

Arsenal de l'Est, Tianjin



FOREIGNERS IN CHINA MAGAZINE

(INFORMATION PERTAINING TO FOREIGNERS IN LATE QING AND REPUBLICAN CHINA)

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INTRODUCTION

by Steve Upton, English-language Editor

There's been a long delay in preparing and distributing this third issue of *Foreigners in China Magazine*, due in part to moving my home, and moving and reorganizing the Upton Sino-Foreign Archive (USFA). My home and the archive are now in Manchester, New Hampshire, USA. I personally apologize to everyone in the Foreigners in China Network, and especially to each person who has prepared an article, for the delay. I expect that the fourth issue will be distributed in a month or two.

The Foreigners in China Network (FIC Network) continues to expand, and now has over 300 people. More than half of the people who have joined since the last issue are from China. I'm sad to mention the death of FIC Network participant Irene Eber. There will be more information about Irene in the fourth issue.

This third issue includes the remarkable story of the Ruas family of Tianjin, co-written by FIC Network participants Andrea Kloppe and Charles Ruas. Charles spent much of his childhood in 1930s-40s Tianjin. His father was of French background, and his mother was of Sino-German background. Charles's Chinese (Manchu) grandfather, Marshal Yinchang, had a notable career as a diplomat, military expert, and supporter of educational reforms.

I invited Andrea to prepare the article in this issue about her efforts to preserve and share information about the history of old Tianjin. Andrea is not a historian by profession, but her love of history has inspired her, when not working at her regular job, not only to investigate information about old Tianjin from written sources, but to seek out foreign and Sino-foreign residents of pre-1950 Tianjin (scattered throughout the world), interview them, and write about them. Andrea is saving some important historical information which might otherwise soon be forgotten.

Also in this issue is a detailed report by our FIC Network co-founder Wang Min, who is the Chinese-language Editor of *FIC Magazine*. Her report is about an academic conference, held last year at Shanghai, about foreign resources pertaining to China's treaty ports and leased territories.

This issue ends with the agenda and participant list (in Chinese) for a conference, held earlier this year at Wuhan, about the history of China's treaty ports and leased territories. Many thanks to FIC Network participant Xu Tao, of the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, for sharing this information (which he obtained as one of the conference participants) and also for making an English translation of the participant list.

Please contact me (uptonrs@gmail.com, or rsu77@alum.dartmouth.org), about any people who should be invited to join the FIC Network, and about any articles or other information which you are interested in sending to *FIC Magazine*.

1. The Ruas Family in Tientsin (Tianjin)

by Andrea Klopper and Charles Ruas



Charles Ruas: Left: in 1943, Right: in 2012 (Both photos courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Charles Ruas's Tientsin story begins with the grandparents and parents, who had very different backgrounds. Erica Ruas was half-German and half-Chinese, and Charles Edouard Ruas was French.

Maternal Grandparents and Mother – the Chinese-German side



Marshal Yinchang (from Who's Who in China (Shanghai: The China Weekly Review, 3rd ed. 1925)



Yinchang in his military uniform (from Det Nya Kina, by Erik Nystrom [Stockholm: Norstedt, 1913])

Charles Ruas's maternal grandfather Yinchang (Yin Ch'ang, 陰昌), served as the Chinese Minister to Germany. He was a Manchu Prince of the Plain White Banner Clan, an educational reformer, and the first Minister of War in the final years of the Qing Period. He was groomed to be a

diplomat, and studied German for that purpose at Tung Wen College (Tongwenguan), Peking. He was sent as an attaché to the Chinese Legation in Berlin in 1877. He continued his studies at a military academy in Germany. He returned to China in 1884 and began teaching at Tientsin's Wubei Xuetang (military academy), becoming director the following year. In the late 1890s, Yinchang negotiated on behalf of the Qing Government with Germany regarding the creation of the Jiaozhou leased territory (which included the port of Qingdao), and also regarding German railway and mining rights in Shandong Province. In 1901, Yinchang was appointed to join the mission of Prince Chun (Zaifeng) to Germany to express regret for the death of Baron Clemens von Ketteler, the German Minister at Peking, who had been killed in the Boxer Uprising. While there, Yinchang was appointed as Minister to Germany and also as Minister to the Netherlands.

Yinchang was one of the reformers who supported changing, and eventually abolishing, the traditional examination system for selecting appointees to prestigious governmental positions. The examinations had emphasized knowledge of old Chinese classics, with no attention to modern mathematics, science, and technology. He modernized the military uniform and training curriculum.



Prince Chun's mission to Germany, 1901.

While he was serving as Minister to Germany, Yinchang met Eleanore Elisabeth Scherf (Ella) in Bonn at a garden party. She was from Bonn. Her parents were not thrilled when Yinchang

married her in 1909. Yinchang soon was summoned back to China, but waited several months before leaving. In late 1910, Erika Johanna Scherf, the daughter of Yinchang and Ella, was born at the University Hospital in Berlin and baptized as a Lutheran. Soon after Erika was born, Yinchang was appointed Minister of the Army in the cabinet of Prince Qing (Yikuang) in China. Ella and Erika remained in Germany with Ella's parents, who insisted that she could not travel with a newborn infant.

In the newly established Republic of China in 1912, Yinchang was appointed Chief Military Aide-de-Camp to President Yuan Shikai, a position he resigned in 1915 when Yuan declared himself Emperor. In 1917, Yinchang was appointed to the State Council. In 1919, he again was appointed as Chief Military Aide-de-Camp to the President, a position he held under several successive presidents. Yinchang received various titles and awards, including (in 1923) the title of Marshal. In the last years of his life he served as Military Advisor to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek (Jiang Jieshi). Yinchang died at Beijing in 1928.

The Scherf family members were respected Burghers of Bonn, where Erika spent her childhood. As the first grandchild, Erika was very much doted upon and protected. What communications the family may have had with Yinchang have not survived. During the influenza pandemic which began in 1918, Erika became seriously ill. When Erika's fever rose above 104°F, the family's elderly housekeeper filled the bathtub with ice water and immersed her. This brought down her fever and saved her life.

By the end of the First World War, Ella obtained a separation from Yinchang and married her childhood sweetheart Wilhelm Kunert, a police sergeant in the Bonn constabulary. He adopted Erika, giving her the surname Kunert. She was brought up as a Lutheran. In Bonn, she attended a private girls' school, the Klostermann Lyceum, from 1916 to 1925, and then an Oberlyceum/Studienanstalt from 1925 to 1929.



Ella with her daughter Erika (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)

Ella wanted her daughter to pursue her education and attend medical school. Erika, however, at the age of nineteen was offered a contract to appear in German films. She had small roles in three movies in Berlin, where she became immersed in the city's social life, even appearing in newspapers for winning a Charleston competition at a nightclub.



Erika

in a screen test, 1932 (Photographed by Karl Schrecker. Both photos courtesy of Charles Ruas).



Chinese students participating in Berlin's active social life. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas.)



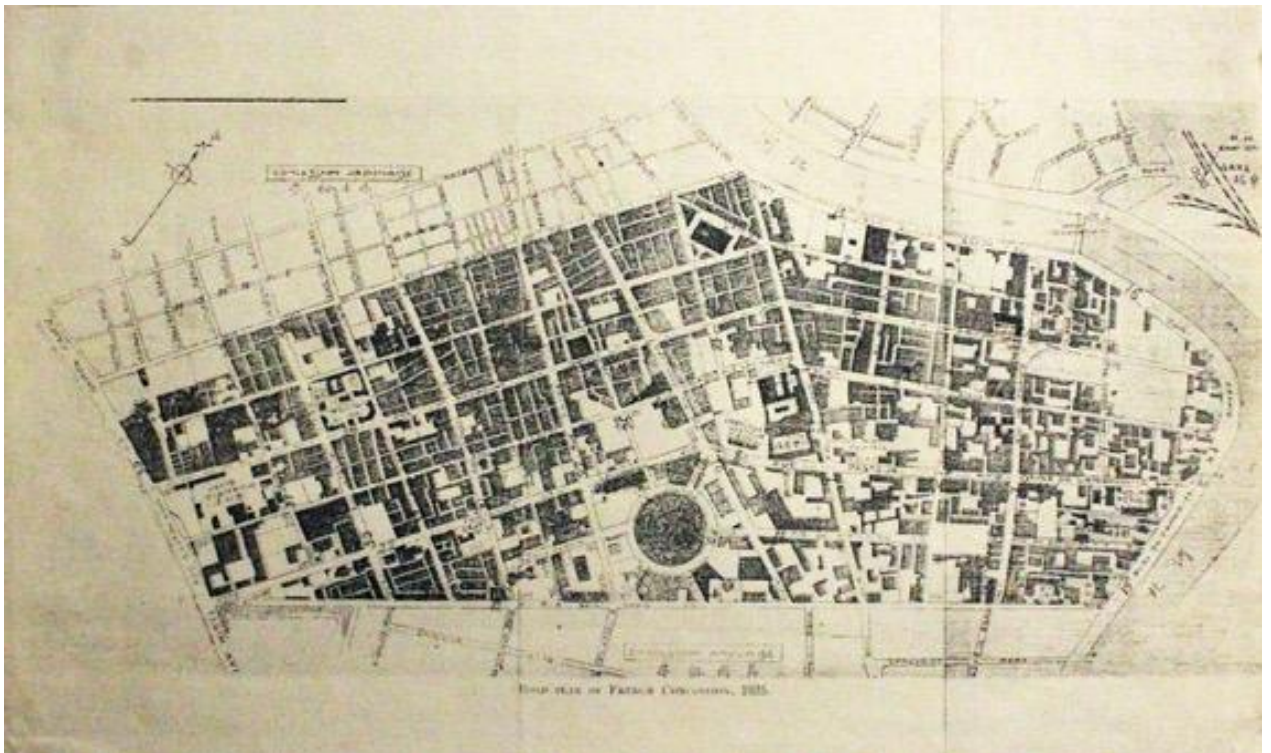
*Erika, Berlin 1930, looking every bit at ease as the modern woman complete with cigarette.
(Courtesy of Charles Ruas)*

Erika met and married a prominent businessman from Shanghai, who owned a luxury emporium in Berlin's Charlottenburg district. His surname was Chang (his full name in pinyin was Zhang Zhiteng). He sold silks and other luxury goods, including bicycles. The bicycles became a more important part of the business during and after the Second World War. Whether he imported the bicycles from China or manufactured them is not known.

The couple had a daughter named Chang Su Ying (Zhang Suying) who was born in October, 1930. During the Second World War, the German government's esteem for Mr. Chang was evident when he and Suying were exempted from being sent, like numerous other Chinese people in Germany, to labor camps (Arbeitserziehungslager).

When Erika suddenly separated from Mr. Chang in 1933, it was her mother, Ella, who settled matters on her behalf. Ella sued for custody of Suying, but it was granted to Mr. Chang. Erika had become infatuated with a dashing young Chinese attache who was travelling in Europe in the entourage of a Chinese official. They eloped to London and went on to Paris before proceeding to China by ship, having excursions at the ports along the way. Initially, they settled at Peiping (Peking).

Erika, in her early twenties, learned to speak Mandarin with immediate ease. Through a German attaché, she arranged a visit to her late father's residence. She discovered that the house was in a state of neglect, tended by opium-smoking servants. Yinchang's oldest son greeted her politely but coldly. Behind the Chinese-style home's courtyards was a German-style pavilion where Yinchang's German mistress lived. There, Erika met a blonde woman, drugged on opium, who offered her some tea. After exchanging a few pleasantries, Erika fled the place, never to return. She learned that Yinchang's second son was caught up in financial scandals.



Map of the French Concession, Tientsin 1925. This would have been much as it was when Erika arrived.

Erika and the Chinese attaché soon moved to an apartment in Tientsin's French Concession, where, in 1934, Erika gave birth to her son Franklin. He was possibly named after the managing director of the Tientsin Waterworks, Koo Yi Franklin. Through gossip, Erika discovered that her husband already had a Chinese wife and children living in his parents' compound in Tientsin. She immediately packed her bags and departed with Franklin to stay with a friend, the wife of a German consul. The consul's wife arranged for Erika to stay at a hotel in Tientsin's Ex-German Concession while Erika's divorce and custody papers were being sorted out in China and Germany with the help of Tientsin's German Consulate-General. Despite many telegrams in which Ella begged Erika to return to Germany, Erika decided to remain in China where she felt she belonged.



Erika with son, Franklin (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

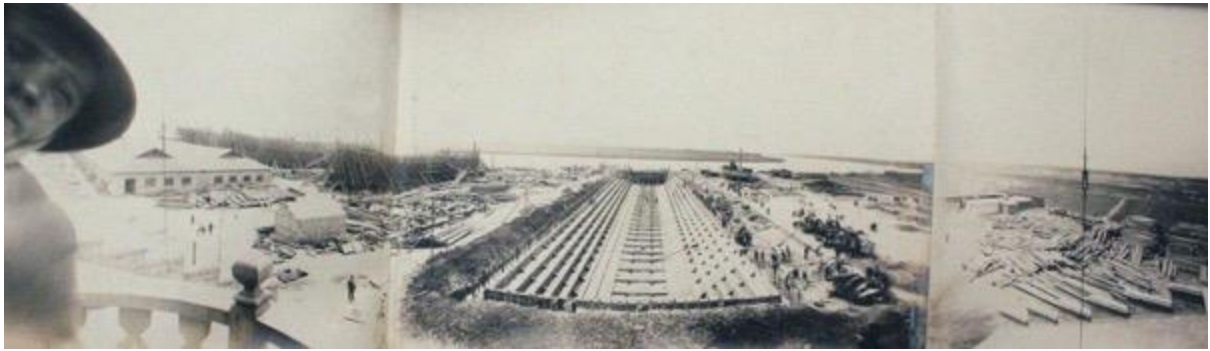
The French side

Circa 1900, Henri Alexandre Edouard Ruas arrived in Tientsin. He came from the city of Millau, in the Aveyron Department of France. He was an entrepreneur, taking advantage of opportunities arising from the substantial expansion of Tientsin's foreign-controlled land (partly from enlargement of existing concessions, and partly from creation of new concessions) in the aftermath of the Boxer Uprising. He was engaged in real estate, transportation, and shipping in this port city.



Henri Alexandre Ruas, Peking 1908 (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Henri opened a shipyard at Taku (Dagu, now a part of Tianjin) and began building his own riverboats. He was known for being considerate of his workers' welfare.



Three photos of Ruas shipyard, Taku 1917 (all courtesy of Charles Ruas)

In the 1920s, Henri was involved in building town houses near Tientsin's French consulate during a period of construction boom. Henri mainly provided materials to businesses with modern industrial facilities, which were involved in the construction of projects such as railroads.



Henri Ruas as building constructor c.1920 (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).



Modern furnaces and turbines in the Ruas warehouse (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

He initiated the use of airplanes to deliver materials to places around Tientsin, and he owned a car. His son Charles Edouard later owned a car and learned to fly a plane. Like Henri, Charles Edouard always wanted to be the driver of the car, and ordered the chauffeur to sit in the back.



Plane delivering goods from Henri. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)



Henri behind the steering wheel while his chauffeur stands by the door. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Yet it was not all work. He got together with friends in the French community and they would go into the countryside around Tientsin on picnics.



Picnic in Tientsin area, 1920s (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Henri had left his family behind in France. He made several trips between Tientsin and France before the First World War. When his wife Justine died, he summoned his son Charles Edouard (born in 1904) and daughter Rose (born in 1909) to join him in Tientsin. Charles Edouard Ruas completed his education in France, and spent most of his adult life working as a civil engineer in Tientsin. He worked on bridges that were being built over the HeiHe (Hai River), and also worked at the Tientsin Native City Waterworks Co., Ltd., which had been incorporated at Hong Kong in 1902. This company, which for years was effectively under the control of British shareholders, is mentioned below as “the Waterworks.” The company’s water was taken from the Grand Canal, outside the large part of Tientsin which was known as the Native City or Chinese City, and was carefully treated in filter-beds of sand before being distributed through 25 miles of mains of various sizes to the Chinese City and Japanese, Austrian, Russian, and Italian Concessions (Wright 1908: 740). For many years, the manager and chief engineer was a Danish civil/construction engineer, Johannes Holmberg. He had come to Tientsin in 1903, and he became a friend of the Ruas family. The British Concession arranged for its own separate water supply. The British water supply was provided by another company, The Tientsin Waterworks Co., Ltd., which was under British control.



Charles Edouard Ruas, 1934. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

In 1927, Charles Edouard was an assistant working on the project of dismantling Tientsin's old International Bridge, and constructing the new International Bridge (now Jiefang Qiao) at a different location in order to connect the Rue de France with the main railway station. The firms with responsibility for this project were Etablissements Daydé and Messrs. Schneider & Cie, represented at Tientsin by Olivier & Co. The new bridge was a mechanical bridge with a main span that could be raised to leave a wide fairway for river traffic.



The new International Bridge as shown on a postcard

According to Charles Edouard's son Charles, Charles Edouard was the engineer in charge of the construction of the Jingang Bridge at Tientsin, and not only supervised its construction but also determined its precise placement on the river. Charles added that the Jingang Bridge was made from prefabricated Ohio steel. Many people, including members of the Ruas family, attended the ceremony to celebrate the opening of the Jingang Bridge. During the ceremony a policeman, looking splendid in his uniform, stood proudly on a little platform at the center of the bridge. He was so excited that when a whistle blew three times to announce that the bridge was about to be opened, he forgot to move. The bridge started opening underneath him, and he suddenly realized that he had one foot on each side. He plopped into the Hai River, to a roar of laughter from the crowd. He was fished out safe and sound.



Opening ceremony for the Jingang Bridge, Tientsin. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas.)



The Jingang Bridge open to river traffic. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)



Henri (second from left) and Charles Edouard inspecting a railroad at Tientsin (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).



Charles Edouard inspecting waterways around Tientsin. Note the flag of the French port authorities. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Young Charles Edouard first married Helene Gloria Constance Iwaniska, a Polish ballerina. Fleeing the Revolution like many White Russians, she joined a small community of Polish refugees in Tientsin. Charles Edouard and Helene divorced in 1933.

It was the German consul's wife who introduced the recently divorced Erika to the young engineer. According to members of the Fu-chi Liu family, their cook, Sun Pao-san, was sent to invite their friend and neighbor, Charles Edouard, to visit, and Sun hurried back to report that Charles Edouard had a young lady with him, and that she had with her a little boy who was about the same age as the Lius' infant daughter, Ju-lan (Nini) (Cooper and Liu 1999: 76). Liu family members described Erika as "a young woman who, though pleasingly shy and modest, was not at all timid." (Ibid.: 77). They added that Erika's "voice was clear and well-modulated," and that she "spoke English with a charming accent, undefinable since she spoke German, French and Chinese fluently." (Cooper and Liu 1999: 77). She married Charles Edouard in the year of Henri's death, 1934. At that time, the Ruas and Liu families lived in a compound that was on Rue St. Louis and that was very close to the border between Tientsin's French and British Concessions. (Ibid.: 59-60, 63).

After the Marriage of Charles Edouard and Erika

Erika Ruas became a very good friend of Grace Divine Liu, who was from Chattanooga. Grace had moved from the U.S. to Tientsin after marrying Fu-chi Liu, an American-trained Chinese engineer and colleague of Charles Edouard. Grace described Charles Edouard as follows: "When he was cold sober he was glum and moody, a hard worker; when really drunk he was dreadful, but when he'd had just enough he was a delightful, witty and charming personality." (Cooper and Liu 1999: 74).

Franklin was duly adopted by Charles Edouard. In early 1937, the Ruas and Liu families moved to 85 Rue Fontanier (now Chifeng Dao), a residence provided by the Waterworks in the French Concession.

The Ruas and Liu children spent much time playing together under the watchful eyes of their amahs. Members of the Ruas family spoke Mandarin Chinese, but French and English were the preferred languages at home.



Franklin Ruas, 1936 (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

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司公水來自安濟
Chi-an-tze-lai-shui-kung-sze
**Tientsin Waterworks
Co., Ltd.**

Head office :
85 Rue Fontanier
Tel 33042, 31553

City Office :
Northwest City Corner
Tel 51778, 50693

TA Citywater

Koo, Yi Franklin, mng. dir.
Harper, J. R., dep.mng.dir.
Ratcliffe, A. H., chf. acct.
Ruas, C. H.
Cudzilo, W.
Bruunsgaard, S. A.
Louveau, P.
Toung T'ing Feng
Liu Fu-Chi
Chen Shou Chih
Chang Kuo Chun
Yotsumoto, T.
—

Entry in the Chinese Year Book for Tientsin, 1941, page 1831. The listed people worked at the Tientsin Native City Waterworks Co., Ltd.

After years of negotiation, the Waterworks passed from British to Chinese control in early 1937. When full-scale war between China and Japan broke out in July 1937, Japanese military forces occupied Tientsin. The Waterworks became subject to Japanese military control. Grace Liu believed that a Japanese man on the Waterworks staff was "a sort of spy for the Japanese army...." (Cooper and Liu 1999:126).

In 14 November 1938, the younger Charles Ruas (mentioned in this article as “Charles”) was born at the Women’s Hospital of Dr. Ding Maoying (Me-lung Ting) in Tientsin’s British Concession. Charles Edouard was so thrilled that on days when he came home for lunch, he would order that the flowers be removed from the centre of the table, and that the heavily dressed baby Charles be put in their place while the family ate!



Flowerpot Charles, 1939. Erika with Charles and Franklin (Photos courtesy of Charles Ruas).



A slightly older Charles with his amah. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

When they were old enough, Franklin and Charles attended St. Louis College, a school for boys which was run by the Marist Brothers in Tientsin's French Concession. The school had one curriculum taught primarily in English, and another curriculum taught in French. The teachers in the order came from diverse national backgrounds. The students were also of diverse nationalities, and had various religious backgrounds. Most of the students were from Tientsin's concessions, but there also were some students from Peking and other places. St. Louis College was one of the few institutions in China that was authorized to administer the Cambridge Examinations, by which students could qualify for admission to British universities. At the centre of a very supportive community, families would socialize at the school's sporting events.



Franklin's class at St Louis College. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

An important element of social life for foreigners in Tientsin consisted of the clubs for various nationalities, as well as other clubs which mostly were for social causes or sports. Charles Edouard belonged to a number of these in Tientsin: the French Club (Cercle Francais de Tientsin), the Fencing Club (Cercle d'Escrime), an airplane flying club, an equestrian club, and a tennis club. The tennis club was at or in the vicinity of the Arsenal de l'Est (French military garrison) and was established primarily for French soldiers. Some of Charles Edouard's friends at the French Club were French military officers stationed at Tientsin.



Charles Edouard at a flying club activity. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)



At the tennis club for the Arsenal. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).



Charles Edouard riding on a Mongolian pony. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Among the social highlights in 1930s Tientsin were the masquerade parties at Mardi Gras at national clubs, including the French Club. In the 1920s and 1930s, costume parties were a favorite pastime in various Western nations and also in Tientsin.



A masquerade party at the French Club, 1936. Erika is on the right, Grace Divine Liu on the far left, and Mrs. Johannes Holmberg (she was of Korean background) in the center (From Cooper and Liu 1999: 96)

In July, 1937, the first month of the full-scale war between Japan and China, the Japanese began an aerial bombing campaign of Tientsin while respecting the foreign concessions. The concessions were not targeted because the Japanese forces in North China at that time generally wanted to avoid triggering military conflicts with nations other than China. Most Tientsin utilities had headquarters in the concessions. Charles Edouard rallied these utilities to repair damages to their facilities in bombed areas in the city. He personally worked urgently and successfully on the project of restoring the water distribution system for much of Tientsin.

In early April, 1939, Cheng Xigeng, who was widely regarded as a traitorous collaborator after he began working as manager of the Japanese-owned Federal Reserve Bank of North China, was assassinated at the Grand Theatre in the British Concession. When the British refused to turn over four Chinese men accused of participating in the assassination to the Japanese for punishment, it precipitated a crisis. In response, Japanese military forces in mid-June 1939 began a blockade of the British and French Concessions. During the blockade, the Japanese

prevented the entry of most supplies and provisions. They strung electrified wire along boundaries. Westerners entering or leaving the area encompassed by the two concessions had to pass through checkpoints where they were subjected to intrusive and sometimes very humiliating searches. Chinese generally were treated much more harshly at the checkpoints, and some of them died. In late August 1939, the blockade was lifted after the British reluctantly yielded to the Japanese demand for them to turn over the four accused men. The men were executed by the Japanese.

On August 20, 1939, the day when the British turned over the accused men, Tientsin was struck by a devastating flood. The city was suddenly inundated. The flood began with such an enormous surge that the Japanese Army commander in the Tientsin area believed that it had been caused by an act of sabotage. He went with a squad of infantrymen to the Waterworks and aimed a rifle at Charles Edouard's heart, saying that he held him responsible for continuing to supply uncontaminated water to the Japanese Concession. Inside buildings throughout the city, the flood waters rose high on the first floor. At 85 Rue Fontanier, families of Waterworks' staff and workmen temporarily joined the families of senior staff in the upper floors and roof of the building.⁰

The British Concession had its own autonomous water supply system, based on a network of wells which were immediately contaminated by the flood. Charles Edouard, who was aware of the British Concession's hardships during the blockade, was anxious to provide help by making arrangements for uncontaminated water from the Waterworks system to be pumped into the British water supply system. He and Fu-chi Liu knew the locations of water distribution pipelines and connections throughout the city. They gathered their workmen and, working in the polluted floodwaters for days, protected the Waterworks system from contamination and also connected the Waterworks system to the British Concession's water system. By doing so, they succeeded in providing a steady supply of usable water to the British Concession through the emergency. For their bravery and sacrifice, they received a letter of gratitude from the administration of the British Concession.



Scene showing the extent of the flood waters in 1939.



Flood watermark noted on the British Country Club building. (Photos: Andrea Klopper 2012, 2005)

During the first few months after his work in the contaminated waters, Charles Edouard developed a pain in one leg. After initially ignoring the pain, he finally was taken to Tientsin's German-American Hospital, where it was discovered that he had a large abscess. He was diagnosed with an infection of the bone, requiring amputation of the lower leg. Very soon after the operation, he died. The cause of death was said to be blood poisoning. Erika claimed that the doctor operating on him was dead drunk. Additionally, a likely factor contributing to his death, was the lack of available antibiotics.



Cutting from Peking and Tientsin Times, Sunday January 14, 1940.

Photo of Charles Edouard Ruas (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).

Not long afterward, in 1940, Erika gave birth to Henri Alexandre, known as Alex, her fourth child. With Charles Edouard dead, the family could no longer stay in the apartment at 85 Rue Fontanier. They moved to a single-family house in the Villa Jeanne d'Arc. Charles Ruas believes that this house was provided to Erika by the Waterworks (perhaps in return for some stocks which had been owned by Charles Edouard) and also by the French Consulate-General (which provided what Charles describes as "a tiny widow's pension" to Erika). Fu-chi Liu, who became the new chief engineer of the Waterworks, moved with his family into the apartment which had been occupied by the Ruas family.

The Villa Jeanne d'Arc complex was located next to a school which had been founded in the early 1920s by French Jesuits. This school, as "L'Institut des Hautes Etudes Industrielles et Commerciales de Tientsin," located on Race Course Road, had become an institute of higher education specializing in business management, architecture, and various types of engineering.

For years, it was widely known as “Hautes Etudes.” In 1933, its official name became Tientsin Kung Shang College (T’ien-chin Kung Shang Hsueh Yuan, Tianjin Gong Shang Xue Yuan), but many Tientsin residents continued to refer to it as Hautes Etudes. This school was the main predecessor of Hebei University, which now is located at Baoding.

The Villa Jeanne d’Arc complex, as remembered by Charles Ruas, consisted of lovely single-family houses (“villas”). The villas lined both sides of a street off Race Course Road, and had very large front gardens, and also had, in the back, courtyards or kitchen gardens. Each villa was situated behind a front wall with bright red double gates, a bright red door for pedestrians, and a gatekeeper’s lodge. The gates in front of the Ruas family’s villa opened to a brick-paved driveway. On each side of the gates was an old peach tree. In Chinese culture, peaches are symbols of health and longevity. The two peach trees blossomed beautifully, but their fruits never had a chance of ripening, because children would take them prematurely. The driveway went from the gates to a staircase. The staircase led to the front door, which was at the upper floor of the house. The driveway continued around a side of the house to a garage in the back.

The perimeter walls around each house were connected and formed an above-ground path, providing a way for children to travel from house to house. At night, it was not uncommon for beggars and thieves to scour the area for whatever could be found, and some of the walls had pieces of broken glass mounted on top to deter such conduct.

On the side of the street where the Ruas family lived, the walls behind the back yards were located along an edge of the Hautes Etudes campus. The street ended at a campus wall overlooking dormitories and playing fields.

Charles recalls that the first villa on his side of the street was the home of a Hautes Etudes administrator. The Ruas family lived in the second villa. The third villa on that side of the street was the home of a British employee of the Chinese Customs Service and his wife, son, and daughter. When this British family learned that the Japanese were sending them to an internment camp, they asked the Ruas family to take care of their pet dog Betsy, who soon became Charles’s constant companion. Betsy, a King Charles spaniel, was thought by some Chinese to be a mongrel Pekingese. A Japanese officer and his family moved into the British family’s villa. At the end of the war, the British family returned from the internment camp but could not take Betsy back because they were preparing to return to England.

Across the street from the Ruas family was the home of Dr. Kwan, a very prominent dentist who had studied in the U.S., and his family. He was married to an American woman, who died of tuberculosis. The Kwans’ two children, Kenneth and his younger sister Vivianne, were about the same age as Franklin Ruas, and were his close friends.

The Ruas family’s villa was a two-story building with living quarters on the upper floor. The lower floor had utilities, storerooms, the laundry area and pantry. The back of the lower floor was the kitchen, where servants gathered and ate meals. Adjacent to the kitchen was the garage. The servants’ quarters were on the upper floor of the garage.

To make ends meet, the Ruas family relied on Erika's widow's pension and on selling off stocks and real estate investments. With their declining resources and the increasing hardships in Tientsin during the war, they greatly reduced their staff of servants by finding them work with other families. Of the servants who remained, the most important was Nai Nai (when used informally, "Nai Nai" means "grandma"), originally brought in as Alex's amah, who took on the responsibility of housekeeper. Nai Nai's husband, a former schoolteacher, was the caretaker, gatekeeper, and gardener. Their daughter was Erika's maid until she went to work elsewhere because her husband was a soldier. Nai Nai's grandson, Hsiao Pi (Xiao Pi, "Little Pi"), remained with the Ruas family. He had an infirmity and needed care.

During the war, the Japanese requisitioned the Ruas garage and gave it to a soldier to live in with his wife. They most likely were sent over by the Japanese officer who was living in the villa next door. Nai Nai and her grandson moved into the Ruas house and lived with the Ruas children in the "nursery" on the upper floor. Nai Nai's husband and daughter moved into the gatekeeper's lodge. Japanese soldiers repeatedly searched houses, for the purpose of confiscating wartime supplies, especially metals. The Japanese used the Ruas family's back yard as a storage area for equipment.

During the severe wartime food shortages, Nai Nai's husband turned the front yard into a kitchen garden. He created vegetable beds, but kept a flower border along the driveway. He was vigilant in watching over the property, and was part of a neighborhood network which was constantly on the lookout for criminals and Japanese activities.

During the summers, the Ruas family stayed with Fu-chi Liu's wife and children at the seaside resort of Peitaiho (Beidaihe). Franklin was about the same age as Nini Liu; Charles was about the same age as Ellen Liu; and Alex was a year older than William Liu. Charles remembers that favorite pastimes at Peitaiho, other than swimming and bathing, included taking picnics up to the temples in the hills, and riding donkeys to Shanhaikwan (Shanhaiguan) where the Great Wall comes down to the sea. The old casual designations of "British Beach" and "American Beach" in the Peitaiho area vanished during the Second World War.



Donkey rides at Peitaiho (Beidaihe) during the summer in 1942 (Courtesy of Charles Ruas).



Erika with her sons —Franklin, Henri Alexandre, Charles (left to right) (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)

Charles recalls that the Ruas children received chicks as Easter gifts from their mother and from some of the family's Western and Chinese friends. These chicks never quite made it to adulthood. If they didn't die of illness, they were killed by stray cats or predatory birds (chicken hawks).

In wintertime, the British Concession had an ice rink with music and dances for both children and adults. When the HeiHo [Hai River] froze, a large area on it near the Astor Hotel was set aside for races, sledding, and other diversions.

Charles has fond memories of Christmas Bazaars in the Tientsin concessions. The Ex-German Concession celebrated with Christmas trees and ornaments, toys and presents, and holiday dishes and treats. The French Bazaar was decorated with nativity scenes. At the French Bazaar, there was great concentration on party clothes and presents, as well as an abundance of treats. In accordance with Erika's German background, the Ruas family's Christmas celebrations centered on lighting candles on their tree on Christmas eve. Their tree was decorated not only with candles, but also with tinsel, garlands, paper ornaments, and oranges. The oranges were regarded as a great treat.

When the Ruas family was departing from Tientsin, Erika entrusted the dog Betsy to Nai Nai's family. Erika gave the house and land to Nai Nai's family, with the hope that this gift would provide them with some measure of security. Erika, Franklin, Charles, and Alex left Tientsin in March, 1946 on a U.S. military transport ship, the Marine Angel, which brought them to Shanghai, where they stayed at the then-extensive compound of St. Ignatius Cathedral (Xujiahui Cathedral). Among the facilities at the compound were a school, staff housing, a chapel, an infirmary, an orphanage, and a food kitchen for the poor. While in Shanghai, Charles was baptized by Father Guillaume, S. J.

The French heavy cruiser Suffren (named for the great French admiral Pierre Andre de Suffren) brought the Ruas family from Shanghai to Le Havre, France in the fall of 1946. They stayed in Paris with friends.



French heavy cruiser Suffren that took the Ruas family to France.

Very soon after her arrival in Paris, Erika was recruited to join the United Nations staff, which was being assembled at that time. Erika was approached because she spoke English, French, German, and Mandarin Chinese fluently. She immediately was sent (without her children) to London, where she received her diplomatic papers. She and other newly recruited members of the UN staff then flew to Halifax, Nova Scotia, with a refueling stop in Greenland. They then proceeded via train to New York City where they were temporarily housed in the Hotel New Yorker. The United Nations headquarters at that time was located in part of what had been the Sperry Gyroscope Company's defense plant at Lake Success close to New York City.



Erika at the Hotel New Yorker as a UN staffer, 1947.

Franklin, Charles, and Alex Ruas were later reunited with Erika in New York. Erika tried to persuade Suying, her oldest child, to join them. Her father Zhang Zhiteng was among the businessmen abroad whom the new Chinese government invited to take part in creating the New China. Suying decided to join her father, leaving Germany to participate in rebuilding China. Charles and his brothers grew up in the UN community on Long Island and became American citizens. Franklin (also known as Frank) had a career in the U.S. Air Force Office of Special Investigations. Alex (later known as Alex Ruas Nelson) devoted his life to working with handicapped children as a teacher.



The ever-elegant Erika Ruas. (Courtesy of Charles Ruas)

Before Zhang Zhiteng went to Germany, he had married a Chinese woman and had a daughter by her. This wife and daughter were in Shandong Province. After the incertitude of war and sporadic communications (if any at all), they were relieved and happy to hear that Zhang had survived and was returning to China with his daughter, Suying. Zhang's Chinese wife and older daughter greeted Suying warmly. His older daughter was thrilled to discover that she had a younger sister, and was devoted to her for the rest of her life.

Suying became a professor of German at Shanghai University and married Shen Jinzhao, a physics teacher at a teacher training college in Shanghai. Erika maintained contact with Suying by writing letters and by sending photos and gifts at Christmas. During the Cultural Revolution, Suying went to the countryside, her husband worked in a factory, and they lost contact with their family outside China. In May 1978, Charles's Swedish brother-in-law, Jan Danielson, found Suying during his stay as a visiting student in China. By 1987, when Suying retired, she decided to return to Germany. She worked at the Volkshochschule in Stuttgart, teaching German as a foreign language to immigrants. In 1988, Suying's daughter, Shen Enshu, who had been working as an accountant at Tongji University, Shanghai, moved to Stuttgart. A year later, her sister Shen Yanni joined them. They have gone back and forth between Germany and China ever since.



Suying with her husband and daughters, Shanghai 1973.



Suying portrait, 1970s. (Both photos courtesy of Charles Ruas)

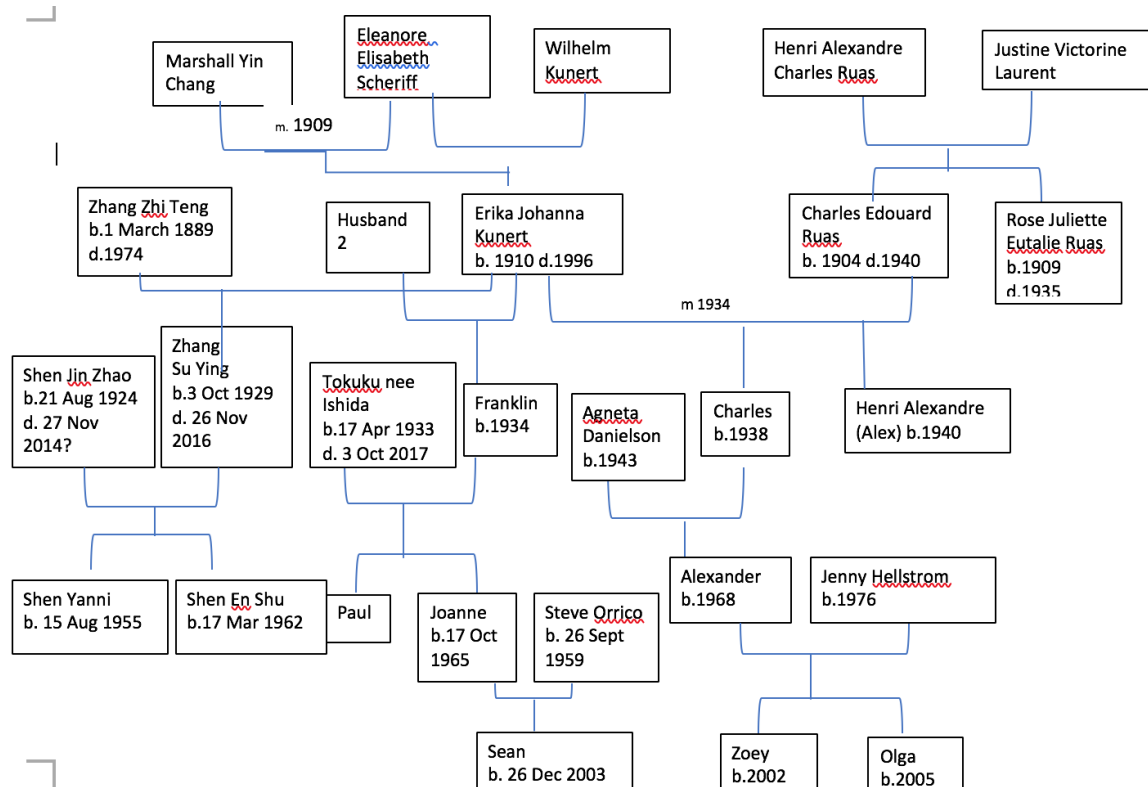
Charles earned bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from Princeton University, reading English, French, and Comparative Literature. From 1963 to 1964, he was a Fulbright scholar at the Sorbonne. He has lectured at various universities in the United States, France, and China. During the 1970s he was the Director of Drama and Literature at Pacifica Radio Station WBAI-FM New York City, where he has produced programs covering the arts and literature. He was a critic for the *Soho Weekly News* and a contributor to *ArtNews* and *Art in America*. He is a distinguished French-to-English translator, and his interviews have been published in numerous books. For his efforts in literature, arts, and translation, he was awarded the Chevalier of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French Government in 2012.

Charles did not return to Tientsin until 1992, as a visiting Fulbright professor of American literature and civilization at Nankai University. Erika died that same year, closing a chapter on Old Tientsin.

In 2019, Charles will be attending the centennial celebration of Nankai University, where he will be awarded a medal as distinguished professor from the College of Foreign Languages.

Conclusion

The Ruas family's Tientsin story is an example of 20th-century Sino-foreign history before, and including, the turmoil of the Second World War. It is the story of one family's journey, showing Tientsin's (Tianjin's) international cosmopolitan ties. It is also a narrative reflecting China's changing circumstances and its presence on the world stage.



Family Tree of the Ruas Family.

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Gratitude:

With grateful thanks to Shen En Shu, Angela Cox Elliott, Jan Danielson, Pareesa Pourian, Liu Yue (Louie Liu), and Steve Upton.

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None of the photos provided by Charles Ruas may be used elsewhere without his consent. The photo showing Charles Ruas wearing the Chevalier medal at the presentation ceremony is copyright 2012 by Alexander Ruas (son of Charles).

[Note by S.U. Regarding the Waterworks and the Ruas and Liu families, there are differences between some of the factual details that are stated in this article and some of the factual details that are stated in the book *Grace in China: An American Woman beyond the Great Wall, 1934–1974*. Charles Ruas has confirmed to me that he is aware of those differences, and that the details which he has set forth here are ones which he regards as accurate.]

2. My efforts to gather and preserve information about the history of foreigners at Tianjin

by FIC Network participant Andrea Kloppe (co-author of the preceding article about the Ruas family)



The Kloppe family posing at the pavilion in the former Victoria Park, Tianjin, where so many families in the past have taken their photos. (Taken by Kirsten Kennedy 2010)

For most of the last 20 years, Tianjin (Tientsin) has been my home. My family and I first moved there in 2001. All I knew when we were

preparing to come was that, back in 1988 when I'd worked in China, a guide book referred to tree-lined roads and European architecture as special features of Tianjin. We lived there from 2001-2006 and then again from 2009 to 2019. As a history graduate (from the University of Cape Town, where I did some local history modules), I was drawn to delve into the past at which Tianjin's older buildings hinted. I walked and cycled the streets of the city. I sought out books, and contacted former Tianjin residents such as Brian Power and Angela Cox Elliott, who both spurred me on. I visited several archives in the UK (SOAS, Bodleian in Oxford, Durham County Record Office, Surrey History Centre), spent days in the Tianjin Library reading through some English materials in the foreign archive section, and looked at materials available online. Tianjin's buildings became more than brick to me. They were "peopled."



:

Brian Power when I met him in 2005.



Here I am with Angela Cox Elliott (r.) in 2015.

Tianjin could have been my family's home much earlier. In the 1920s, when railway building was taking place wherever European nations had influence, many British civil engineers found work abroad and moved their families around the globe. My grandfather was one such man. He could have come East to China. Instead he went to Argentina, and contributed to the development of the line from Buenos Aires to Patagonia. His one daughter, my mother, ended up living and marrying in South Africa, where I grew up. My paternal grandmother had emigrated from England to South Africa before the war and had a good friend who'd lived in Shanghai until the Second World War. I would listen raptly to her stories of a different life, never dreaming that China would become my home.

After moving to and doing research about old Tianjin, I began taking people on walking tours, and then began to write articles about the city's history and about foreigners who had lived there.



On one of my walking tours.

My early articles appeared in *JIN*, a magazine for expatriates in Tianjin. I sought to tie my articles in with monthly themes or current events that were being covered – Christmas (December), Royal connections (2012 Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee Year), Eric Liddell (2012 London Olympics), changing traffic, flooding. I then did pairings: two early statues, two Harts as a Valentine article (Lavington Hart and Sir Robert Hart), two bakers, two early museums, two clubs, two hongts, two municipal buildings, two 'hommes de lettres,' two saints. Then I switched to *Tianjin Plus*, another magazine for expatriates in Tianjin, and wrote more articles, including a series about Tianjin's foreign concessions. Next, I wrote a series of articles about the lives of various foreigners who had grown up in old Tianjin.



These articles have been about people of varied backgrounds, including, for example, Franz Geyling (Austrian background), Anne Splingaerd Megowan (Sino-Belgian background), Angela Cox Ellliott (Sino-Belgian-British background) Yervand Markarian (Armenian background), Gary Nash/Igor Ivashkoff (Russian background)), Richard Dennis (British), and Isabelle Zimmerman Maynard (Russian Jewish background).

I have sought to retrieve memories and pull them together, along with the pain and wonder they contain, to present lives in the past and how they intersect with a very different China. There is a rich record of intercultural co-existence in Tianjin. If we can share the stories behind the bricks, there is surely hope for better understanding.



The Author:

Andrea Kloppper first came to China to teach English in Wuhan in 1988. A very different China, but she was hooked! She spent some years in the UK teaching History from Year 8 to A-level in various high schools (always with some units on China!), before returning to Asia. After some years in Taichung learning Mandarin Chinese, the family moved to Tianjin where they spent nearly twenty years, first with a relief and development organization (Jian Hua Foundation) and subsequently with an education services company (Leadership Development International). What began as an exercise to orient foreign colleagues to the city of Tianjin became a research passion. She and her family moved in April 2019 from Tianjin to the United Arab Emirates (one of the other places where Leadership Development International is active), but she continues to be actively involved in research on the history of old Tianjin and its residents.

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3. Conference Report by Wang Min (王敏, Shanghai University)

A conference on “The Investigation and Research Regarding Foreign Resources at Treaty Ports of Modern China” was held on May 19-20, 2018 at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS), as part of the series “The Studies of Treaty Ports in Modern China.” This conference was conducted under the aegis of the Urban History Group of the Innovation Project at SASS, and also of Fudan University’s International Center for the Study of Shanghai History. Approximately 30 scholars from Japan, Australia and China attended and gave presentations, some of which were investigations of particular foreign sources regarding treaty ports or leased territories, and some of which were studies of treaty ports or leased territories based on foreign resources. The conference’s purposes included sharing information about investigations of various resources, and considering new approaches in studies of treaty ports and leased territories, and of related aspects of modern Chinese history.

A. There were five presentations specifically about foreign records.

(1) Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements as Revealed in British Colonial Office

Records: Coolies, Pirates, and Secret Societies, 1838-1938,

by WONG Wei Chin (黄靖雯, Beijing Normal University-Hong Kong Baptist University, United International College and Robert J. ANTONY (安乐博, Thirteen Hongs Research Center, Guangzhou University)

This presentation was a brief introduction to the British Colonial Office records pertaining to the Chinese underclass at Hong Kong and the Straits Settlements in the century between the First Opium War and World War II (1838 and 1938). Within the records are various details about the Chinese underclass in these port areas, including coolies, pirates, and members of sworn brotherhoods or secret societies. Because there are few primary sources in the Chinese language on these topics for the period under discussion, the British Colonial Office records can be of great help to fill in

the gaps, and also can provide the researcher with new perspectives for studying China's history from below.

(2) A Study of Guangzhouwan with Reference to French Sources, by JING Dongsheng (景东升, Lingnan Normal University)

Guangzhouwan (Kwangchouwan, Kouang-Tcheou-Wan) was a leased territory of France. This investigation is based on the French sources, including the public files, private writing and other types of historical data. These sources collectively provide extensive detailed information about national, political, and social circumstances, including decisions and actions of French governing authorities, interactions with local people, and local structural developments which could be of mutual benefit to French and Chinese.

(3) The Dissemination of Qingdao's Plundered Books in Japan, by LIU Qunyi (刘群, Beijing University)

When Japanese seized Qingdao in 1914, they proceeded to plunder the books and official documents of the German colonial government. The loot, "the Plundered Books" as so called, was transported to Japan and distributed to different institutions all over the country. This presentation included detailed information about the collection, and also included a call for returning the collection because it is important cultural property which had been seized and removed from China during the First World War.

(4) Introduction to the Information Regarding Shanghai in the Archives of German Foreign Office, by WANG Weijiang (王维江, Fudan University)

This presentation was specifically about the large amount of information regarding Shanghai in the archives of the German Foreign Office, including information about Germans and their companies, associations, etc. at Shanghai, as well as various materials about other foreigners (including British, Americans, French and Japanese) at Shanghai. The presentation

highlighted the importance of these archives for studies of treaty ports (especially Shanghai) in modern China,

(5). Introduction to the Documents of Qingdao's Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (1921-1945), by MA Shuhua (马树华, Ocean University of China)

This presentation was about the documents of Qingdao's Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry (also known as the Japanese Association), the most important association of Japanese merchants and entrepreneurs at Qingdao. It had noteworthy relations with Chinese and foreign counterparts (chambers of commerce). Its publications are useful for the studies of economy, society and urban development of Qingdao and of the network of treaty ports in China.

B. There were some presentations primarily based on other foreign resources, and these presentations covered the following topics:

(1) Foreigners in the treaty ports.

a. The Relationship Between Foreign Merchants and Missionaries at Canton/Guangzhou in the Late Qing Period— based on David Olyphant and his Firm, by DONG Li (董利, Fujian Normal University)

During the Qing Period, traders and missionaries with different purposes came to China, David Olyphant, an American merchant, co-founded the firm Olyphant & Co. in the Canton/Guangzhou area in 1828. He provided free passage on his firm's ships, and free lodging in the Canton/Guangzhou area, to a number of the early American Protestant missionaries who went to China. He has been called "the father of American mission to China." Olyphant & Co. refused to deal in opium. The unusual trading style of

Olyphant and his firm is a less well-known aspect of foreign merchant activity at Canton/Guangzhou.

b. North Saddle Island: An Intended Summer Resort for Foreign Residents of Shanghai in the Late Qing Dynasty by Liyu XUE ((薛理禹, Shanghai Normal University)

In the beginning of the 20th century, some Englishmen purchased interests in land and built houses on North Saddle Island, which is located near the Yangtze (Yangzi) River Estuary. They intended to foster the development of a summer resort there for foreign residents of Shanghai. Their actions gave rise to public concerns about new foreign infringement upon the sovereign rights of Chinese people, and led to diplomatic disputes. After an official inquiry and multiple negotiations between the Chinese government and Englishmen, the Englishmen's interests in real estate on the island were finally relinquished for compensation. The opportunity for developing the island was lost, and the island remained bleak and barren.

c. The 1932 Shanghai Incident and the Development of the Japanese Residents Hospital to Provide Medical Care for the Japanese at Shanghai, by ZHANG Zhihui (张智慧, Shanghai University)

The 1932 Shanghai Incident provided an impetus, in Shanghai's Japanese community, for the development of a new hospital to provide medical care for the Japanese at Shanghai. On July 1, 1934, the Japanese Residents Hospital was established at Shanghai for that purpose. This paper includes information about the development, structure, income, expenditures, and management of the Japanese Residents Hospital, in the context of considering the status and influence of the hospital in the social life of the Japanese community in Shanghai.

(2) Western administrative procedures and techniques in treaty ports and leased territories.

a. Urban Public Health Efforts to Prevent Epidemic Disease in Shanghai's International Settlement: The Example of Smallpox Vaccine, by JO Jeongeun (曹贞恩, Kyung Hee University, Seoul, Republic of Korea)

In modern Shanghai, smallpox was one of the most threatening diseases, with a mortality rate of 30%. Medical missionaries from the West supported the widespread use of smallpox vaccine (initially developed by Edward Jenner), instead of traditional Chinese inoculation. Eventually, the Health Office of the Shanghai Municipal Council managed various Branch Health Offices and hospitals which provided free vaccinations in the International Settlement. The International Settlement's public health system could not keep up with the rapid growth of the urban population, including numerous migrants and slum dwellers. The municipal authorities there, however, did manage to provide widespread free vaccinations for poor and needy people regardless of their nationalities.

b. Research on Modern Urban Public Health Undertakings in China's Leased Territories, Focusing on Tsingtau/Qingdao (in the German Leased Territory of Kiautschou/Jiaozhou) and Port Edward (in the British Leased Territory of Weihaiwei/Weihai), by LIU Liang (刘亮, Nanjing Tech University)

Public health undertakings in cities in China's leased territories, compared with similar undertakings in traditional Chinese cities and in urban areas of China's foreign concessions, could have significant advantages in terms of construction speed and scale. Cities in leased territories could have independent urban health management institutions and supporting systems, without much pressure on management and construction funds. Only strong groups had complete administrative control and municipal management rights. It is necessary to point out, however, that there also were differences in the construction and management of urban sanitation in leased territories, which cannot be generalized. The paths of reform of urban public health systems in modern China are diverse.

c. Pasteurized Milk: Knowledge, System, and Consumption, by ZHANG Sirui (章斯睿, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences Publishing House)

This paper is a study of the spread of pasteurization of milk in China's modern dairy industry, with attention to (1) the spread of bacteriological knowledge, (2) the establishment of the pasteurized milk system, and (3) the now-dominant position of pasteurized milk in the dairy market. This article is an attempt to answer how "don't drink milk unless it has been pasteurized" has become a mainstream attitude of Chinese people.

d. The Methods and Plight of the Shanghai Municipal Council with regard to Collecting Taxes from Foreign Residents (1854-1869), by Guo Qibin (郭淇斌, doctoral degree candidate at Fudan University)

In 1854, the Shanghai Municipal Council of the British Settlement was established. Under the 1854 Land Regulations, taxes could be collected for specified public purposes, and a taxation committee was created with responsibilities to collect taxes on land and buildings and also to collect wharfage dues, and to apply the collected funds for the specified purposes. Rules regarding taxes at this time were insufficiently specific. There was a large amount of tax evasion by foreigners in the British Settlement (which in 1863 combined with the American Settlement to form the International Settlement, governed by the S.M.C.). The S.M.C. could not be forced to recover tax arrears. It needed to obtain enforcement assistance through the judicial power of British diplomatic courts in order to recover such arrears from Britons, and through the judicial power of other foreign diplomatic courts in order to recover such arrears from other foreigners.

e. A Study of the Shanghai International Settlement's Chinese Advisory Committee, by Yan Binlin (严斌林, doctoral degree candidate at Fudan University)

The Shanghai International Settlement's Chinese Advisory Committee (CAC), founded in November 1920, played a role in building relations and

eliminating misunderstandings between Chinese and foreigners, as well as in negotiating on behalf of the Chinese with regard to living and doing business in Shanghai. The CAC accumulated much experience both of success and failure in its interactions with foreign leaders, which laid the foundation for the fight for Chinese representation on the Shanghai Municipal Council Board. The interactions between the CAC and the Shanghai Municipal Council reflected the complicated Sino-foreign relations in 1920s Shanghai, the historical meaning of which is worthy of reexamination.

f. Chen Fuxun, the First Chinese Judge in the Mixed Court of the International Settlement at Shanghai, by XIONG Yuezhi (熊月之, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences)

CHEN Fuxun was the first Chinese judge in the Mixed Court of the International Settlement at Shanghai. He worked at the Mixed Court for many years, and he played an important role in communications between the Chinese and the foreigners. He thus can be regarded as an excellent subject for academic study. Unfortunately, few materials in Chinese about him have been found, but there are many valuable foreign materials (publications from the 19th century) about him. This example is a reminder to researchers that foreign resources can be very important even for the study of Chinese people in the treaty ports.

[Note by S.U.: Chen Fuxun had been preceded in the Mixed Court by some Chinese subprefects who had served there only for very short terms. See *Grounds of Judgment: Extraterritoriality and Imperial Power in Nineteenth-Century China and Japan*, by Par Kristoffer Cassell (Oxford Univ. Press, 2012) at 67-68.]

g. The Interactions between French Colonial Governance and Chinese Local Society: A Case Study of the French Leased Territory Kouang-Tchéou-Wan (Guangzhouwan), by WU Ziqi [Bowman Wu] (吴子祺, M.Phil. in History, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Kouang-Tchéou-Wan (KTW, Guangzhouwan, 广州湾) was the only French leased territory in China. It was attached to the political system (colonial government) of French Indochina. The French established their colonial governance in KTW through military occupation which began in 1898. They faced significant resistance from the local Chinese people. To pacify the Chinese, the French colonial government co-opted some local Chinese men with elite status in the 1910s. It recruited local gentry to be the heads in specific regions. These men served as intermediary agents between ordinary Chinese people and French colonial administrators. We can say that different types of interactions coexisted in KTW until its return to Chinese control in 1945.

(3) China and the Chinese, as viewed by Westerners

a. Historical Writing and the Sino-Foreign Relationship in the International Settlement at Shanghai in the Early Twentieth Century by Wei Bingbing (魏兵兵, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

This essay is an examination of the production and reception of a number of historical works written by foreigners in the International Settlement at Shanghai in the early twentieth century. It illustrates how the historical writing of the Settlement evolved as local Chinese-foreign interactions and the general Sino-foreign relationship went through drastic changes over this period. It includes an argument that the failure of the foreigners to present a coherent and authoritative historical narrative of themselves, to a great extent, reflects not only the complexity of the Settlement's history, but also the lack of a common identity and political consensus in the foreign community, which shaped the developments in the Settlement during the Republican Period.

b. Enemy on Both Sides: A Study of the Uproar over Rodney Gilbert's Book "What's Wrong with China" during the Period of the 1920s National Revolution, by LI Shan (李珊, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

What's Wrong with China, a book written by a veteran American journalist Rodney Gilbert, was published in 1926. While criticizing, as illusory, images of China fostered by Western missionaries; businessmen and diplomats, Gilbert argued that the real causes of China's political upheavals and growing anti-foreignism in the mid-1920s were rooted in the Chinese being (in his view) spoiled children who ought to be spanked. He also advocated, through his writings as a journalist, that the Western powers take a strong stand with regard to the Southern Army's Northern Expedition. His book aroused a great deal of criticism from both Western and Chinese readers. The uproar triggered by it reflected different attitudes towards the 1920s National Revolution in the foreign community, as well as the self-consciousness of the Chinese with regard to reshaping the characteristics of their nation.

c. Western Expatriates' Views on the Relinquishment of Extraterritoriality in China by WU Wenhao (吴文浩, doctoral degree candidate at Beijing University)

Facing the Anti-Christian Movement, Western missionaries were inclined to give up extraterritorial privileges immediately for the sake of their efforts to convert Chinese to Christianity. Many of the missionaries openly renounced their extraterritorial privileges. Other Western expatriates tended to be influenced by imperialism, and responded irrationally (with unjustified fear) to the Chinese appeal for abolition of extraterritoriality. For the benefit of their businesses, and especially with the hope of obtaining a winning advantage in their competition against Japanese businessman in China, Western businessmen tended to express willingness to give up extraterritoriality gradually. These businessmen emphasized their dissatisfaction with China's existing judiciary, laws, and politics, and opposed immediate relinquishment of extraterritoriality. Some Westerners devised plans centering on the appointment of foreign judges and the abandonment of extraterritoriality little by little.

(4) Changes at the treaty ports under Western influences

a. Changes with Regard to Competition and Cooperation of Steamships and Traditional Wooden Ships at China in Modern Times (1877-1937) — Based on the Analysis of Wuhu Maritime Customs Data, by FANG Qian-yi (方前移, Anhui Polytechnic University)

In modern times, Western powers forced China to open ports along the seacoast and the Yangtze (Yangzi) river. As a result, expanded “Port-Hinterland” trade networks were formed. Due to competition from steamships, there was a trend of decline in the share of cargo carried by traditional Chinese wooden ships in international trade and port trade. However, because of the increase of the total trade volume over time, and the different characteristics of steamships and traditional wooden ships as means of transport in various bodies of water, steamships did not absolutely replace traditional wooden ships. Wuhu Maritime Customs data indicates that for both types of ships, there were increases over time in the total amount of cargo carried.

b. Relationships Between Shanghai's Tramcar Industry and Urban Population Before the Second Sino-Japanese War, by LI Pei-lin (李沛霖, Nanjing University of Posts and Telecommunications)

Prior to the Second Sino-Japanese War, Shanghai's tramcar industry performed adequately in meeting the demand of the urban population for this means of transportation. It was able to cope with the growth of the urban population, and to continue to provide an adequate type of mobility. In turn, the evolution and development of urbanization in modern Shanghai were promoted by the intergrowth of the tramcar industry and the urban population.

c. English-Language Press, Treaty Ports and the Second Sino-Japanese War, by Shuge WEI (魏舒歌, The Australian National University)

The paper is a review of the trans-national identity of the English-language papers in the treaty ports, and is an exploration of their connections with the Chinese-language press. It also is an exploration of the efforts by various foreign and Chinese political groups to influence the English-language press. The paper presents the suggestion that the English-language treaty-port press, protected by extraterritoriality, provided a bottom-up information order which valued credibility of professional journalists and the free flow of information.

(5) The treaty ports and Sino-foreign relations

a. The Landing and Withdrawal of Foreign Troops at Shanghai during the Boxer Movement, by GE Fuping (葛夫平, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences)

During the Boxer Movement, Great Britain first proposed landing troops in Shanghai, apparently seeing herself as the master of Shanghai and the Yangtze (Yangzi) River basin. The strong and forceful negative reactions of other foreign powers when Great Britain, without their consent, landed thousands of British troops at Shanghai in August 1900, amounted to a denial of Great Britain's claim to an ongoing special position with regard to Shanghai and the Yangtze River basin. This incident showed that with the increased involvement of Germany, France, Japan, Russia, the United States and other foreign powers in China, the British Empire was gradually losing its dominant position. Great Britain could no longer effectively assert claims to be the only master of Shanghai and the Yangtze River basin.

**b. Japanese Cotton Mills in the External Roads Area at Shanghai, by
WATANABE Chihiro (渡边千寻, Research Fellow of the Japan Society for
the Promotion of Science)**

The Japanese cotton spinning factories at Shanghai were built in the edge of the International Settlement. Almost one-third of them were in the External Roads Area, where foreigners had constructed various buildings that were outside the International Settlement. The Japanese cotton mills in the External Roads Area relied on the Shanghai Municipal Police (SMP) to keep them secure, but the SMP didn't provide them with effective protection. The Guomindang government at Nanjing offered to provide protection to these Japanese cotton mills if they would agree to pay the Cotton Yarn Consolidated Tax. The Japanese cotton mills eventually agreed. In so doing, these Japanese cotton mills changed their protector from the Shanghai Municipal Council (SMC) to the Guomindang government, and they also proceeded to pay taxes to the Guomindang government instead of the SMC. It can be said that these Japanese cotton mills, which were foreign enterprises operating under an unequal treaty, became more and more like those that would operate if there had been an equal treaty.

4. Agenda (in Chinese) and Participant List (in Chinese and English) for April 2019 Wuhan Conference on Treaty Ports and Leased Territories at China (Courtesy of Xu Tao)

租界史研究学术研讨会议程

2019 年 4 月 19—21 日

4 月 19 日

12 : 00 自由报到

地点：君宜王朝大酒店

18 : 00 招待晚宴

地点：江南小观园

4 月 20 日

8 : 30—9 : 00 开幕式

地点：武汉大学历史学院振华楼 106 会议室

主持人：王萌

领导致辞

刘安志教授（武汉大学历史学院院长）

张俊义研究员（中国社会科学院近代史研究所中外关系史研究室主任）

李少军教授（武汉大学历史学院中国近现代史教研室主任）

合影

9 : 00—11 : 45 上午会议议程

第一场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟）9 : 00—10 : 15 地点：武汉大学历史学院振华楼 106 会议室			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
郭飞	焦建华 徐翠红	试析鼓浪屿人口与社会结构的变动（1840—1941）——兼论与上海租界人口变动主因的差异	张生
	张畅	由一战后德璀琳家族遗产保全案看帝国主义在华“共同利益”	魏兵兵
	吴文浩	改会审公廨为特别法院——北京政府在法权问题上的一次探索	赵正超
	樱井良树	从东亚的国际关系来看租界的列强驻军——以横滨、汉口和天津为例	李少军

10 : 15—10 : 30 茶歇

第二场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟） 时间：10:30—11:30 地点：武汉大学历史学院振华楼 106 会议室			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
张秀丽	渡边千寻	废约运动与日本在华经济活动的变化	王萌
	李沛霖	城市交通治理与应策：以抗战前上海公共租界为基点	张畅
	吴明堂 王汗吾	基于汉口法租界工部局年报(1905—1941 年)记录的法租界管理体制及事务变化研究	郝祥满

12:00—14:00 午餐

地点：江南小观园

14:00—17:00 下午会议议程

第三场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟） 时间：14:00—15:30 地点：振华楼 106 会议室			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
施恬逸	蒋杰	战时上海的法租界警察（1937-1940）	徐涛
	侯庆斌	晚清上海会审公廨谏员群体与租界华洋权势变迁——以陈福勋、葛绳孝和金绍城为例	张生
	张生	假如我是个中国人：安立德与上海的美国人社群	李艳林
	魏兵兵	从抗捐到参政：南京国民政府初期上海公共租界华洋关系的转折	郭淇斌
	徐涛	侨沪武人：上海万国商团初探	彭敦文

15:30—15:45 茶歇

第四场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟） 时间：15:45—17:00 地点：振华楼 106 会议室			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
王健	郭淇斌	1929 年上海工部局警务处改组研究	侯庆斌
	郝祥满 陈宇 陈小倩	租界的粪便与垃圾管理对晚清社会的影响——以《八国联军占领实录——天津临时政府会议纪要》为中心	万鲁建
	李珊	私产·市债·工潮——民国时期收回天津比租界的历史考察	郭康强
	万鲁建	从“乐园”到“围城”：试论沦陷前后的天津日租界	李珊

第五场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟） 时间：14:00—15:30 地点：振华楼 212 会议室			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
石洪生	郭康强	错失的机会：清末民初法广州湾租借地设关交涉探析	吴子祺
	吴子祺	国民革命中的法国殖民管治：革命外交在广州湾租借地的运用及调适（1924-1926）	刘本森
	李艳林	鼓浪屿近代社区的形成与演化	刘文祥
	张亮	日俄战争后日本对“满洲”租借地经营构想的研究	佐野实
	佐野实	甲午战争后的杭州日本租界	张亮

15:30—15:45 茶歇

第六场（报告人发言 10 分钟，点评人 5 分钟，综合讨论 15 分钟） 时间：15：45—17：00			
主持人	报告人	报告题目	点评人
渡边千寻	刘本森	无奈的退让：威海卫与远东危机下的英国政治地理布局	蒋杰
	赵正超	《马关条约》开放重庆暨日本谋取重庆开埠权问题源流考（1887—1895）	郭康强
	刘文祥	近代武昌铁路建设与城市发展	万学工
	王萌	是同仁会汉口医院，还是汉口同仁医院？	渡边千寻

17：30—20：00 晚宴

地点：江南小观园

4 月 21 日

8：00—9：00 从君宜王朝大酒店出发，坐校车至汉口江汉关

9：00—10：00 “租界史研究”座谈会

地点：江汉关会议室

主持人：宋时磊

引言人发言：关于汉口五个跑马场历史的考证报告（王汗吾）

集体讨论

10：00—12：00 考察沿江原租界建筑群

12：00—13：00 午餐

地点：“品位·南丫”餐馆

（壹方购物中心4层44号，地铁1、8号黄浦路站）

13：00 会议结束、散会

此次会议得到武汉城市规划研究院、《写作》杂志编辑部的大力支持，特此致谢！

参会人员

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