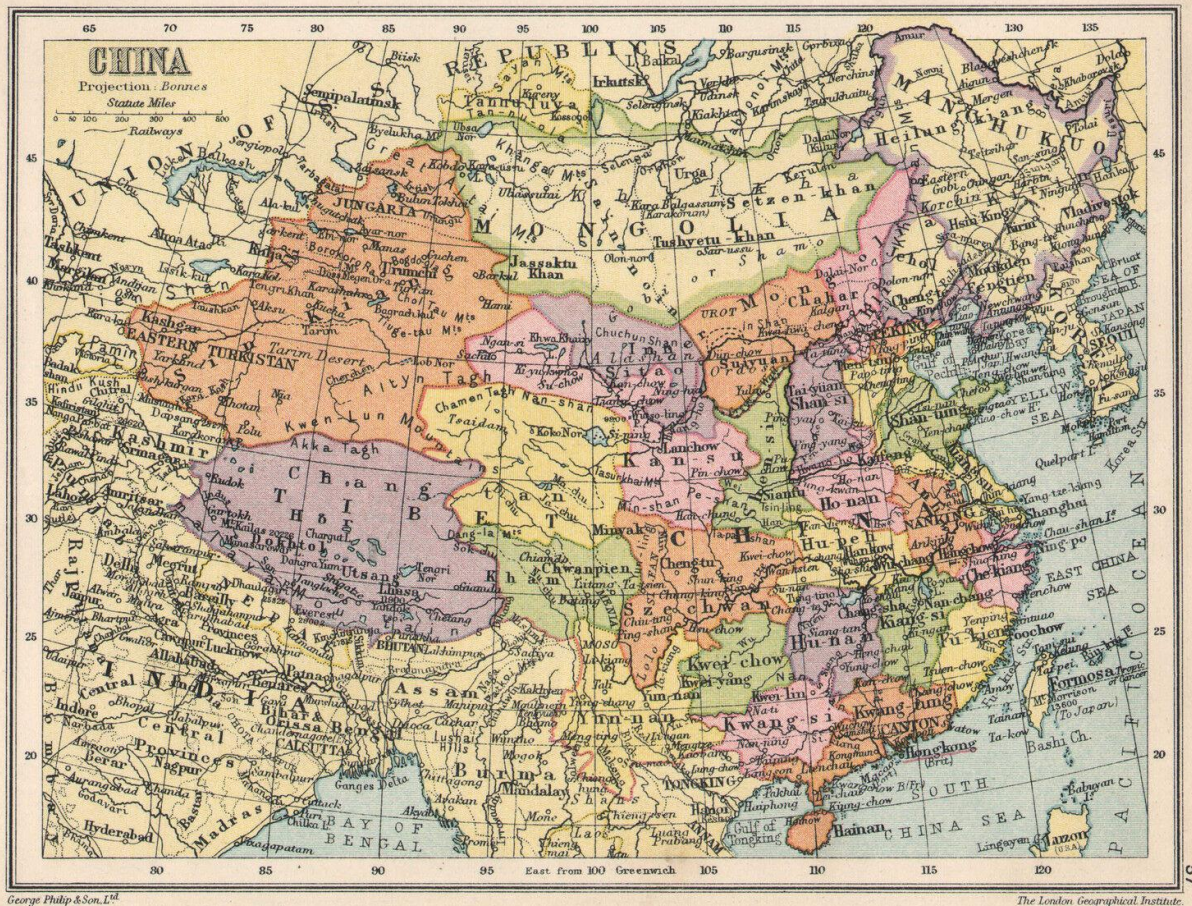


Photo: Ewing Galloway.



The Map of the Republic of China as in 1934. The territories of Hong Kong, Macao, Island of Formosa (Taiwan), Manchuria, and Mongolia, were not under China's jurisdiction.

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[Continued from page 8]

undercurrent working towards the surface. Along certain lines and in certain places, great progress is already visible. Chinese banks, for instance, now play an important rôle in the development of trade. Factories have sprung up in several cities, notably Shanghai, Tientsin, and Hankow. The greatest development from purely native initiative and efforts is in Wusih situated midway between Nanking and Shanghai. There we find some two hundred factories in full operation with an aggregate capital of more than \$50,000,000.00.

The lack of means of rapid transpor-

tation has largely impeded industry and trade. With such an expanse of territory, we have only some eight thousand miles of railway, while roads capable of using

trucks and automobiles as late as 1920 had only a most astonishing figure of about a hundred miles outside of the so-called leased territories and foreign

Shanghai Rotarians hold a garden party at "The Limit," home of Rotarian and Mrs. W. J. Hawkings.





The bookstall is a familiar scene in the busy thoroughfares of the larger cities of China. Here Young China can take his pick from the ancient classics or the latest mystery thriller.

settlements. There was started in that year a National Good Roads Association with a view of bringing to the attention of the government and people the importance of having good roads as a means of developing industry and trade.

The result has been most encouraging. In June, 1933, we had 40,666 miles of roads. The national government now sets aside large sums for the construction of highways. Furthermore, all the provinces are vying with each other in the building of good roads — with Kwangtung, Szechuan, Shantung, Shansi, Shensi, and Kwangsi leading. In the course of the next ten years, the total mileage will exceed 100,000 miles.

Air lines are now maintained between Shanghai, Nanking, Hankow, Ichang, and Chungking along the Yangtze River, and between Shanghai, Tsingtao, Tientsin, and Peiping (Peking) along the coast. Other lines are planned which will connect up with Europe.

A movement is now started to build railways with native capital. The most notable is that connecting Hangchow with Kihua in Chekiang province which will be eventually built towards Nanchang in Kiangsi and join up with the Hankow-Canton line at Pingsiang. The Lunghai Railway is also being vigorously pushed westward with a view of joining up with the European trunk lines. Much credit is due Mr. Chang Jenchieh, one time Governor of Chekiang, in initiating this important movement.

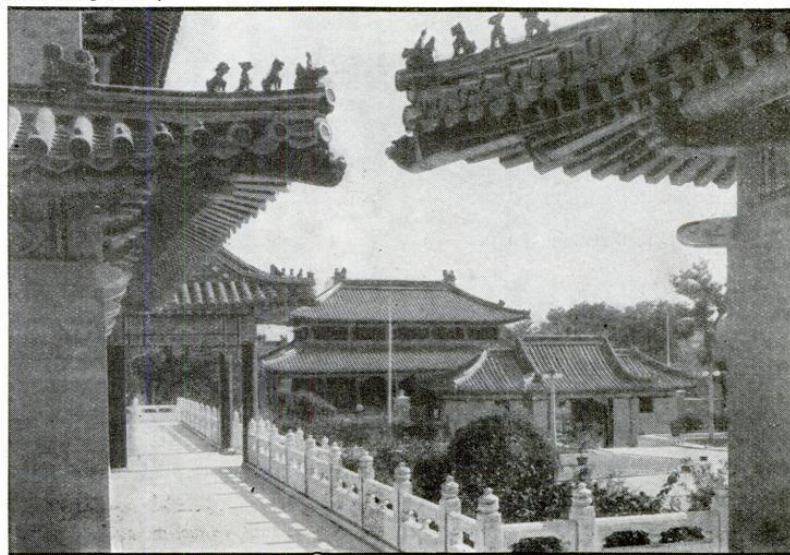
Formerly foreign capital was alone employed for the construction of rail-

The buildings of the Rockefeller Institute at Peiping, have the outward appearance of Buddhist temples.

ways with many international complications as a result of international jealousies and competitions for trade. Foreign capital is still needed and will be welcome, but such loans will be in the future purely for commercial purposes with no political strings attached thereto.

With the introduction of machinery and the building up of big commercial and industrial centers, the social structure of any nation is bound to change. The same is true of China. There is a constant and growing flow of rural population into the cities. Eighty years ago Shanghai was but a small city with less than 100,000 inhabitants. Today the census given by the Greater Shanghai Municipality totals 3,300,000. It has multiplied thirty-three times in less than a century. The same is true to a certain

Photo: Ewing Galloway.



degree in the other commercial centers.

The greatest social force at work is found in the spreading of education to the masses. In the place of the old system, which forced the best intellect into the only channels of literature, modern education provides for a great variety of subjects tending to bring out the best minds on each subject. Furthermore, education according to the old system made no provisions for the women. Now equal opportunities are offered to both sexes. In other words, one-half of our people hitherto being kept in utter darkness are now set free to explore in the field of education. Bearing in mind the old adage that the hand that rocks the cradle is the hand that rules the world, one can well imagine what potential power and energy are thus set free for the benefit of China in particular and for the advancement of the world's civilization in general.

For many long years there were people who worked hard to bring about changes in China, but who died with broken hearts because they could not find improvement in any direction. Now we find others who look aghast at the unusual changes that are taking place in all directions. Where, they ask, will these lead China? I maintain that in spite of vast changes, China will remain unchanged in one respect: she will work out these changes to suit herself.

I hope I will be pardoned for the pride I take in my people on this point, namely, that we have an original mind. Our civilization is of our own make. No doubt we have been benefited by the culture of other peoples, but these we have assimilated and worked into our own.

And so China changes — and yet is unchanged.

Glossary

This article was edited by Herbert K. Lau (劉敬恒) (Rotary China Historian) on 15 July 2015

(1) C. T. Wang = Dr. Chengting T. Wang (王正廷博士)

Dr. Chengting T. Wang (1882-1961), *HonLLD (Peking)*, *HonLLD (St. John's)*, B.A. (Yale), a Yale scholar in international laws, was a career diplomat who had served as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Acting Prime Minister, Ambassador to the U.S.A., etc. He was also a textile industrialist, banker, and insurer. In the public service sector, Wang was well-known as “Father of the Chinese Olympics” who had represented China in the International Olympic Committee for more than 2 decades. He also served as President of The Red Cross Society of the Republic of China (中華民國紅十字會總會會長) from 1934 to 1943 during the wartime of Imperial Japan’s aggression to China.

Wang was an eminent Rotary leader who first joined the Shanghai Rotary Club (上海扶輪社) in 1920. In 1934-1935, he was appointed by Rotary International (RI) to serve as Honorary Commissioner; 1935-1936 81st District Governor; 1942-1946 RI Administrative Adviser for China; 1944-1946 RI Director; 1945-1946 RI 2nd Vice-President; 1946-1947 District 96-97-98 Governor.

Wang moved to the British Crown Colony Hong Kong and joined the Hong Kong Rotary Club (香港扶輪社) in 1950. He passed away in Hong Kong on 21 May 1961.

(2) Chang Jen-Chieh = 張人傑 = 張靜江，浙江省政府主席

張靜江 (1877年9月19日—1950年9月3日)，譜名增澄，字靜江、人傑，號飲光、臥禪，浙江烏程（今浙江南潯）人，為中國國民黨四大元老之一，是第一任中國國民黨中央執行委員會主席、中國國民黨第二任領導人，歷任總統府資政、浙江省政府主席。

(3) Chiang Kai-Shek = 蔣介石 = 蔣中正，國民革命軍總司令

蔣中正，字介石，譜名周泰，學名志清。中國政治人物、軍事家。1887年生於浙江奉化，1908年加入中國同盟會，1911年參加辛亥革命。歷任黃埔軍校校長、國民革命軍總司令、中華民國政府主席、行政院院長、國民政府軍事委員會委員長、第二次世界大戰時期任同盟軍中國戰區（包括緬甸、越南、泰國等）陸空軍最高統帥。1949年中華民國政府播遷臺灣後，蔣中正復職重任總統，此後一再連任四屆，並連續當選中國國民黨總裁。

(4) Henry C. Fenn = Henry Courtenay Fenn

Henry Courtenay Fenn, more commonly known as H. C. Fenn, (February 1894 – July 1978) was an American sinologist and architect of Yale University’s Chinese language program.

(5) “Peter” Harris = Ernest F. Harris

Briton, Manager of Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada, joined Shanghai Rotary Club on 25 October 1925. He served as Club Director in 1925, 1928, 1931, 1933; Club Secretary in 1928-1929-1930; Vice President 1931-1932; President 1932-1933. He was appointed by Rotary International to serve as Honorary Commissioner for “China, Hong Kong and The Philippines” from July 1933 to September 1935.

(6) W. J. Hawkings = Lieutenant William James Hawkings

Hawkings was a British officer in the First World War and was in charge of a Chinese labor force. He joined Shanghai Rotary Club on 16 June 1921, when he was Manager of G. E. Marden & Co., Ltd. (會德豐馬登股份有限公司) (a shipping company owned by Shanghai Rotarian George Ernest Marden in providing barge and wharf services). He served the Club as Director in 1922, 1924, 1926; Vice President in 1922-1923; Club President in 1923-1924; Club Secretary in 1926-1927.

(7) Dr. H. H. Kung = 孔祥熙博士，中華民國財政部部長

孔祥熙 (1880 年 9 月 11 日—1967 年 8 月 16 日)，字庸之，號子淵，山西太谷人，祖籍山東曲阜，中華民國南京國民政府行政院院長，兼財政部部長，銀行家、富商，孔子第 75 代孫。妻子為宋靄齡；與宋子文、蔣介石、孫中山為姻親。孔祥熙長期主理國民政府財政，主要政績有改革中國幣制，建設中國銀行體系，加大國家對資本市場控制等。

(8) Lin Seng = 林森，中華民國政府主席 1932-1943

(9) Dr. Sun Yat-Sen = 孫逸仙醫生 = 孫文 = 孫中山

孫文 (1866 年 11 月 12 日—1925 年 3 月 12 日)，幼名帝象，譜名德明，字明德、載之，號逸仙、日新。因為曾經用過化名「中山樵」，國人尊稱「孫中山先生」；外國人通常會稱呼他在澳門行醫時的英文名字「Dr. Sun Yat-Sen」。孫文生於廣東省香山縣翠亨鄉 (今中山市翠亨村)，是清末民初政治人物、革命家、理論家，一手創建中國國民黨、中華民國、國民革命軍；倡導「聯俄容共」政策和共和制、創立「三民主義」等政治理論。對國共兩黨發展影響深遠，在海峽兩岸地位重要。孫文是少數在各華人地區均受到普遍尊崇的近代中國政治人物。中華民國尊奉為「國父」，中華人民共和國尊奉為「我國偉大的革命先行者」。

(10) Sio-Kee Alfred Sze = Dr. Alfred Sao-ke Sze = 施肇基博士，中華民國駐美國公使

(11) Emperor Ts'in Shih Huang = 秦始皇

(12) Wang Chen-Wei = 汪精衛 = 汪兆銘，中華民國行政院院長兼外交部部長

汪兆銘 (1883 年 5 月 4 日—1944 年 11 月 10 日)，字季新，號精衛，通稱「汪精衛」。1883 年生於廣東省三水縣。官費留學生畢業於日本法政大學。1905 年在東京加入革命組織中國同盟會，早年擔任孫中山的秘書及文膽。孫逝世後，歷任中國國民黨中央政治委員會主席、國民政府主席、國民政府軍事委員會主席、行政院院長、國防委員會主席以及國防最高會議副主席、中國國民黨副總裁等職。自孫中山逝世直到寧漢合流都是蔣介石的主要政治對手之一。1938 年 12 月發表《艷電》宣告響應日本首相近衛文麿的聲明，被國民黨開除黨籍和一切公職。1939 年 6 月 8 日，國民政府宣佈他為漢奸，全國通緝。汪認為與日本表面合作能有效拖延日本帝國併吞中華民國，此成為汪精衛一生爭議。1940 年，汪精衛在華東和華北的日本佔領區建立「汪精衛國民政府」，受日本節制同時爭取自治空間，在日本帝國投降前 9 個月病逝。

(13) Han Dynasty = 漢代 (漢朝)

(14) T'ang Dynasty = 唐代 (唐朝)

(15) Chili = Chihli Province = 直隸省

直隸省，為大清國的一省，由大明國的北直隸改制設立。轄區大體為今河北省、北京市和天津市。初稱為直隸地方，乾隆《清會典則例》正式記載為直隸省。中華民國建立初期的1914年，分離出今北京市的前身——京兆地方。1928年7月，南京國民政府將直隸改稱河北省，將天津設為河北省會。1928年10月，河北省會從天津遷往北平(北京)，此時北平成為河北省會。

(16) Hankow-Canton Line = Guangzhou-Hankou Railway = 粵漢鐵路

粵漢鐵路是一條從廣州市到武漢市，途徑廣東省、湖南省和湖北省的鐵路，全長1095.6公里。線路從1900年開始動工，但由於資金緊張，一直到1910年才有實質性的進展；又由於沿線地質複雜、局勢動盪，鐵路只能分為若干段修築、通車，一直到1936年才全線貫通。

(17) Lunghai Railway = Longhai Railway = 隴海鐵路

隴海鐵路，即隴海線。是中國一條從江蘇連雲港通往甘肅蘭州的鐵路幹線，於1905年起動工，經過40餘年的分段建設，至1952年全線建成。

(18) Chekiang = Zhejiang Province = 浙江省

(19) Chungking = Chongqing = 重慶

(20) Hangchow = Hangzhou = 杭州

(21) Hankow = Hankou = 漢口

(22) Ichang = Yichang = 宜昌

(23) Kiangsi = Jiangxi Province = 江西省

(24) Kinhua = Jinhua = 金華

(25) Kwangsi = Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region = 廣西壯族自治區

(26) Kwangtung = Guangdong Province = 廣東省

(27) Nanchang = 南昌

(28) Nanking = Nanjing = 南京

(29) Peiping (Peking) = Beijing = 北平 (北京)

(30) Pingsiang = Pingxiang = 萍鄉

(31) Shanghai = 上海

(32) Shansi = Shanxi Province = 山西省

(33) Shantung = Shandong Province = 山東省

(34) Shensi = Shaanxi Province = 陝西省

(35) Szechuen = Sichuan Province = 四川省

(36) Tientsin = Tianjin = 天津

(37) Tsingtao = Qingdao = 青島

(38) Wusih = Wuxi = 無錫

(39) Yangtze River = 揚子江 (長江)