

found research work accomplished in the different faculties and departments of this university.

The Gest collection is housed in the attractive library building of McGill University, where it occupies a large room on the second floor. The stacks are of steel, arranged in two stories, the upper one being entirely devoted to the great cyclopedia *Tu shu tsi ch'eng*. The arrangement of the books is so systematic and splendid that any book can be traced at a moment's notice. The reading room is airy and spacious and well equipped. Excellent photographs taken by Mr. Gest himself in the Orient adorn the walls. The floor is laid with Chinese rugs, and Chinese antiquities in a glass cabinet as well as a reproduction in stone of the famous Nestorian tablet lend the room an intimate atmosphere. The library has a special exhibition room where at the time of my visit a most interesting exhibit of Japanese color-prints and Chinese paintings and manuscripts was shown, including a number of very beautiful Tibetan manuscripts in gold and silver writing from Mr. Gest's collection. It may be mentioned also that in the Art Museum of Montreal, Mr. Gest has a very interesting collection illustrating the Lamaist cult of Tibet.

The staff of the Gest Library is formed by Dr. Gerhard R. Lomer, university librarian, and Dr. Robert de Resillac-Roese, who has immediate charge of the cataloguing and pursues his task with a rare zeal and enthusiasm. He is assisted in his work by Miss Nancy Lee Swann, a good Chinese scholar, and by a scholar of Chinese nationality, who at present is Mr. C. B. Kwei. The library's collaborator in China is Mr. I. V. Gillis, who resides in Peking and who has extraordinary ability as a book-hunter. He was formerly naval attaché to the U.S. Legation in Peking.

The Gest Library was informally opened in 1926, on the day of Chinese New Year, February 13th, with assets of 304 large works, consisting of 10,750 volumes. These had been selected by Mr. Ch'en Pao-ch'en, noted statesman and scholar, tutor of the last Manchu emperor, Hsüan T'ung (1908-11). By June 30th, 1929, the collection had increased to a total of 2,054 works, consisting of 50,640 volumes. All these works have been identified, catalogued, doubly card-indexed, labelled, and placed on the shelves in their proper classification sequence. They are all bound in Chinese cases (*t'ao*). For these 2,054 works, 38 catalogues have been typewritten in triplicate and, correspondingly, two sets of index cards, namely: title cards 4,500; authors' cards 4,170; a total of 8,670 cards. Aside from these 50,640 volumes there are 6,000 not yet identified. Another consignment of 5,305 volumes arrived on July 13th of this year at Vancouver, and approximately 15,000 volumes from a famous private library in China are expected the latter part of this summer. Valuable works will be continually added. Beginning from Cat. No. 305 all works were selected by Mr. I. V. Gillis. Excepting a few modern works bought from Peking and Shanghai bookstores, all the works in the collection were formerly in the possession of Manchu princes, well-known statesmen, or bibliophiles.