

Teaches Chinese

Joseph A. Stockman, director of the Henry George Extension School in Philadelphia, offers some advice to prospective students of Chinese in the September 19th Philadelphia Record.

Mr. Stockman claims that a sense of humor and a thirst for knowledge are the first two requisites a good Chinese scholar must possess. On September 28th he became the first instructor of Chinese in Philadelphia public schools. He will conduct weekly classes at Standard Evening High School, where he will teach the Kuo Yu, or Mandarin dialect, the national dialect of New China.

Mr. Stockman believes that Chinese should be widely taught, as the Chinese philosophy is universal and based on natural premises. "At birth, a Chinese child is indoctrinated with the view that all men of the four seas are brethren," explains Mr. Stockman, "and that there is no difference in race, creed or color. A Chinese child is brought up with the belief that all men are born good; that evil is nothing more than doing the right thing the wrong way."

Of British-German descent, he became interested in the Chinese language at the age of 10, upon the return of an uncle, Charles Forden, from the British diplomatic staff in China. Mr. Stockman later studied under Y. C. Kwong, secretary of the Chinese Delegation for International Intellectual Cooperation, at Koumintang headquarters in New York. He spent five years traveling in China in the early 20's.