

Addition to the papers and abstracts book:

Session 8B:

ICCIC / Gung Ho: Helping to Promote Chinese Cooperatives

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In 1937, Rewi Alley, Edgar and Helen Foster Snow, and patriots in China initiated the Gung Ho Movement. They organized laid off workers and refugees displaced by the Japanese invasion to set up manufacturing cooperatives in aid of China's resistance effort. This soon became a nation-wide civil movement of some 3,000 cooperatives.

To seek international support and promote the Gung Ho movement, Mme. Soong Ching Ling initiated the founding of the ICCIC - International Committee for the promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives - in 1939, and was elected honorary chair. British Bishop of Hong Kong, R. D. Hall, was its chair. By the end of 1945, the ICCIC had raised some (USD) \$10 Million in cash and materials from the United States, Britain, Canada, New Zealand, the Philippines, and Singapore-- gifts highly praised by senior leaders of the CPC, including Mao Zedong, Zhou Enlai and Ye Ting.

In 1952, the ICCIC ceased activities when its cooperatives were absorbed into the state system. After resuming activity in 1987, the ICCIC founded three cooperative pilot zones in Shandan (Gansu), Honghu (Hubei) and Longkou and Penglai (Shandong), and a number of village-level industrial cooperatives in over 20 cities and counties. Since then, the ICCIC has learned much about the roles cooperative enterprise can play in the economic and social development of China's diverse society. Lessons learned along the way have sharpened the ICCIC's cooperative development tools and approaches.

Today, ICCIC continues to help equip citizens, leaders, educators and policy makers to form cooperative enterprises that provide members with the financial and social benefits they need.