I. Purposes of the Institute

The Chinese-American Institute of the Social Sciences is a voluntary, non-political, and non-profit association, dedicated to the great task of promoting international understanding and fostering cultural exchange and cooperation between the East and the West. As such, it has been incorporated in the State of New York in pursuance of its Membership Corporation Law.

The basic purpose of the Institute is set forth in the following words in the Preamble of its By-laws.

For centuries, China was isolated from Europe and America and has therefore developed a civilization quite independent of the Western countries. Despite her recent contacts with the West, China, in modernizing its system of democracy, has much to learn from the teachings of Jefferson and Lincoln, Rousseau and Montesquieu, the parliamentary procedure of Great Britain as well as the historic struggles that led to the institution of the Magna Carta and the Bill of Rights. Meanwhile, China, gifted by its long history and works of great teachers of early dynasties, may also be able to contribute ideas which are useful to other democracies. Despite the rapid development of modern transportation and communications between China and the rest of the world, the mentality of the people has not kept pace. There is a great deal to be done in fostering mutual understanding between the peoples of the Orient and the Occident.
The work of the Institute will be directed mainly toward the improvement of existing political, economic and social systems in light of actual experience, past or present. Subjects to be studied will include government systems, public administration, money and banking, taxation, international trade, national economic systems, history of political thought and economic doctrines, population, social security, histories of modern democratic systems, etc.

Thus in brief, the purposes of the Institute may be stated as follows:

(a) To study the political, economic and social systems of the democratic countries of the world.

(b) To introduce and interpret the political, economic and social trends of China to Western countries.

(c) To promote mutual understanding between the people of China and the people of other democracies, especially those of the United States.

II. Program of Research and Publication

The program of research and publication of the Institute is designed on the one hand to impart to the Chinese reading public a basic knowledge of the theory of democracy and the practices of representative government and on the other hand, to interpret to Western readers, the salient aspects of the Chinese civilization and culture. As such, the program will consist of two principal parts:

1. The systematic translation of selected standard works dealing with American history and culture, political thoughts and institutions, social and economic organizations, and the practices and procedures of government founded
upon the principles of separation of powers and checks and balance. For this purpose, a selected list of worthy books has been compiled and a number of projects for their translation have been undertaken and are in the process of completion. Special arrangements have been concluded with the Commercial Press, the leading publishing house in the Far East, for their early publication.

This work is deemed to have acquired special significance in view of the recent inauguration of constitutional government in China.

2. The translation of a number of notable works from Chinese to English and compilation of books in English bearing the results of analytical research on such subjects as political, social, and economic developments of the Chinese people, political parties and social institutions, literature and education, contemporary thoughts in China, and cultural contacts between China and the West.

The following projects are under consideration and as soon as resources are available, items of more immediate interest will be undertaken:

(a) Chinese Culture Series - This series will consist of ten volumes dealing with the major phases of the Chinese civilization and history including:

History of Chinese Political and Legal Thoughts from Earliest Time to Today
Economic History of China
A Study of the Chinese Family and Society
Political Institutions of China
Local Government and Social Control in China
Religion in Chinese Life
History of Chinese Literature
History of Chinese Education
Fine Arts and Chinese Culture
China and Western Contact

(b) Monograph series containing complete translations or abridgements of selected masterpieces in Chinese philosophy and literature such as, for example,
Monograph series in Chinese on Western civilization - This series of books each of which will not exceed 200,000 words is designed to meet the current demand of the Chinese reading public for concise but authoritative treatises on the various aspects of the civilization of the West which may be of immediate reference to China in her present struggle to develop a democratic way of life and consolidate modern representative institutions. The topics for study include inter alia the following:

Fundamental Concepts of Democracy, Liberty and the Dignity of Man
British Parliamentary System: Its Actual Operation
The American President and Congress
Development of American Industrial System
Marxism: A Critical Analysis
Sociological School of Law
The Exercise of Initiative, Referendum, and Recall
Social Change and Social Justice
The Bill of Rights and its Implementation
Power and International Relations
Modern Civil Service and the Concept of Efficiency

Translation of Webster's Dictionary into Chinese - Some twenty years ago, Dr. P. W. Kuo, then President of the National Southeastern University, edited a Chinese translation of the Webster's collegiate dictionary which was found to be most helpful to students of the social sciences who sought to master the English language as a key to modern learning. Since that edition, many new words have come into use in the English language and in order to assist Chinese students and readers in their search for accurate understanding of new terms and phrases in English, it is deemed useful that a new and revised edition of the original translation should now be undertaken.
(e) Two preliminary publications are being planned, namely, a bibliography of Chinese books translated into English and other foreign languages and a bibliography of books on China written in English and other foreign languages.

(f) Periodic or occasional bulletins on specialized subjects relating to the current developments of China - each bulletin will be devoted to the discussion of one major current problem, intended to clarify the background of certain political, economic, social, or cultural issues of modern China.

(g) China Year Book in English - an annual volume devoted to objective and reliable analysis of the various phases of Chinese affairs to be written by competent scholars both Chinese and Western scholars. The volume will be supplemented with adequate documentation. The need for a volume of this kind is felt in view of the discontinuance of a China Year Book and the Chinese Year Book, while a China Handbook is a record of events covering a view of several years.

III. Other Activities

Other activities of the Institute, for the time being, will include the following:

1. Conducting an information service relating to Social Research Organizations and their activities in China and in the United States.

2. Encouraging the exchange of lecturers and professors in the field of the social sciences between Chinese and American universities.

3. Arranging or securing fellowships for scholars on special projects of research.

4. Raising funds to be used for any of the purposes of the Institute and for cooperating with other cultural organizations in China and the United States, which share the fundamental objectives of the Institute in common.

5. Soliciting and receiving gifts of property other than money, and, in particular, books, educational moving pictures and other educational
matter, suitable for any of the purposes of the corporation, and to use such property for any of the purposes of this corporation.

IV. Finances

The Institute is to be supported by voluntary contributions, gifts, grants, donations or subsidies from individuals, cultural foundations or governmental organizations. The commencement of activities has been made possible through the generous contributions made by the patrons and their friends. In carrying out its program of activities, the Institute welcomes the cooperation and assistance of all individuals and public or private organizations and institutions in sympathy with its aims and purposes.