

## Obituary

### Luther Carrington Goodrich (1894–1986)

Professor L. Carrington Goodrich, Dean Lung Professor Emeritus of Chinese at Columbia University and President of the Association for Asian Studies in 1956–57, died in New York on August 10, 1986, at the age of 91. He was born near Peking on September 21, 1894, of missionary parents. Professor Goodrich was Chairman of the Department of Chinese, then of the Department of Chinese and Japanese, at Columbia University for thirty years. After retirement in 1961, he became Director of the Ming Biographical Dictionary Project, a joint undertaking of the Association for Asian Studies and Columbia University. Some seventy scholars in many countries contributed entries to the monumental *Dictionary of Ming Biography*, published in 1976 with Professor Goodrich as principal editor.

Professor Goodrich was author of many books, beginning with *The Literary Inquisition of Ch'ien-lung*, published by the American Council of Learned Societies in 1935. His *Short History of the Chinese People* (first published in 1943) went through several editions and was used as a textbook for many years. Besides his work *A Fifteenth-Century Illustrated Chinese Primer* (1967), he coauthored *Japan in the Chinese Dynastic Histories* (1951). His revision of *The Invention of Printing in China and Its Spread Westward* by Thomas Francis Carter was so extensive that he should justly be regarded as coauthor of the second edition, published in 1955. He also translated and annotated a book by the eminent Chinese historian Ch'en Yüan entitled *Western and Central Asians in China Under the Mongols, and Their Transformation into Chinese* (1966). He published numerous reviews and scholarly articles in learned journals and won international recognition for his scholarship. He was president of the American Oriental Society in 1946–47. He was noted for his generosity in sharing his encyclopedic knowledge of things Chinese.

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