

Book Reviews

Contemporary China, a Research Guide. By PETER BERTON and EUGENE WU; edited by HOWARD KOCH, Jr. [Stanford: The Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace, 1967. 695 pp. \$22.50.]

THE indispensable guide to research on contemporary China is now at hand. Consisting of more than 2,200 entries, most of them annotated, the Berton-Wu *Guide* leads the reader to an endless supply of source materials found in bibliographies and indexes, general reference works (yearbooks, statistical compilations, biographical materials, atlases, dictionaries, etc.), selected documentary materials (laws, political parties, foreign relations, etc.), and selected serial publications (Mainland, Taiwan, and Hong Kong publications, translation and monitoring services, etc.). In addition, there are invaluable appendices which list and describe research libraries and institutions, dissertations and theses. The two indexes, by subject and author-title, run to more than 100 pages and provide the reader easy access to this storehouse of information.

The major emphasis of the *Guide* is on the humanities and social sciences and it draws on materials principally from the Chinese, Japanese, English and Russian languages. Where appropriate, Chinese characters are included. The materials are limited mainly to post-1949 Mainland China and post-1945 Taiwan; the cut-off date is the 1963–64 period. Each of the sections and sub-sections has an introduction, and throughout the volume there are innumerable cross-references which greatly enhance its usefulness.

In this short space it is virtually impossible to describe the impressive scope of this volume. One example may suffice. Entries 831 through 833 should provide any researcher all he needs to know about the *Jen-min jih-pao* (*People's Daily*)—the date it began, indexes, collections of key editorials, etc.

Messrs. Berton and Wu deserve our profound gratitude for their labours. They have not only relieved us of countless hours of drudgery, but they have also pointed the way to research topics which many of us may have thought to be devoid of materials. We can only hope that the powers-that-be will provide the funds to bring this volume up to date every few years; a thought implicit in Professor Mary Wright's stimulating foreword.

DONALD KLEIN.