

\* \* From the Editor \* \*

This issue completes the fifth full year and constitutes the tenth issue of Sino-Japanese Studies. It has been a most gratifying five years, and the quality of the material in the journal (which many still refer to inadvertently, and probably because they are in shock at the high quality of SJS, as "the Newsletter") continues to remain high. Conversations are underway at present to upgrade the physical appearance of the journal itself. As noted in the inaugural issue, however, our principal aim is to put out a publication of quality, not one that simply looks good. If it is possible to do both, we should soon know.

In this issue of SJS, the longest to date, there is a rich mix of essays. Huang Tzu-chin of the Academia Sinica (Republic of China) offers a detailed, nuanced study of the breakdown in Sino-Japanese negotiations at the time of the Mukden Incident. He looks at the various levels of diplomatic efforts and counter-efforts to offer an explanation for why September 18, 1931 should have become such a signal day in the history of Sino-Japanese relations.

John Tucker provides an extremely valuable annotated bibliography of Japanese secondary research on Japanese Neo-Confucianism. This first of two parts is named "From Abe Yoshio to Maruyama Masao," despite the fact that it begins with Abe Ryūichi. The point of the title, however, is less alphabetic than it is to show the wide range of Japanese views on the subject, from those of Abe Yoshio (who is largely responsible for introducing the Korean connection to the transmission of continental Neo-Confucianism to Japan) and the much better-known work of Maruyama Masao.

Finally, we have part seven of the on-going translation of Masuda Wataru's remarkable book on Sino-Japanese cultural relations. This installment deals with the stories, many of them wild, that connected Ōshio Heihachirō and his son with the founding fathers of the Taiping Heavenly Kingdom. It also examines the filiations and transmission of views of Hong Xiuquan in Japan.