

## BOOK NOTICES

Bokset, Roar. **A Dictionary of Nonstandard Simplified Characters.** 87 + xiii pp.

This undated monograph is published by the Institute of Oriental Languages in Stockholm. It contains more than 1600 unofficial simplifications, variants and cursive forms. "Such forms are widely used in letters, posters, personal notes and other handwritten texts, but they cannot be identified with the help of normal dictionaries."

Peterson, Mark A. and Ted Yao. 1985. **The Chinese Character Tutor.** Asian Language Software, Inc., South Hadley, MA.

This is a set of interactive computer programs for learning Chinese characters. The hardware requirements are an IBM PC compatible computer with at least 256K memory, a color monitor and graphics support.

The set of programs is available in four versions, to go with each of these texts: (1) Speak Mandarin, by Fenn and Tewksbury, (2) Beginning Chinese Reader, Part 1, by John DeFrancis, (3) Read Chinese, Book 1, by Fred Wang, and (4) Elementary Chinese Reader, Book 1, by the Beijing Language Institute.

The programs come on 5 1/4 inch floppy disks, together with a seven page pamphlet on their use.

Thurgood, G., J.A. Matisoff and D. Bradley, eds. 1985. **Linguistics of the Sino-Tibetan Area: The State of the Art**. Pacific Linguistic Series C - No. 87. Department of Linguistics, The Australian National University. 498 + vii pp.

These are papers presented to Paul K. Benedict for his 71st birthday. After the general introductions, there are 6 sections with the following titles: (1) Linguistic prehistory and language contact, (2) East and southeast Asian areal phenomena, (3) Sino-Tibetan historical phonology, (4) Synchronic grammar, (5) Historical grammar, and (6) Lexicon and semantics. Other than a short note from A. Haudricourt, all the papers are in English. All references are collected at the end of the book, in a 24 page bibliography.

Tiee, Henry H. 1986. **A Reference Grammar of Chinese Sentences with Exercises**. University of Arizona Press. \$14.95 paperback. 348 + xxix pp.

"This non-technical explanation of Chinese sentence structure progresses from simple single-word-subject/simple-predicate sentences to compound and complex sentences. Each sentence type is descriptively analyzed and supported with examples, and graded exercises provide practice in composition and translation."

Wu, David Y.H., ed. 1982. **Ethnicity and Interpersonal Interaction: A Cross Cultural Study**. Singapore: Maruzen Asia. 306 pp.

Most of the papers in this volume deal with ethnic issues involving the Chinese and other groups—in the U.S., Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and elsewhere. They provide useful data for sociolinguistic studies of the Chinese language in its various transplanted contexts.