

# Contents

List of Abbreviations	9
List of Figures	11
List of Tables	13
Acknowledgments	15
Notes on Romanization and Chinese Characters	17
1 Introduction	19
1.1 Theories and Methods . . . . .	21
1.2 Sources and Secondary Literature . . . . .	24
1.3 The Protagonist: Wei Jiangong 魏建功 . . . . .	27
1.4 Findings . . . . .	30
I Sound ( <i>yin</i> 音)	33
2 The Standard Language	35
2.1 General Development . . . . .	35
2.2 Background . . . . .	37
2.3 The <i>Guoyu</i> 國語 Movement . . . . .	42
2.3.1 <i>Baihua</i> 白話 . . . . .	43
2.3.2 <i>Guanhua</i> 官話 . . . . .	45
3 Wei Jiangong as linguist activist	51
3.1 May Fourth Peking University Student . . . . .	51
3.1.1 Commoners' Education Projects . . . . .	55
3.1.2 Folklore and Dialectology . . . . .	56
3.1.3 The Theater Debate . . . . .	59
3.2 <i>Guoyu Zhoukan</i> 國語週刊 Fighting the “Tiger” . . . . .	62
3.2.1 Qian Xuantong's Manifesto . . . . .	63
3.2.2 Wei Jiangong's Concept of Language in 1925: Progress . . . . .	66
3.2.3 The Adversary: The “Tiger” Zhang Shizhao . . . . .	68

3.2.4	Wei Jiangong Defending <i>Guoyu</i> 國語 . . . . .	74
3.2.5	The “Tiger” at the Women’s University . . . . .	82
3.2.6	Wei Jiangong as a Communist . . . . .	85
3.3	On the First Language Mission: Teaching Chinese in Korea . . . . .	88
3.3.1	The Choice of <i>Lao Can Youji</i> 老殘遊記 as Textbook . . . . .	89
3.3.2	Collecting Ancient Books . . . . .	92
3.3.3	Travel Reports . . . . .	92
4	The National Language on the Mainland	97
4.1	From “Old” to “New National Pronunciation” . . . . .	97
4.1.1	“Blue-Green” Mandarin as National Language . . . . .	99
4.1.2	Li Jinxi Against the Entering Tone in the Na- tional Language . . . . .	103
4.1.3	The New National Pronunciation . . . . .	106
4.1.4	Wei Jiangong on the Yin 陰, Yang 陽 and Ru 入 Tones . .	107
4.1.5	Bai Dizhou on the Evolution of the Entering Tone in Northern Pronunciation . . . . .	110
4.1.6	The New National Pronunciation in Practice . . . . .	116
4.2	From Drama Rhymes to the “New Rhymes of China” . . . . .	118
4.2.1	Wei Jiangong on the Thirteen Rhymes of Drama . . . . .	118
4.2.2	The “Forging” of the Beijing Dialect . . . . .	126
4.2.3	The “New Rhymes of China” <i>Zhonghua Xinyun</i> 中華新韻 . . . . .	129
4.3	The National Language between Discourse and Reality . . . . .	133
5	The National Language in Taiwan	137
5.1	Historical Background . . . . .	137
5.2	Wei Jiangong’s Legitimization of <i>Guoyu</i> in Taiwan . . . . .	140
5.2.1	Progress . . . . .	141
5.2.2	Sovereignty . . . . .	145
5.2.3	Kinship of <i>Guoyu</i> and <i>Taiyu</i> 臺語 . . . . .	147
5.2.4	Taiwan as “ Sandbox ” . . . . .	150
5.2.5	Language as Sign . . . . .	151
5.3	Outlook: From <i>Guoyu</i> to <i>Putonghua</i> 普通話 . . . . .	152
II	Meaning ( <i>yi</i> 義)	155
6	The “New China Dictionary” <i>Xinhua Zidian</i> 新華字典	157
6.1	Wei Jiangong on the <i>Guoyu Cidian</i> 國語辭典 . . . . .	158
6.1.1	Going beyond <i>Guoyin</i> 國音: The Sounds in the <i>Guoyu Cidian</i> . . . . .	159
6.1.2	Review of the <i>Guoyu Cidian</i> . . . . .	162
6.2	Compilation Plan and Realization in the <i>Xinhua Zidian</i> . . . . .	178
6.2.1	Compilation based on Linguistic Principles . . . . .	181

---

6.2.2	Ordering the Shape according to the Pronunciation . . . . .	181
6.2.3	Listing Words according to their Meaning . . . . .	183
6.2.4	Dividing Characters according to Words . . . . .	184
6.2.5	Determining the Meaning via the Use . . . . .	184
6.2.6	Broad Inclusion of the Living Language . . . . .	185
6.2.7	Getting to the Character via the Sound . . . . .	185
6.2.8	Choosing Words because of their Meaning . . . . .	185
6.2.9	Adapted to the Masses . . . . .	185
6.2.10	Appendix . . . . .	186
6.3	The <i>Xinhua Zidian</i> in Historical Perspective . . . . .	188
<b>III</b>	<b>Shape (<i>xing</i> 形)</b>	<b>191</b>
7	The Script Reform in the Republic	193
7.1	Wei's Early Views on Script Reform . . . . .	194
7.1.1	1920–1925: Folk Songs and Script Evolution . . . . .	194
7.1.2	1925: Script Reform for Evolution . . . . .	195
7.1.3	1935: Science and Script Reform . . . . .	200
7.2	Simplified Characters with a Historical Basis . . . . .	202
7.2.1	Vulgar Characters, Simplified Characters . . . . .	202
7.2.2	The Partial Reform of the Chinese Characters . . . . .	205
7.2.3	List of Simplified Character Examples from the Republican Period . . . . .	209
8	The Script Reform in the PRC	213
8.1	Phoneticity of the Simplified Characters . . . . .	220
8.2	Popular Characters as Progressive Creation of the Masses . . . . .	226
8.3	The Script Reform in Comparison to the <i>Guoyu</i> Movement . . . . .	233
9	Conclusion	235
	Bibliography	239
	提要	283
	Index	285

