

# SCIENCE

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## THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CHINA

IN the process of reconstruction, and adaptation to modern conditions, which China is at present undergoing, the introduction of scientific research and, concurrently, the establishment of scientific government organs is absolutely essential to the success of the movement. To a narrow circle of interested mining men and scientists, it has long been known that the Geological Survey of China, established in 1916, has been making steady progress, both in the way of supporting the mining industry with expert advice, and in accumulating scientific data and material to such an extent that it has been recognized abroad as a factor in inaugural ceremonies by and in the presence of the earth.

But the work of the Geological Survey has been carried on in quite an unostentatious way, and little has transpired about its activities outside of professional circles, until July seventeenth, when the institution was officially thrown open to the public, with appropriate inaugural ceremonies by and in the presence of H. R. President Li Yuan Hung.

Before giving an account of these exercises, it may be well briefly to review the development of the survey and its achievement up to the present time.

Geological Government Surveys have been established during the last half century in all civilized states. The principal aims of those institutions are threefold: namely, (1) to promote the knowledge of the mineral resources of the country, (2) to carry on a general geologic survey of the whole country upon a uniform scale, and (3) to undertake scientific geological research.

In the first of these fields the Geological Survey of China can already point to a creditable series of achievements, such as the discovery and survey of a large number of iron-