

NOTES

The publication of *The Eastern Buddhist* has been delayed for various reasons, and with the present double number the seventh volume is brought to completion.

The principal reason for the delay has been the illness of our co-editor, Beatrice Lane Suzuki, who was taken ill early in 1938, and more or less constantly confined to St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo. We hoped for her recovery in the course of time, and as she expressed her desire to edit the magazine herself at her restoration to health, we confidently waited. But from this spring her condition grew worse. While the magazine was going through the press, her end came finally, to our great sorrow, on July 16. The article on Shin published in this number has thus become her last contribution.

What grieves us most is that she has not been able to finish her study of the Shingon practice and philosophy of Buddhism. She had been at this work for the past ten years, visiting Kōya-san every summer, which is the headquarters of the Shingon sect and the burial place of Kōbō Daishi. While lying on her sick bed her constant thought was on this subject. Besides his personal sorrow which is experienced only by the one to whom she was a most invaluable helpmeet and adviser in every possible way, the Editor regrets her loss for the general Buddhist world, too.

The present number which is intended to be a special number for the Shin sect of Buddhism thus unexpectedly turns out to be also a memorial one for one of its Editors.

We intended to have had, for this number, reviews of some of the books, which we received during the preceding years. But the death of Mrs Beatrice Lane Suzuki has upset all our plans.

The Buddhist world of Japan has sustained a great loss in the deaths of some eminent Buddhist scholars this year.

of whom the following two stand out prominently: Drs Keiki Yabuki and Gemmyo Ono. Dr. Yabuki was a great authority on a Buddhist school of China known as the Sankaikyo which flourished in the T'ang dynasty and showed a socialistic tendency in its communistic life. He is also noted for his contribution to the identification and systematisation of the Buddhist MSS discovered at Tun-huang and now kept in the British Museum. Dr. Ono devoted himself to the study of Buddhist arts, especially in Japan. He also contributed to the clearing up of a certain Jōdo school in China, the history of which had hitherto been kept obscure due to the loss of the writings belonging to its founder, Jimin.
