

# A CALL FOR PAPERS

Mellen Press has agreed to publish a collection of new essays on the life, work, and achievements of Pearl S. Buck. Tentatively titled **Making the Good Earth Better: the Life and Work of Pearl S. Buck**, the book will take a contemporary look at Buck's multi-dimensional personality as mother, wife, artist, writer, social critic and reformer and attempt to describe the author's enduring imprint on modern culture. Essays touching on any aspect of Buck's personal and public life and achievements are welcome. Proposals have already been made for essays on the following topics:

- *Pearl S. Buck as John Sedges: A View of American Culture* (Cindy Louden)
- *The Bucks' Year at Cornell* (Valerie Smith)
- *A Bridge of Words: Pearl S. Buck* (Donna Rhodes)
- *Gateways Into the Good Earth: Archetypes and Images in Pearl S. Buck's Novel* (Carol Breslin)
- *Pearl S. Buck, Quilts, and Chinese Clothing* (Sue Wagner)
- *Cockeyed Optimists: The Influence of Pearl S. Buck and James A. Michener on the Works of Rodgers and Hammerstein's Musical Comedies* (Anne Kaler)

**Additional essays might focus on topics like the following:**

- Pearl Buck's novels, short stories, essays, plays
- PSB's cultural breadth and outreach
- Humanitarian concerns and causes: adoption, foster care, women's rights, children's health and welfare, mental retardation
- Reception of PSB's works in China—today and yesterday
- PSB's home life
- Modern writers on Buck
- Welcome House
- PSB and Communism

Mellen Press prides itself on publishing scholarly texts, so the essays should have an academic focus and be carefully documented. Clear, concise, dynamic writing that engages the reader as it presses home a point, interprets a text, or describes an event or experience is desired. Essays should be about 20 pages or so in length. (They may be longer.) Shorter, less formal, essays on topics that may not lend themselves to lengthy development but add to the portrait of Buck that we are trying to create are also welcome.

Please forward your proposal or your completed essay as soon as possible. The tentative submission date for completed essays is August 15. (We're flexible about this, so don't hold back if you think you'll need a little more time. Just let us know what your topic is and when you think we can expect to receive it.) Send proposals or completed essays to Carol Breslin at [Breslin.c@gmc.edu](mailto:Breslin.c@gmc.edu).