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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Guilds and elites in the face of domestic and foreign challenges -- Elite and official interactive movements toward chambers of commerce -- Changes in organizational composition and interrelations -- The expansion of associational networks and influences -- Political maneuvers in commercial and industrial affairs -- Joint actions in the constitutional and revolutionary movements -- Nationwide chamber networks and the republican governments.
Sommario/riassunto	Chambers of commerce developed in China as a key part of its sociopolitical changes. In 1902, the first Chinese chamber of commerce appeared in Shanghai. By the time the Qing dynasty ended, over 1,000 general chambers, affiliated chambers, and branch chambers had been established throughout China. In this new work, author Zhongping Chen examines Chinese chambers of commerce and their network development across Lower Yangzi cities and towns, as well as the nationwide arena. He details how they achieved increasing integration, and how their collective actions deeply influenced nation