



A Map and History
of Peiping

Explanatory Booklet

BY FRANK DORN, PEIPING

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TIENTSIN-PEIPING

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BEFORE 1100 B.C. BUT WHICH WAS ALWAYS REBUILT CAPITAL OF KUBLAI KHAN 1264-1294 MING EMPEROR YUNG LO 1409-1421 END OF THE MING DYNASTY 1644 EMPEROR KANG HSI 1662-1722

BIRTH OF ORIGINAL CHOU CITY WHICH WAS DESTROYED MANY TIMES CONQUEST OF ASIA BY THE MONGOLS 1200 A.D. VISIT OF MARCO POLO WHO BUILT PEKING AS IT IS TODAY 1421 THE CHINGS TAKE THE CITY 1644 ART AND CULTURE

A Map and History of Peiping, formerly known as Peking, capital of provinces, princedoms, and kingdoms since 1121 B.C.; in 1264 A.D. the capital of the Mongol Empire of Kublai Khan; made the capital of the Ming Empire and built as it is today by Yang Lo in 1421; continued as the capital of the Chinese Empire through the Ming and Ching Dynasties; and now a city which will live long in the memory of man as one of the greatest of the world has ever known.

Completed on this fifth day of February in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Thirty-six

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FRANK DORN

PEIPING HISTORICAL SKETCH.

The first historical record of a city in the vicinity of the present site of Peiping is that which mentions the City of Chi in 1121 BC. It was destroyed by the Emperor, Ch'in Shih Huang Ti, in 221 BC. During the Han Dynasty (206 BC-220 AD) a town was built to the south of the site of Chi, but it remained a place of little importance. After a long period of political upheaval in China, during which the site was ravaged several times, the T'ang Emperors (618-906 AD) rebuilt and named the city Yu-chou, making it the seat of a Governor-General. The Liaos, or Khitan Tartars, destroyed this town in 986 and built a larger city which they first called Nan Ching, and then Yen Ching. The Chins, or Nüchen Tartars, in turn overthrew the Liaos, enlarged the old city, and called it Chung Tu. In 1215 the armies of Genghis Khan captured the city, destroyed it, and slaughtered the inhabitants. Later Kublai Khan built a new capital just north of the site of Chung Tu (1264-1267) and named it Ta Tu, or Khanbalig, or Cambaluc. This was the city which Marco Polo visited in the 13th Century. In 1368 the Mings drove out the degenerate Mongols and moved their capital to Nanking, renaming Ta Tu, Pei P'ing (the present name).

In 1421 the third Ming Emperor, Yung Lo, moved his capital back to the north, naming the city he built Pei Ching, or Peking. To Yung Lo falls the distinction of having built Peiping substantially as it is today. His dynasty ended when his last descendant, Ch'ung Cheng, hanged himself on Coal Hill. The Ch'ing, or Manchu Dynasty, entered in 1643 and did very little to alter the general character of the city. After the death of their two most enlightened emperors, K'ang Hsi and Ch'ien Lung, each of whom ruled for sixty years, the dynasty lost its strength. In 1860 the Allied Armies captured the city, caused the Emperor Hsien Feng to flee to Jehol, and burned the summer palaces to the west of the city. During the period of Tz'u Hsi (1875-1908), the famous Empress-Dowager, the Boxer Uprising in 1900 again brought capture and looting to the city at the hands of the Allied Armies. The so-called Boy-Emperor "ruled" but three years when the dynasty was overthrown and a Republic declared in 1911. From that time until 1928 Peking remained the capital of China. Then the Central Government moved to Nanking and changed the name back to Pei P'ing, or Peiping as it is usually spelt.

THE CITY.

Peiping today consists of five cities within the complete circuit of its walls. In the center lies the Forbidden City (Tzu Chin Ch'eng, or Huang Kung) which is roughly one-half mile square and surrounded by a wall. This was formerly the palace of the Emperor, his family, and retinue. Enclosing the palace area is the Imperial City (Huang Ch'eng), surrounded by six miles of walls and occupying a space of about two square miles. The greater part of these walls have either been removed or have fallen down. This was the residence quarter for officials. Just to the east of Ch'ien Men is the Legation Quarter which is also surrounded by a set of walls. These three areas lie within the so-called Tartar City whose great walls are about fifteen miles around and bound a space of approximately sixteen square miles. South of the Tartar City is the Chinese or Outer City whose walls enclose an area five miles by two miles in extent. The walls of the Tartar City are forty feet high and thirty-four feet wide at the top; those of the Chinese City are thirty feet high. Each of the sixteen original gates is topped by a tower. A glance at the map will indicate that the great streets in general run between the gates and at right angles to each other. But the tangle of alleys, or hut'ungs, winding and turning in all directions, is sure to bewilder the visitor.

THE DYNASTIES OF CHINA.

- Legendary PeriodAbout 3000-2205 BC
- Hsia Dynasty2205-1766 BC
- Shang Dynasty1766-1122 BC
- Chou Dynasty1122-255 BC
(This is the period of Confucius, Mencius, and Lao Tze)
- Ch'in Dynasty255-206 BC
(Time of the building of the Great Wall)
- Han Dynasty206 BC-220 AD
- Period of the Three Kingdoms..220-265 AD
- Period of various minor dynas-
ties265-618 AD
- T'ang Dynasty618-907 AD
- Period of the Five Dynasties ..907-980 AD
- Liao Dynasty (Khitan Tartars) 915-1125 AD
- Chin Dynasty (Nüchen Taltars) 1125-1234 AD
- Sung Dynasty (northern and
southern)960-1260 AD
(The reason for the overlapping in time of the last
four dynasties is that at this time China was
divided by internal wars.)
- Yüan Dynasty (Mongols)1260-1368 AD
- Ming Dynasty1368-1644 AD
(The great age of porcelain)
- Ch'ing Dynasty (Manchus)1644-1911 AD
(Period of K'ang Hsi (1663-1723) and Ch'ien Lung
(1736-1796))
- The Republic1911 —

POINTS OF INTEREST AS SHOWN ON THE MAP.

Referring to the map, begin at the northwest or top left corner, and working south or down; remain for the time being outside of the City Walls.

The **MING TOMBS** (Ming Ling, or Shih San Ling), northwest of Peking, are the burial places of the Ming Dynasty Emperors. The tombs have been repaired recently. Here are to be seen the finest p'ai lou (triumphal arch) in China, the avenue lined with figures of animals and officials cut from single blocks of stone, and the great hall and tomb of Yung Lo (Ch'ang Ling). This hall is the largest building in China. There are thirteen tombs in all.

The **GREAT WALL** (Ch'ang Ch'eng) starts at Shanhaikuan on the Gulf of Chihli and extends towards the west for about 1700 miles. Its continuation in the form of an earthen wall extended for about 800 miles farther, making the total length over 2500 miles. Started by the feudal kingdoms as a defense against the northern barbarians, an emperor, Ch'in Shih Huang Ti, in 221 BC increased the existing length and linked up the various segments. It has been estimated that he employed a million people in this work over a period of twenty years. The wall varies in height from twenty to thirty feet.

The **BLACK DRAGON POOL** (Hei Lung T'an). The temple was originally built by Emperor Ch'eng Hua in 1486 on the site of an ancient shrine, and has since been reconstructed. The spring and pool are dedicated to the Dragon King who controls rainfall.

PI YUN SSU (Temple of the Azure Clouds) was originally built as a temple in 1366, but was almost entirely reconstructed by the eunuch, Yu Ching, in 1513. Here are to be seen very fine white pines, the Hall of Five Hundred Saints, and a magnificent view from the top of the stupa. This is probably the most beautiful temple near Peking.

WO FO SSU (Temple of the Sleeping Buddha) was first built by the T'ang Emperor, Chen Kuan, about 635 AD. It was extensively repaired in 1465, and reconstructed by Emperor Yung Cheng in 1734. The sleeping Buddha, fifty feet in length, was cast in bronze in 1465.

The **JADE FOUNTAIN** (Yü Ch'üan Shan). The name of the park is derived from the jade-like clarity of the water. It was first used as a hunting park by the Emperor Chang Tsun (1190-1208). Emperor K'ang Hsi improved the park in 1680, and it became his favorite pleasure resort. Today little remains beyond the pagodas and the pool.

The **SUMMER PALACE** (Wan Shou Shan, also known as I Ho Yüan) was used as a park during the

Ming Dynasty. Ch'ien Lung constructed the lake in 1751. Largely destroyed by the Allied Armies in 1860, it was rebuilt and enlarged by the Dowager-Empress Tz'u Hsi in 1873, 1889, and 1900, partly from funds diverted from the Navy Department. This was the Empress-Dowager's favorite residence. A fine view can be had from the pagoda at the top of the hill.

MEN T'OU KOU is a mining town from which a great amount of the coal used in Peking comes. Camel trains ply continuously between here and the city.

The **WESTERN HILLS** (Hsi Shan) is a range of high hills west of the city among which are situated many old temples which are now used in the summer by Peking residents. Superb views can be had from various points.

PA TA CH'U is a series of eight temples which are built one above the other in the Western Hills. The original temple is supposed to have been built by Emperor Wu Te in 619 AD, but all have been rebuilt or repaired in comparatively recent times. The Buddha in the cave of Pao Chu Tung, the highest temple in the series, is reputed to have been made in 742 AD. From here can be enjoyed a magnificent view of the entire Peking plain.

PA PAO SHAN Golf Course is the better of the two golf courses near Peking.

The **EUNUCH'S CEMETERY** (En Chi Chuang) contains the graves of about 1700 eunuchs of the Ming and Ch'ing Dynasties, the most important of which is that of Li Lien Ling.

P'AO MA CH'ANG is a village in which many foreign residents have summer or week-end cottages. Near the village is a golf course which is fairly cut up by railroad tracks. The Race Course for the spring and autumn races is also nearby. The Hunt Club holds its meets in the surrounding country.

The **WESTERN TOMBS** (Hsi Ling) are the burial places of about half the Ch'ing Emperors and their families. They are situated about one hundred kilometers from Peking.

The **MARCO POLO BRIDGE** (Lu Kou Ch'iao) was built between 1189 and 1194. In his book Marco Polo describes it. The correct Chinese name has nothing whatever to do with the Venetian traveller.

Again referring to the northwest or top left corner of the map, the Bell Temple will be found close to the Ming Tombs.

The **BELL TEMPLE** (Ta Chung Ssu) is famous for the great bell which was cast in 1402. It weighs about 100,000 pounds. The Chinese claim that it is

the largest bell in existence. It actually is the largest hanging bell.

The **FIVE PAGODA TEMPLE** (Wu T'a Ssu) was built by Emperor Ch'eng Hua in 1465. Except for the square dagoba which carries the five pagodas, the buildings have disappeared. Under the central pagoda are supposed to be imprints of Buddha's feet in the stone.

The **ZOO** (Wan Sheng Yüan) was originally the property of one of the first Ch'ing Emperor's sons. The Empress-Dowager improved it, built the zoo itself, and stocked it with animals and birds. Today most of them have died of starvation or neglect.

The **SPIDER PAGODA** (Chih Chu T'a) was built by the priest, Yu An, to house the shell of a spider which he believed to be the spirit of a Buddha.

The **FRENCH MISSION** (Ch'a La-erh) is an institution built on a site presented to the Jesuits in 1610. The cemetery contains the graves of the famous Jesuit priests who held important positions at the courts of K'ang Hsi and Ch'ien Lung.

The **ALTAR OF THE MOON** (Hsi Yüeh T'an) was constructed by Emperor Chia Ching in 1530 for the worship of the moon. Today it is either in ruins or the grounds have been converted to other uses.

The **WHITE CLOUD TEMPLE** (Pai Yün Kuan, or Po Yün Kuan) was originally built in the T'ang Period (618-907 AD), but since then has been entirely rebuilt many times. The present name was bestowed in 1227, and extensive repairs made in 1394 and 1736. On the 19th day of the First Moon throngs of people come to the temple to seek fortune for the year by attempting to hit a hanging bronze cash. This is a very popular temple among the Chinese.

The **THIRTEEN-STOREY PAGODA** (Po Yün T'a) was part of a temple whose site was laid out in the 5th Century. The pagoda itself was constructed at a much later time.

Again referring to the northwest or top left corner of the map, the Black Temple will be found outside the City Walls.

The **BLACK TEMPLE** (Hei Ssu) was built in 1645-46, and is so called because of the color of its roof tiles. It is no longer used as a temple.

The **YELLOW TEMPLE** (Huang Ssu) was originally built in the Ming Dynasty, but was restored in 1651 and again in 1731. Erected by Ch'ien Lung in 1781, the Marble Pagoda commemorates a P'anch'en Lama who died in Peking at that time.

The **ALTAR OF THE EARTH** (Ti T'an) was first built by Emperor Chia Ching in 1530, but was

greatly enlarged by Emperor Chia Ch'ing about 1800, for the worship of the earth. Today, with the exception of the Altar itself, the temple is in decay.

Referring to the northeast or top right corner of the map outside the City Walls, the Iron Pagoda will be found below the compass.

The **IRON PAGODA** (T'ieh T'a) was the scene of the death of Prince Kao Hsü in 1426. Because he rebelled against his father, and later against his nephew, he was roasted to death in a large cauldron.

TUNG YUEH MIAO, a Taoist temple, was first built in 1329. It is a very large and famous temple which contains numerous courts and dieties.

The **TEMPLE OF EIGHTEEN HELLS** (Shih Pa Yü Miao) contains plaster figures representing the various forms of torture inflicted on the sinful in the next world.

The **ALTAR OF THE SUN** (Ch'ao Jih T'an) was built by Emperor Chia Ching in 1530 for the worship of the sun. Today the temple is in a bad state of repair.

During Imperial times rice tribute from the south arrived by boat from T'ung Chou, which was connected with the 1200-mile long Grand Canal.

The **FORBIDDEN CITY** (Tzu Chin Ch'eng, or Huang Kung), situated in the center of Peking, was

built more or less as it is today by Yung Lo in the 15th Century. In this booklet it is impossible to discuss the magnificent collection of buildings, courts, and yellow roofs. For centuries it was the Imperial Palace; today it is a series of museums and galleries.

The **IMPERIAL CITY** (Huang Ch'eng) surrounds the Forbidden City. To the west of the main avenue leading to the Palace Gates is Central Park.

CENTRAL PARK (Chung Shan Kung Yüan) from the 15th Century until the Republic was the site of the Altar of Land and Grain. Today it is a beautiful public park.

NAN HAI (South Sea), in connection with the other lakes, has been used as an Imperial pleasure ground and residence since the Liao Dynasty (915-1125). In the park surrounding the lake are numerous pavilions and palaces.

YING T'AI (Ocean Terrace) is an island which was constructed during the Liao Dynasty. It holds a series of palaces and pavilions in which the Emperor Kuang Hsü was confined by the Empress-Dowager from 1898 until his death in 1908.

CHUNG HAI (Middle Sea) is also surrounded by a park and palaces. These have been built and added to since about 1000 AD, but the great majority are comparatively modern.

PEI HAI (North Sea) is the best known of the three Palace Lakes. Today it is a public park. The lake itself dates from the 11th Century. In this park are the Altar of Silk Worms, (Ts'an T'an) where the Empress formerly supervised rites corresponding to those of the Emperor at the Altar of Heaven; and the famous Nine-Dragon Screen (Chiu Lung Pi). At the south end near the marble bridge is the Circular City, or Mongol Throne Hall, (T'uan Ch'eng) (not shown on the map because of lack of space) which houses the famous Jade Buddha.

WHITE PAGODA ISLAND (Pai T'a Shan) was used by the Emperors since about 1000 AD. Most of the pavilions are comparatively modern or were built by the Empress-Dowager. The **WHITE PAGODA** (Pai T'a) was built by Emperor Shun Chih in 1651 to commemorate the first visit of a Dalai Lama to Peking.

The **NATIONAL LIBRARY** (T'u Shu Küan) was built in 1932. It is a fine example of the blending of Chinese and Western styles of architecture.

The **PEI T'ANG** (North Cathedral) was first dedicated in 1703, but was later demolished. The present cathedral with its various establishments, school, orphanage, and nunnery, was built in the late 19th Century. In the Boxer Uprising this was the

scene of a defense more heroic than that of the Legation Quarter itself.

The **SANDALWOOD BUDDHA** was housed in a large and famous temple until it was stolen about the time of the Boxer Uprising. It was supposed to be able to change its color at will.

COAL HILL (Mei Shan) is an artificial construction said to cover an immense supply of coal to be used in case of siege. But its primary reason for existence was to protect the Palace from evil spirits which habitually come from the north. From the top can be had the best view of Peking.

PEI TA (Peking National University) is a recently constructed group of buildings.

The **MONGOL TEMPLE** (Sung Chu Ssu) is a Lama monastery which formerly was of great importance. It was built about 1700.

The **T'AI MIAO**, the ancestral temple of the Emperors of China, was originally built in 1420, but has been restored and rebuilt. These fine buildings are surrounded by a beautiful grove of cypresses.

The **LEGATION QUARTER** (Chiao Min Hsiang) houses the foreign banks, residences, shops, and the Embassies or Legations of the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Russia, Japan, Italy, the

Netherlands, Belgium, Spain, and Portugal. The Brazilian Legation is not in the Quarter.

Referring to the map the site of the Elephant Stables will be found near the southwest corner of the Tartar City. The Tartar City is the great north square which is enclosed by walls.

The **ELEPHANT STABLES** (Hsiang Fang), which no longer exist, formerly housed the elephants which were trained for use in Imperial ceremonies.

The **PALACE OF PRINCE CH'UN** (Ch'ien Wang Fu) was the palace of the father of the ill-fated Emperor Kuang Hsü. The buildings are now used as a school.

WO FO SSU (Temple of the Sleeping Buddha) was originally built in 648 AD, but was completely rebuilt in 1665, and by Emperor Ch'ien Lung in 1761. It is now in a state of semi-delapidation.

HSI TAN SHIH CH'ANG is the large market which supplies the needs of the West City.

HSI SSU P'AI LOU (Western Four Triumphal Arches) is a group of four arches in the West City. In Peking the many similar p'ai lous have been erected for decorative purposes only.

WHITE PAGODA TEMPLE (Pai T'a Ssu) was originally erected by Emperor Shou Lung in 1092,

was repaired by Kublai Khan in 1272, again by Emperor T'ien Shun in 1458, and by both the Emperors, K'ang Hsi and Ch'ien Lung.

The **TEMPLE OF THE EMPERORS** is correctly called the Temple to the Successive Generations of Emperors (Li Tai Ti Wang Miao). It was built by Emperor Chia Ching in 1523 to contain the spirit tablets of all the emperors and great heroes. It is now the headquarters of the Red Swastika, which corresponds to the Red Cross in the West.

MA HSIANG HUT'UNG is named after the veterinarian of the Ming Dynasty who fixed the points of the horse as accepted by the Chinese.

"**COCK FIGHTS**" indicates the location (no longer in existence) of an immense shallow pit in which cock fights were held during a period of several hundred years.

HUI T'UNG TZ'U was an ancient temple which was repaired by Ch'ien Lung in 1761. It contains a very fine stone tablet.

SHIH CH'A HAI and **CHI SHUI T'AN** are the two lakes which are now surrounded by tea houses and amusement places much patronized by the Chinese in summer.

The **TZ'U T'ANG** (Ancestral Hall) is a comparatively new structure built to house the ancestral

tablet of Prince Ch'un; the Prince-Regent during the reign of the "Boy-Emperor".

The **BELL TOWER** (Chung Lou) was originally built by Emperor Chih Yüan in 1285, was later destroyed by fire, and was rebuilt in 1745. Formerly the bell was tolled immediately after the drum in the Drum Tower had been beaten. This structure and the Drum Tower were in the center of the Mongol city of Kublai Khan.

The **DRUM TOWER** (Ku Lou) was built in 1272, but has since been reconstructed. Formerly the drum was beaten to sound the night watches. The tower is 99 feet high. This height permitted the spirits who fly at an elevation of 100 feet to clear.

The **HALL OF CLASSICS** (Kuo Tzu Chien) in the Mongol era was a school. The present buildings were built by Emperor Ch'ien Lung in 1783. Here the emperors expounded the classics from a throne in the midst of beautiful surroundings.

The **TEMPLE OF CONFUCIUS** (K'ung Miao, or Ta Ch'eng Miao) was originally built in the 13th Century, but has been repaired many times, the last being by Emperor Ch'ien Lung in 1737. This temple formerly contained the famous Stone Drums, said to be 3,000 years old, which have been replaced by replicas. The temple is dedicated to Confucius, the father of all Chinese thought and conduct.

The **LAMA TEMPLE** (Yung Ho Kung) was converted from a palace to a temple by Emperor Ch'ien Lung in 1745. It is one of the best known temples in Peking and contains numerous interesting buildings and courts. Each year in the spring it is the scene of a so-called Devil Dance. The obscene figures in the temple are decidedly disappointing.

The **RUSSIAN CHURCH** (Pei Kuan) originally was the site designated for the use of the Albazin prisoners in 1685. The present buildings have been built since 1900 to replace those destroyed during the Boxer Uprising. The Easter service is well worth attending.

The **FORMER GRANARIES** are now used for various other purposes. In Manchu times tribute rice was stored in these buildings prior to its issue as a free allowance to Bannermen.

LUNG FU SSU (Temple of Prosperity and Happiness) was built by Emperor Ching T'ai in 1451, and repaired by Emperor Yung Cheng in 1731. The area, which was destroyed by fire, is now used as a market and fair.

TUNG SSU P'AI LOU (Eastern Four Triumphal Arches) corresponds in the East City to Hsi Ssu P'ai Lou in the West City.

The **DOG TEMPLE** (Erh Lang Yeh Miao), a very small temple, was originally constructed in the reign

of Emperor Chen Kuan in 629 AD as a shrine. It was reconstructed in 1087, and by Emperor K'ang Hsi in 1696. The foreign name is derived from a Celestial Dog which was owned by Erh Lang.

TUNG AN SHIH CH'ANG (Eastern Peace Market) is a maze of stalls, buildings, and a confusion of buyers, all crowded into the best known market in Peking. It is well worth seeing.

The **P.U.M.C.**, Peking Union Medical College, (I Yüan Fu) is a large well-equipped hospital and medical college under the supervision of the Rockefeller Foundation.

LI HUNG CHANG'S ANCESTRAL TEMPLE was erected by the Empress-Dowager Tz'u Hsi in honor of a well known statesman of her era.

The **OBSERVATORY** (Kuan Hsing T'ai) was founded by Kublai Khan in 1296, and built as it is today by Emperor Chia Ching in 1522. The instruments, which date from the 17th Century, were removed to decorate the gardens of Potsdam Palace after the Boxer Uprising, and were returned to China after the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. One of them is said to be a present from Louis XIV of France.

The **SITE OF THE EXAMINATION HALLS** (Kung Yüan) is now a great vacant space which for-

merly contained the buildings used in connection with the triennial examinations. This was one of the most important institutions in Imperial China.

Again referring to the map, the entire walled enclosure to the south of the Tartar City is known as the Chinese or Outer City (Ch'eng Wai). Near the south-west or lower corner will be found the Ch'ung Shiao Ssu.

The **CH'UNG SHIAO SSU** (Temple of Supreme Service) was first built in the reign of Emperor Chen Küan in 627 AD. It has been repaired and completely rebuilt many times. It contains the famous tablet of Ten Thousand Destinies and in May or June is celebrated for its peonies.

The **MOHAMMEDAN MOSQUE** (Ch'ing Chen Ssu) is the largest of many in the City.

The **EXECUTION GROUND** (Ts'ai Shih K'ou) is now a vegetable market. In Imperial days it was the scene of beheadings.

LIEN HUA SSU (Lotus Flower Temple) was built as it is today in the reign of Ch'ien Lung, who ordered the pond to be filled with lotuses. It is also a large painting school.

T'AO JAN T'ING (Joyful Pavilion) is reputed to date from the 11th Century. About 1700 Chung Tsao built the pavilion.

The **ALTAR OF AGRICULTURE** (Hsien Nung T'an) was built by Emperor Chia Ching (1521-1566) and repaired by Emperor Ch'ien Lung (1736-1796). Here the emperor ploughed and sowed a plot of ground as an example to the people. Today the grounds are used for other purposes.

The **GOLD FISH PONDS** (Chin Yü Ch'ih) are a series of small ponds in which a large percentage of the Peking gold fish are raised.

The **THIEVES' MARKET** (Hsiao Shih) is an early morning market supposedly existing for the disposal of stolen goods. The greater part of the articles for sale have been honestly acquired and the remainder not of a very high quality as a rule.

The **TEMPLE OF HEAVEN** and the **ALTAR OF HEAVEN** (T'ien T'an) are in one immense walled enclosure. First built by Emperor Yung Lo in 1420, they were repaired by Emperor Ch'ien Lung in 1754. The expression, Temple of Heaven is a foreign name referring to the triple-roofed circular structure, which is correctly called the Hall of Annual Prayers (Ch'i Nien Tien). Struck by lightning in 1889, it was completely rebuilt at that time. Here prayers and sacrifices were offered by the Emperor for a prosperous year. It is one of the most perfectly proportioned buildings in existence. The Altar of Heaven, at the south end of the park, was the scene

of the most important ceremony of Imperial China, the supplication of the Son of Heaven to the Supreme Diety. The conception of these white marble terraces is the finest architectural achievement in China.

Books recommended:

PEKING, by Juliet Bredon. (Kelly and Walsh, Shanghai).

IN SEARCH OF OLD PEKING, by L. C. Arlington and Wm. Lewisohn. (Henri Vetch, Peking).

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