This ungraded, annotated bibliography includes books of biography, history and society, culture, and literature. Filmstrips, study prints, slides and films are listed in the section of audio-visual materials. Also included is a list of sources of books and audio-visual materials that are included in a multi-media package on China used in the Toronto schools. (VLW)
A CRITICAL BIBLIOGRAPHY OF
MATERIALS ON CHINA

Anne Witzel
Rosemary Chapman

April, 1969
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The three volumes published so far of Han Suyin's autobiography have provided the foundation of information and feeling about China in the multi-media package. These books are about China and about Han Suyin's life, inextricably bound together. For those who enjoy reading books not only to gather information, but also to relish the "slice of life" contained in them, these three books are excellent fare.

Most people have probably seen Han Suyin on special television programmes, from time to time, or at least seen the movie, A Many Splendoured Thing, which is about a period of her life. She is probably one of the outstanding experts on China in the world today. She is also one of the most intelligent, sensitive and articulate women of our time. She does not hide her love of China, but at the same time, she can document with objective fact every statement she makes. She is not a Communist, as many people mistakenly assume, but her experience of life in China in her childhood and adulthood has led her to believe that China is prospering under Mao Tse-tung as it has not done for a long time; the Europeans who crippled China in the last hundred years until Mao took over, have been expelled and China is now a united nation; and for the first time in China's history, a mighty effort is being made to feed, clothe, house and educate the majority of the population.

The Crippled Tree by Han Suyin

This is the first volume in the series. Han Suyin is the daughter of a Chinese engineer and a Belgian woman. The marriage was not a happy one,

# These books are available in most public libraries.
nor was Han Suyin's childhood, primarily because of the social condemnation of such unions by both the Chinese and the Europeans.

The book is a good introduction to China's history both past and recent; it is an excellent portrayal of the exploitation of China by the West. All is given relevance because it is from the point of view of a particular person and her family. She records here the following statement made by her father after the Revolution:

"...the Whites had come [to China] to fulfil their rapacity, their greed for possession of lands not theirs, their wealth built upon our disastrous misery."

(Han Suyin. The crippled tree. London: Jonathan Cape Ltd., 1965.)

A Mortal Flower by Han Suyin

This second volume of the author's autobiography and history of China is as involving as the first and the history is more relevant to us as it deals mainly with the recent past: the disordered times of the twenties and thirties. In this volume Han Suyin describes her struggle to get an education and the pains of adolescence doubled by the knowledge that as a Eurasian she is unacceptable to both Chinese and European society. Here she describes the humiliation of China at this time:

"To all of them [Westerners] China was the WOMAN, the all-enveloping, soft, weak woman, who actually welcomed rape, welcomed being invaded. 'Don't worry, China is feminine, she has always ended by absorbing all her conquerors' was their favourite expression."

(Han Suyin. A mortal flower. London: Jonathan Cape Ltd., 1966.)

Birdless Summer by Han Suyin

The third volume of the series deals with the period of the Sino-Japanese war in the thirties and forties. It shows the chaos of the nationalist army because of Chiang Kai-shek's inability to choose a sensible course of action, preferring to fight Chinese Communists rather than the invaders.
The author's relationship with her husband who was one of Chiang's officers, and her final disillusionment with Chiang's government reveal the decadence of Confucian ideals and their inadequacy in the twentieth century.

Han Suyin's writing seems to improve with each volume.

(Han Suyin. Birdless summer. London: Jonathan Cape Ltd., 1968.)

The Thought Revolution by Chi-Ping Tung

This book and the following one are of the "I escaped from communism" genre. If the reader keeps this factor in mind, he can enjoy two exciting tales of suspense and intrigue without becoming rabidly anti-Communist. The Thought Revolution is the autobiography of a man born into a peasant family almost dehumanized by poverty. The revolution of 1949 came when he was a young child and he was, therefore, given an education. This would never have happened if he had been born twenty years earlier. He eventually obtained a post as a diplomat.

According to the author, the Communist regime is appallingly anti-intellectual. The reader must remember, however, that the intellectuals had always been the oppressors and that any kind of manual labour was despised; therefore, a great deal of effort had to be put into changing this attitude after 1949. Despite the good life, materially, that the author led under Communism compared with what he would have had in the "old" China, he left. One can only conclude that to some people freedom is a psychological need, as important as economic security.

(Chi-Ping, Tung. The thought revolution. New York: Coward-McCann Inc., 1965.)

Escape from Red China by Robert Loh

Like The Thought Revolution, this book gives a one-sided point of view.
The author returned to China from the United States after the revolution in order to help build a new China. He was soon disillusioned as he saw many fine dedicated people persecuted and harangued only because they did not belong to the peasant class. Again we must remember that such occurrences are part of the zealous efforts the government is making to overcome the favoured status of the intellectual and the scorn of manual labour so much a part of the Chinese psyche.

The author made plans and finally escaped having given up a comfortable life including the girl he loved. His various schemes both to survive and to escape make an exciting story.

A Short History of the Chinese People by L. Carrington Goodrich

This is the most valuable and authoritative history of China by a modern Western historian. The book does not deal with any period extensively but covers the salient features of each period. For a less scholastic introduction to Chinese history see: China by Ping-chia Kuo (multi-media package).

Contemporary China edited by Ruth Adams

Contemporary China is a readable collection of speeches given at the conference on China in Chicago in 1966. The points of view, all intelligent, are from left to right. The most interesting speeches are those of Jan Myrdal and Han Suyin. The article on education by Theodore Hsi-en Chin is informative and moderate. The language of the essays is not technical or pedantic.

The Yellow Wind by W. Stevenson

This book is the record of the author's travels in China between 1954 and 1957, at which time he was a reporter for the Toronto Star. He is quite anti-Communist and by now what he observed is somewhat out-of-date. The book is interesting reading and his point of view should certainly be given consideration.
Chinese Journey by Jan Myrdal (text) and Gun Kessle (photography)

This Scandinavian journalist and his photographer-wife have produced a beautiful book. They visited three different regions of China, interviewed and visited the inhabitants, photographed them and their homes and observed their lives. Most observers of China, including the authors of this book who seem to be objective, compare Communist China with the "old" China rather than with the West; many people who are highly critical of the "new" China judge it by Western standards; this is neither fair nor relevant to an understanding of the political situation.


China In The Year 2001 by Han Suyin

Based on eleven trips to China in the last ten years, Han Suyin records the progress China has made since 1949 and predicts the kind of society and power it will have in the year 2001. The book is as interesting as all her books have been.


Government and People in Hong Kong by G. B. Endacott

This is a straight forward constitutional history of Hong Kong from the time the West first discovered it as the entrance to China until recent times when it has been the refuge of many who left Mainland China.

(Endacott, G. B. Government and people in Hong Kong. London: Oxford University Press, 1965)

The China Quarterly

This is a reputable periodical which prints very informative articles on current events in China. For example in the issue, January to March 1965, there is an article entitled From Friendship to Comradeship: The Change in Personal Relations in Communist China by Ezra F. Vogel. The gist of the article is that the familial relationship has been destroyed and with it the curse of "old" China -- nepotism. In its place
has grown up an incorruptible bureaucracy and an impersonal relationship among the Chinese in which everyone helps everyone else with no regard to familial ties.

(The China Quarterly is published by Contemporary China Institute of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London University.)

Love and Hate in China by Hans Koningsberger

Originally intended for the multi-media package, this book is now out of print but available in libraries. It is the well-known novelist's view of the "New China." He gives an objective account of his brief trip to China in 1964. The book is amusing and compassionate. The sketches of the cities and the descriptions of the countryside as he travels through are revealing. As a novelist, he naturally chooses delightful and touching incidents and details about China; he makes that much talked about but unknown country more familiar and human. The reader must keep in mind that at the time of the author's trip the cultural revolution had not yet begun.

CULTURE AND THOUGHT

Sources of Chinese Tradition by William Theodore De Bary

In this book is a thorough discussion of the major influences on Chinese thought and values -- the factors creating the society, the culture, the religious attitudes, the political system -- placed in their historical context. The book is long and scholarly and only for those deeply involved in learning about China.


Chinese Art and Culture by René Grousset

This book gives a brief historical background of China and a discussion of the art of each period -- pottery, sculpture, and later, painting. There are a large number of reproductions; however, the book is not an art book in the sense of putting emphasis on large, well-done reproductions.

(Grousset, René. Chinese art and culture. London: Andre Deutsch Ltd., 1959.)

The Chinese Mind edited by Charles A. Moore

A series of East-West philosophers' conferences were held in Honolulu in 1939, 1949, 1959 and 1964. This book is a collection of some of the speeches given at these conferences. The book is thoroughly readable and informative but not pedantic. The orientation is toward Chinese philosophy, religion and science. One of the main purposes of the collection is to explode many of the myths Westerners have about China. For example, despite the emphasis upon the social nature of man in China, there is also a deep respect for the individual. It is a worthwhile book.

The Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology

Chinese mythology is an aspect of Chinese culture often neglected except in exhibitions of art objects inspired by the mythology. This neglect occurs because superstition and mythology grew up only with the uneducated groups, that is, most of the population. Studies of Chinese culture usually concern the culture of the minority, the educated elite. The chapter on Chinese mythology in this Larousse Encyclopedia is difficult, primarily because there are so many deities discussed. One interesting discussion is of the hierarchy of the world of the gods, set up as a bureaucracy exactly imitative of the bureaucracy which ruled China under the emperors.


The Chinese Way of Life by Lin Yutang

The author is a well-known interpreter of China to the West especially to the United States. He has lived in the United States for many years. He clearly has a love for and an understanding of the "old" China, but his view of China under the Communists is extremely biased.

This book is intended for children aged 12 - 14; it is, nevertheless, very informative about China's history and culture. Teachers would find it useful for students. Especially interesting is the lucid description of the development of the Chinese written language.


The Fine Art of Chinese Cooking by Dr. Lee Su Jan

The first chapters in this excellent book on the importance of cooking as an art in Chinese culture give a great deal of information about Chinese civilization in general. The recipes are practical, in most cases limited to dishes which can be prepared with easily available ingredients.
in North America. After reading this book even people who do not enjoy Chinese food will want to try again if only because Chinese food provides one of the most healthful diets in the world.

LITERATURE

Novels

The Romance of The Three Kingdoms by Lo Kuan-Chung (2 volumes)

The Romance of The Three Kingdoms is an historical novel about the later Han dynasty (A.D. 25 - 220). The specific period covered is A.D. 168 - 265. Written in the fourteenth century, the novel is based on historical fact but events are embroidered, some invented. For the Western reader it tends to be boring and confusing -- name upon name, and one battle after another. However, it is probably one of the most important pre-twentieth century Chinese novels. It was the source for many ideals and maxims upon which many Chinese built their ideas of virtue, courage, etc. It is still read in Mainland China, albeit with a Marxist interpretation, as well as in most Chinese communities throughout Asia.

(Lo Kuan-Chung. The romance of the three kingdoms. Rutland, Vt.: Charles E. Tuttle, 1959.)

The Dream of the Red Chamber translated by Chi-chen Wang

The Dream of the Red Chamber, a very popular novel with Chinese people, has been described as a love story but is really a portrait of a wealthy Chinese household -- filled with hundreds of relatives and servants. The story is made up of many plots involving various members of the household. The most important character is Pao-Yu, the favourite grandson. He is a delightful boy -- he hates school, loves and pampers his maids and female relatives who in turn love and pamper him. He fears his father but not enough to spoil his enjoyment of life or to make him study. The book is very long and one tends to get bogged down with names; however, there is
a glossary of names at the end of this edition which helps to clear up any confusion. It is probably the best book to read in order to understand the life-style and values of the "old" China, particularly that of the elite. (Chi-chen Wang. *The Dream of the Red Chamber*. New York: Twayne Publishers, 1958.)

*Water Margin* translated by J. H. Jackson

*Water Margin* is better known by the title given to Pearl Buck's translation *All Men Are Brothers* (now out of print). It is the most popular of modern Chinese novels. Typically Chinese, and therefore, long, it is a tale of the adventures of a gang of outlaws. (Jackson, J. H. *Water Margin*. San Mateo, California: Paragon Publications, 1968.)

*Man's Fate* by André Malraux translated by Haaken M. Chevalier

*Man's Fate* is a novel based upon the Communist revolutionary groups in China in the thirties. It deals especially with the psyche of one of the revolutionaires; Malraux's analysis of the character is relevant to an understanding of most revolutionary leaders of the twentieth century. (Malraux, André (translated by Haaken M. Chevalier). *Man's Fate*. New York: Modern Library, 1961.)

*The Sand Pebbles* by Richard McKenna


*The Lilacs Overgrow* by Lin Tai-yi

This novel concerns the lives of two sisters and their family in China between the end of World War Two and the revolution in 1949. The
incredible escape to Hong Kong makes it a very involving story and the characterization is excellent.

The author presents well the chaos before the revolution: the immense injustice to the poor by the Nationalists and to the educated by the Communists. It also reveals the values held by the educated before the revolution in contrast to old Chinese ways and to the new ways of the Communists.


The World of Suzie Wong by R. Mason

This is the delightful and touching love story of an English artist and a Chinese prostitute who fall in love in Hong Kong. The central plot is highly romantic and unrealistic in that it glosses over the humiliation of Suzie and her other prostitute friends whose dire circumstances have driven them to their profession; however, it entertains and gives a good picture of Hong Kong after the revolution.


The Flight of the Innocents by Lin Yutang

This is an adventure story about the escape from Mainland China of a motley crew of discontented citizens. It is clearly an anti-Communist tract; the most developed characters are people who lived well in the "old" China and want the luxuries Hong Kong offers. At the same time the lunacies of the "new" China are made clear -- people are starving while grain rots in storage. The author claims the book is based on accounts given to him by refugees. The most valid objection to the book is the denial of anything desirable in the present government of Mainland China.

(Lin Yutang. The flight of the innocents. London: Putnam & Co. Ltd., 1964.)
Cripple Mah and the New Order by C. Y. Lee

This amusing satire on the Communist regime centres around the life of Cripple Mah, a member of the proletariat, and, therefore, favoured by the government. Even so, the chaos that is everywhere nearly engulfs Mah, but being a very resourceful citizen, he averts disaster over and over. There is no doubt that the author is highly critical of Communism, but the criticism is not bitter, and therefore, more persuasive than The Flight of the Innocents.


Poetry and Prose

Anthology of Chinese Literature by Cyril Birch

In this anthology a broad survey of Chinese literature from 600 B.C. is given with informative introductions to the various genres and periods by the editor. The poetry is especially impressive, delicate and fragile, yet enduring still, an aspect of the Chinese heritage.

The prose, mainly fables and folktales, gives an insight into Chinese values, sometimes slightly, often extremely, different from our own.


A Treasury of Chinese Literature: A New Prose Anthology Including Fiction and Drama translated and edited by Ch'u Chai and Winberg Chai.

The examples of prose in this attractive and readable anthology are from earliest times to the twentieth century, although very little is included of what has been written since the revolution; the only literature that is published in Mainland China is that which is acceptable to the government. Such literature is less likely to be good or enduring.

170 Chinese Poems by Arthur Waley (translator)

This collection of Chinese poetry is beautifully translated by the well-known and highly respected poet/translator, Arthur Waley.

His introduction to this edition is interesting for the insight he gives the reader into the complete ignorance of Chinese literature, especially poetry, on the part of British Orientalists in the early twentieth century.


Twentieth Century Chinese Poetry by Kai-y Hsu (translator and editor)

The reader will find the selections of poetry in this anthology very familiar because, by the twentieth century, China's literati had joined the West in terms of literary taste. In 1917 a literary revolution took place against classical poetry which had become obscure.

The new literature took many forms and was often imitative of Western genres. Eventually the shackles of the past and of the West were thrown off; new subjects were permissible such as romantic love and the plight of the common man; the use of the vernacular became common. This revolution and its various developments is traced by the author in a fascinating manner.

SOURCES OF BOOKS IN THE MULTI-MEDIA PACKAGE ON CHINA


* Brief critical comments on these books are contained in Chinese Immigrants and China: An Introduction to the Multi-Media Package on China.
A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS ON CHINA,
AVAILABLE FOR RENT OR PURCHASE IN AND AROUND TORONTO

Filmsstrips

I -- Encyclopaedia Brittanica Publications Ltd.
151 Bloor Street West, Toronto 5, Ontario.

(1) Children of China -- black and white -- $3.00, has guide
(2) Hong Kong: Crossroads of the Far East -- colour -- $6.00, has guide
(3) The Rise of Chinese Civilization -- colour -- $6.00, has guide

II -- Educational Film Distributors Inc., Society for Visual Education,
191 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto 12, Ontario.

Living In China To-day: 4 filmstrips, 2 records, 4 guides -- colour,
$29.75 American (add 5%)

(1) Agriculture and Rural Life
(2) Cities and City Life
(3) Resources, Industries, Transportation and Communication
(4) Land of Change and Growth

This is a recent production (1968).

III -- McGraw-Hill Company of Canada Ltd.,
330 Progress Street, Agincourt, Ontario.

A set of 6 filmstrips with guide $6.50 each or $36.00 for the set, colour.

(1) China: Past and Present
(2) China: Life in the Cities
(3) China: Life in the Country
(4) China: Industry and Commerce
(5) Laos
(6) Nepal

These filmstrips were made © 1962.
IV -- Carman Educational Associates Ltd.,
Pine Grove, Ontario.

(1) Co-operative Farming in China -- colour -- $7.00, has guide
(2) Farmers & Boatmen of South China -- colour -- $7.00, has guide
(3) Hong Kong -- colour -- $7.00, has guide

The above filmstrips are available for purchase only.

V -- Teaching Aids Department, Toronto Board of Education,
155 College Street, Toronto 2B, Ontario. These are available on loan to Toronto teachers.

(1) Early Chinese Civilization -- has guide
(2) Glories of the Past in China -- has guide
(3) Central China -- has guide
(4) North China -- has guide
(5) South China -- has guide

This preceding list of filmstrips is by no means complete. There are other filmstrips available from the above distributors and there are other distributors in and around Toronto. Most of the filmstrips listed have been previewed and are recommended, especially Living in China To-day (E.F.D).

Study Prints

Educational Film Distributors Inc., Society for Visual Education,
191 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto 12, Ontario.

Children of Asia -- 8 pictures in colour, 2 of which are:
Ah Wang of China and
Shao Yuan of Hong Kong

Other countries represented: Burma, Japan, India, Thailand, Arabia and Israel.
Slides

Catalogue available from Public School Library Consultants, Toronto Board of Education, 155 College Street, Toronto 2B, Ontario.


Films

Where possible, the films recommended in this bibliography have been previewed. It is not generally possible, however, to preview feature films and these have been recommended on the basis of a written synopsis or a verbal report from a reliable source. The number of Chinese films available may seem surprising; many have as yet been little seen in the West, and Astral Films has a particularly impressive collection.

Any film company will send out a catalogue on request, and the Teaching Aids Department at the Board of Education also has a number of catalogues. Rental fees vary enormously from around $7.00 a day for a short film to $60.00 a day for a full-length feature. Most of the films from Astral are around $60.00, since the cost involved in obtaining them from Peking is especially high.

Feature Films

I — Astral Films Limited, 224 Davenport Road, Toronto.

(1) White-Haired Girl — 1½ hours, subtitled, is an opera of peasant life

(2) New Year's Sacrifice * — 1½ hours, subtitled, in colour, is a story woven around Chinese customs and life in pre-Revolution China

(3) My Family — 1½ hours, subtitled, tells the story of a well-off scholarly family in China, in about 1916

* This film was selected for showing at the Board of Education for the City of Toronto's Film Festival in May, 1969.
(4) Peacock Princess — 1½ hours, dubbed, is a delightful film based on a Chinese legend, using animated puppets

Astral Films also have an excellent short film called

(5) Where is Mama — 30 minutes, a nature film in animated cartoon form about tadpoles and frogs

All the above films have been made in Peking; some have a political bias, such as "New Year's Sacrifice" and "My Family," but this is not nearly as pronounced as the Western mind may be conditioned to expect. Astral Films have other Chinese films which have not been included in this list, and the complete list of titles can be obtained on request. All the films mentioned here have been previewed.

II — Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, 354 Jarvis Street, Toronto 5, Ontario.

(1) Seven Hundred Million — this film has appeared more than once on television, and may appear again. It is possible, but not easy, to borrow the film for private showings.

III — Twentieth Century-Fox Corporation Limited, 110 Bond Street, Toronto 2, Ontario.

(1) A Many Splendoured Thing — 129 minutes, rental charge $20.00, is a well-known film based on an outstanding book by Han Suyin

(2) Sand Pebbles — 183 minutes, also based on a book, revolves around the adventures of an American gunboat patrolling the rivers of China in the 1920's. Without preaching, it demonstrates the tremendous exploitation of the Chinese by Westerners.

IV — Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 696 Yonge Street, Toronto 5, Ontario.

(1) The Good Earth — 117 minutes, black and white, based on the Nobel prizewinning novel by Pearl S. Buck, tells the story of a Chinese farmer and his family in pre-Revolution China. (The copy may be too old to be worth showing.)
Documentaries

V — Educational Film Distributors, 191 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto 12, Ontario.

(1) Children in China — 19 minutes, colour, a charming, apolitical film
(2) Family of Free China — 22 minutes, colour, is a well-done and informative film about Formosa; definitely a piece of propaganda
(3) Chinese Painting: Its Traditions and Techniques — 15 minutes, colour, a beautiful film, Hong Kong artists illustrating ancient techniques

VI — Metropolitan Film Library, 220 College Street, Toronto 2B, Ontario.

(1) Hong Kong — 9 minutes, made in 1967, three short films on different aspects of life in Hong Kong, made by the Tourist Bureau of Hong Kong
(2) Hong Kong Today — 26 minutes, 1959, black and white, informative but somewhat dated. The film has been included, however, since there are few films readily available about Hong Kong.

There is no charge for films borrowed from the Metropolitan Film Library, but loans are made to individual members only.

VII — Teaching Aids Department, Toronto Board of Education, 155 College Street, Toronto 2B, Ontario.

(1) The Ancient Orient: The Far East — 14 minutes, includes India and Japan as well as China
(2) Bethune — 59 minutes, a biographical film, which devotes little time to Bethune in China, but gives a graphic picture of a man who helped bridge the gap between Canada and China

There is no rental charge for films borrowed from the Teaching Aids Department.

VIII — Canadian Film Institute, 1762 Carling Avenue, Ottawa 13, Ontario.

(1) Sea Festivals of Hong Kong — 21 minutes, colour, 1962
(2) Made in Hong Kong — 13½ minutes, colour, 1965, describes economic growth in the colony
(3) A Race Against People* — 13½ minutes, colour, 1965, deals with the population problem in Hong Kong

* This film was selected for showing at the Board of Education for the City of Toronto's Film Festival in May, 1969.
The set of thirty-six slides and eight black and white photographs on the art of China were obtained from the Royal Ontario Museum, 100 Queen's Park Avenue, Toronto 5, Ontario.

The filmstrips, Farming (The Far East: Rural Life) and Hong Kong were obtained from Carmen Educational Associates, Pine Grove, Ontario.

Postcards were obtained from the Royal Ontario Museum and from stores in Toronto's Chinatown.

Music on the tape was recorded from records made in Mainland China and Hong Kong, some of which are available in Toronto's Chinatown.