

Dr. The Honourable Sir M. K. Lo, Kt, CBE, LLD, JP
Co-founder and First President of Asian Football Confederation

By Herbert K. Lau (劉敬恒) (Rotary China Historian)

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Dr. The Honourable Sir M. K. Lo (羅文錦爵士) (1893–1959), Kt., C.B.E., *HonLL.D.(HKU)*, J.P., an ethnic Eurasian solicitor, was President 1934-1935 of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong (香港扶輪社) after he had served one year of Vice-President. He was the fourth president of the Club.

Lo was a football lover who was already the Vice President of the Hong Kong Football Association (香港足球總會) in 1939.

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) (亞洲足球協會) is one of the 6 continental confederations within International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) and is the governing body of association football in Asia and Australia. The proposal to establish the AFC could be traced back to 1952 Helsinki Olympics. To the Asian Games in Manila, The Philippines, two years later, the establishment of AFC was finally raised for decision by representatives of 12 Asian nations and territories: (1) Afghanistan Kingdom; (2) Union of Burma; (3) Republic of China (Taiwan); (4) British Crown Colony Hong Kong; (5) Republic of India; (6) Republic of Indonesia; (7) Japan; (8) Republic of Korea; (9) Dominion of Pakistan; (10) Republic of The Philippines; (11) British Crown Colony Singapore; and (12) Republic of Vietnam.

The AFC was officially formed on 8 May 1954 in Manila, The Philippines, on the sidelines of the Second Asian Games. The main headquarters is located in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Being the incumbent President of the Hong Kong Football Association, Sir M. K. Lo was elected to serve as the first President of the Asian Football Confederation, while the first Secretary General was the prominent Hong Kong football player Major-General Lee Wai-Tong (李惠堂少將). Lo served the President for only one year, and handed-over to his fellow Rotarian The Honourable Kwok Chan (議員郭贊太平紳士), O.B.E., J.P., (Hong Kong Rotary Club President 1951-1952) to be his successor.

The first AFC Asian Cup took place in Hong Kong in 1956 and was contested by the 12 founding members of the AFC, with Republic of Korea (大韓民國) winning the inaugural title. The event was thereafter held in various Asian countries every four years, with an exception in 2007 when the quadrennial cycle was moved forward one year. Asian Cup, Asian football (soccer) competition, is that continent's premier football tournament.

Another major contribution by Lo towards the Hong Kong football facilities was the establishment of the South China AA Football Stadium (南華會足球場), also known as Caroline Hill Stadium. Being a past president of the South China Athletic Association (南華體育會), Lo succeed in obtaining permanent leasing rights of a piece of land on the Caroline Hill (加路連山), Hong Kong Island, from the Hong Kong Government in 1929. This was the single most crucial accomplishment that made the Stadium still standing today as one of the major football arenas, as well as the premises of the Association main building. (see photo below)

Lo had also served as the third Chairman of The Chinese Amateur Athletic Federation of Hong Kong (香港中華業餘體育協會理事長) since its establishment in 1916.



South China Athletic Association Caroline Hill Stadium in the 1950's



1918 -- The wedding photo of Lo Man-Kam and Victoria Ho-Tung in traditional Chinese costume



The wedding photo of Lo Man-Kam and Victoria Ho-Tung (front sitting) with Lo's parents on both sides.



1918 -- Another wedding photo of Lo Man-Kam and Victoria Ho-Tung



1954 – Sir M. K. Lo and Lady Victoria Lo -- Being the President of the Hong Kong Football Association, Sir M. K. Lo was elected to serve as the first President of the Asian Football Confederation.

The Solicitors Lo & Lo

Lo Man-Kam (羅文錦) was born on 21 July 1893 in a prominent Eurasian family of the British Crown Colony Hong Kong. His father was Lo Cheung-Shiu (羅長肇太平紳士), J.P., compradore of the Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd. (渣甸洋行/怡和洋行) and mother Miss Zimmern (施湘卿) was the elder sister of British customs officer Andrew Zimmern (施炳光). Grandfather was a Briton, Thomas Rothwell (羅富華), and grandmother Tsang Yau (曾有) was the daughter of a Chinese *Tanka* boatman (蟹家). M. K. was the eldest son of 9 children.

M. K. went to study law in England in 1906 when he was 13. He graduated with the first place of the First Class Honours in the Law Society Examinations in London and returned to Hong Kong in 1915. He began in 1916 to practice law and became the senior partner of the law firm Lo & Lo Solicitors & Notaries Public (羅文錦律師樓) with his younger brother Lo Man-Wai (羅文惠). In 1918 Lo married Victoria Ho-Tung (何錦姿), eldest daughter of the Hong Kong prominent businessman Sir Robert Ho Tung (何東爵士), K.B.E., K.St.J., J.P.

Lo and Victoria had 2 sons and 4 daughters: Gwendolyn (佩筠), Wilbur (德權), Phoebe (佩堯), Vera (佩堅), Rita (佩賢) and Tak-Shing (德丞). The youngest son Lo Tak-Sing followed in his father's footsteps, becoming a lawyer and member of the Executive and Legislative Councils. He ran as a candidate in the first election for Chief Executive of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region following the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty to China in 1997.

Vocational Service being a Lawyer

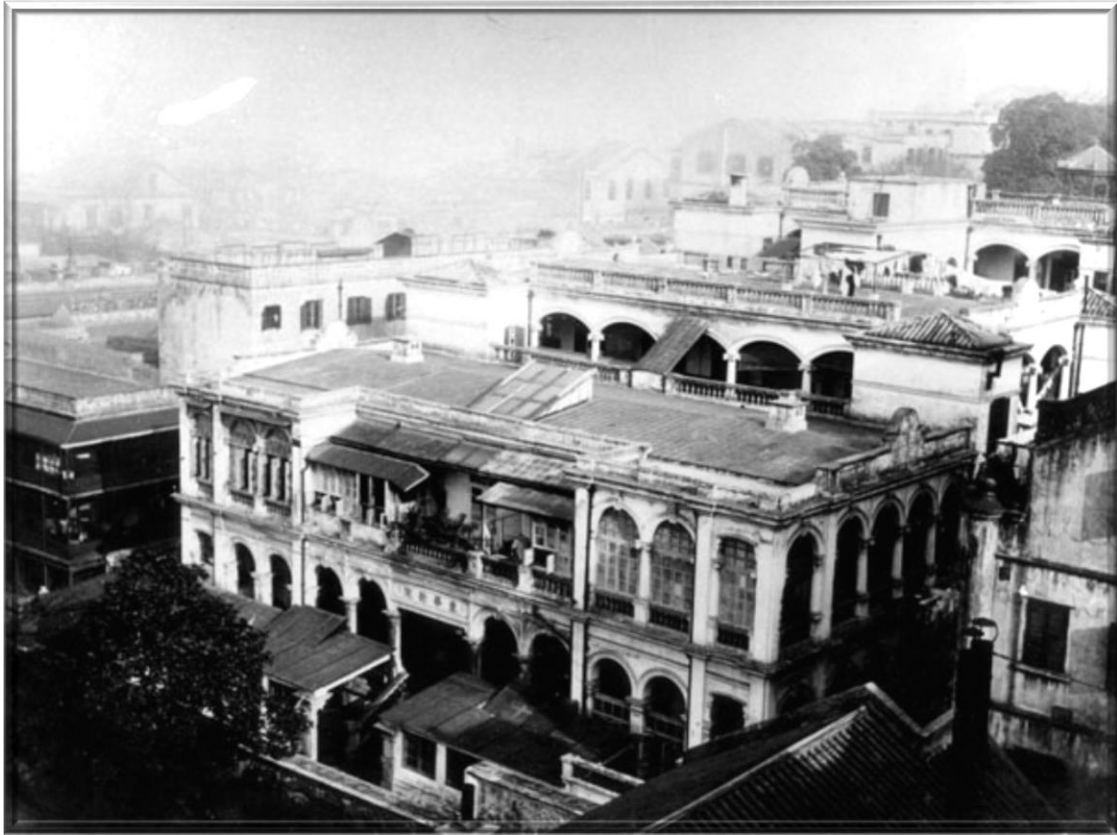
Lo had actualized himself a Rotarian through the avenue of "Vocational Service" as a solicitor.

When the first large-scale labour strike broke out in Hong Kong in 1920, Lo was the legal adviser for the organizer, Chinese Engineers Institute (香港華人機器總工會) and settled an agreement between the workers and employers as a mediator.

Founded in 1909, the Chinese Engineers Institute was a trade union composed mainly of mechanics from various occupations. It first came to prominence in the mechanics' strike of 1920, when it successfully organized and led some 6,000 mechanics from 26 establishments in an 18-day strike against managements. It is noteworthy that despite the nationalist and anti-imperialist fervour generated by the May Fourth Movement (五四運動) of the previous year in China, the mechanics' strike was not politically motivated. It was prompted by the economic hardship afflicting the Colony in the aftermath of the First World War. The strike won for the mechanics a general wage increase of 30% and consolidated the position of the Chinese Engineers Institute as the representative and leader of the local mechanics. At the same time the union's political non-affiliation, and its orderly and disciplined handling of the strike established it as a responsible trade union in the eyes of the colonial government. This paved the way for the Institute's later role as mediator and negotiator between labour, and government and management.

Service to the Community

Lo joined the charity service too and was elected Chairman of the Tung Wah Hospital in 1929-1930 (東華醫院董事局己巳年主席), and the honorary legal adviser for the Hospital.



1902 -- Tung Wah Hospital located at Po Yan Street, Sheung Wan.

Since 1931 Lo was also the honorary legal adviser for the Po Leung Kuk (保良局) and the Chinese Gold and Silver Exchange Society (金銀業貿易場). In January 1934, he became the Chairman of the Hong Kong Society for the Protection of Children (香港保護兒童會).

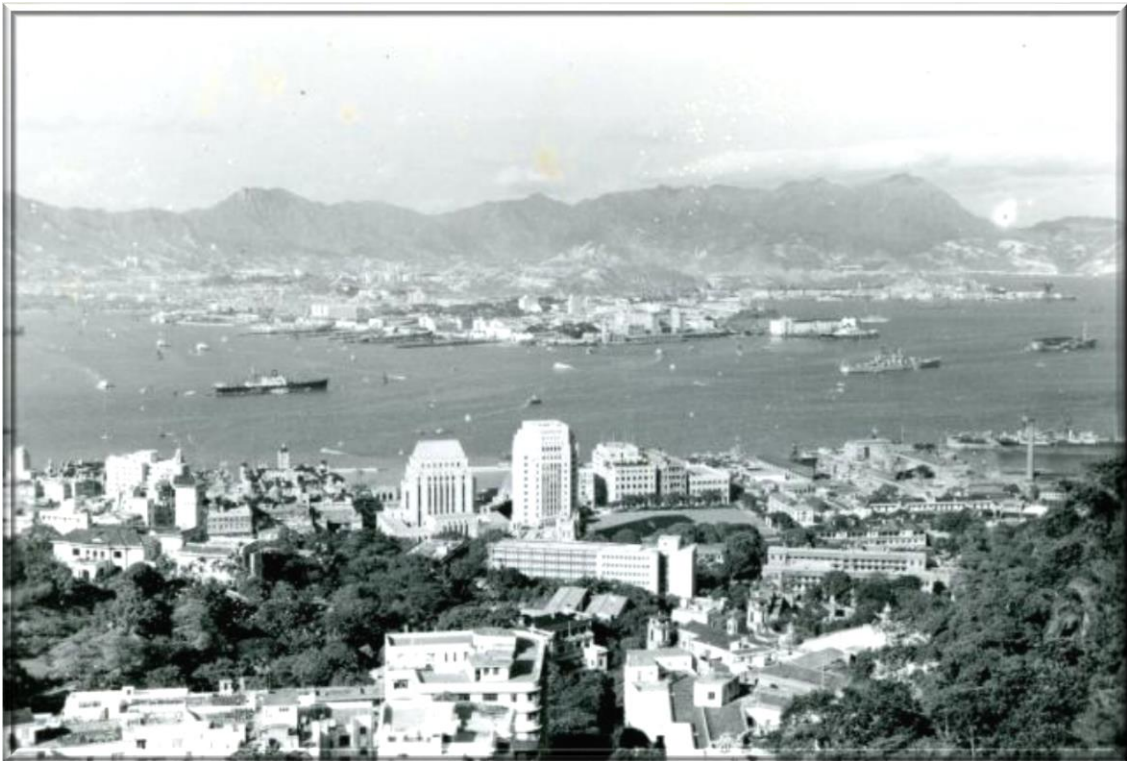
Lo was also the member of the Council of the University of Hong Kong (香港大學校務委員會) from 24 March 1932 until 1956.

Lo helped Miss Li Luk-Wah (李綠華) to establish The Hong Kong School for the Deaf (真鐸啟啞學校) in 1935, and The Right Rev. Bishop Ronald Owen Hall (何明華主教) to organize schools for the children of workers. In 1950 Lo attempted to register the children who were unable to attend even a primary school. In the same year Lo suggested in the Legislative Council an enquiry into Government expenditure on education as he believed the Grant Code that provided secondary schools deficiency grant had been over generous. Norman George Fisher, Chief Education Officer of Manchester, England, was invited by the Government to take the enquiry. Fisher subsequently submitted a report of enquiry which became a significant blueprint for the education reform in Hong Kong.

Lo succeeded his mother-in-law Clara Cheung Lin-Kok (張靜蓉, 「法號」蓮覺) as director of the Buddhist nunnery Tung Lin Kok Yuen (東蓮覺苑) at Happy Valley (跑馬地) after she died in 1938. Neighbouring the nunnery, tuition-fees-free Po Kok School (寶覺義學校) for girls was founded in 1931 by Clara Cheung. The school was expanded in 1951 by the Tung Lin Kok Yuen under Lo's administration, with middle school section of junior vocational training for girls named "Po Kok Girls Junior Vocational Secondary School" (寶覺女子初級職業中學). Perhaps, that was Lo's "avenue" to actualize the ideal of Rotary's "Vocational Service".



This photo shows Tung Lin Kok Yuen (東蓮覺苑) in the 1930's. The name "Tung Lin Kok" was taken from the names of the couple "Ho Tung 何東" and "Lin-Kok 蓮覺", and "Yuen 苑" is literally meaning "nunnery".



Hong Kong in the 1950's -- The tallest building was the Bank of China, with The Hong Kong & Shanghai Banking Corporation Main Office on its western side.

Participate in the political sector

In 1921 at his age of 28, Lo was appointed by Hong Kong Governor Sir Reginald Edward Stubbs (香港總督司徒拔爵士) an Unofficial Justice of the Peace for Hong Kong (非官守太平紳士).

The 1929 Hong Kong Sanitary Board (潔淨局) election was supposed to be held on 22 May 1929 for one of the two unofficial seats in the Sanitary Board of Hong Kong. Prominent Chinese lawyer Lo Man-Kam was elected uncontested.

Sanitary Board (the forerunner of the Urban Council 市政局) was set up in 1883 to supervise and control the practical sanitation of the Colony. As its work involved interference with the private affairs of residents it was unpopular with property owners and with the Chinese generally. It could however only make proposals. Their implementation was a matter for the Government. Originally it consisted solely of official members but subsequently provision was made for nominated unofficial members, and two members elected by ratepayers on the Special and Common Jury Lists of the years or ratepayers who are exempted from serving on Juries on account of their professional avocations, unofficial members of the Executive or Legislative Council, or categories of profession were entitled to vote at the election.

After three years, in 1932, Lo was appointed to serve the Board again until 1937, and was no need to run for the election. The Sanitary Board was renamed the Urban Council when new legislation was passed in 1936 expanding its mandate. In this newly formed Council after the Pacific War (1941-1945), Lo was appointed by Sir Mark Aitchison Young (香港總督楊慕琦爵士) to serve as an Unofficial Member (香港市政局非官守議員) from 1946 until 1951.

A lawmaker in the Legislative Council

Lo also actualized himself a Rotarian through the “Community Service” as a lawmaker. On 9 November 1935, Lo was appointed by Hong Kong Governor Sir William Peel (香港總督貝璐爵士) an Unofficial Member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council (香港立法局非官守議員). He became the second Rotary Club President to serve the Council.

The appointment made Lo to succeed Sir Robert Hormus Kotewall (羅旭龢爵士), C.M.G., LL.D., J.P., as one of the three ethnic Chinese members in the Legislative Council. Lo was outspoken for the Chinese interest during his Legislative Council service.

Lo supported the government’s policy on hiring more local civil servants after a report on government salaries led to a public uproar. Hong Kong Governor Sir Andrew Caldecott (香港總督郝德傑爵士) adopted the policy in 1935 to consider local candidates before vacancies were advertised in Britain.

Due to the threat of the Japanese aggression, Lo was also appointed to the Taxation Committee in December 1938 which planned to introduce new tax for raising extra revenue for the war preparation. The Taxation Committee was replaced by the War Revenue Committee in 1940 and Lo was re-appointed to the Committee again. The Committee dominating by the business sector rejected the Government’s proposed Income Tax Bill. However the Committee also compromised by suggesting a partial income tax.

Lo was outspoken against the racist policy of segregation which did not change until 1946. Together with José Pedro Braga (布力架), who later became the first Portuguese appointed to the Legislative Council, they formed the League of Fellowship in 1921, aiming at eliminating “racial

disabilities” and to “promote good fellowship within the Colony, irrespective of race, class and creed.” After the second reading of repealing the Peak District Reservation Ordinance which excluded Chinese to reside on The Peak District on 26 July 1946 in the Legislative Council, Lo claimed that “the Chinese then had no particular desire to live on the Peak. Their opposition was based solely on grounds of racial discrimination.”

In 1940 on the eve of the Pacific War, Lo and Leo d’Almada e Castro, the Portuguese representative in the Legislative Council, protested strongly after the Government’s ship which evacuated a number of the British nationals, majority of pure European descent, disembarked a number of Eurasians in Manila, The Philippines, on the way to Australia, on the excuse that the Eurasians would feel more at ease among brown or yellow-skinned people. Lo raised the issue of racial discrimination at a Financial Committee meeting by stating that “the tax-payers of this colony are being made to pay for the evacuation of a very small and selected section of the community and, whenever necessary, for their maintenance and support during an indefinite period, leaving some 99.9% of the population uncared for and unprotected when an emergency does come.”

The Wartime of Japanese Occupation

After the outbreak of the Pacific War on 7 December 1941, and the 17 days of Defence of Hong Kong Battle, the Colony was captured by the Imperial Japan’s troops on December 25th. During the Japanese Occupation of Hong Kong for the next three and half years, many local Chinese leaders including Lo were pressured by the Japanese authorities to serve on various representative committees. After the petition of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce (香港華商總會) on the difficulties of the disruption of public utilities and of supplies, the currency problem, and prostitution, the Japanese authorities formed the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee (香港善後處理委員會). Sir Robert Hormus Kotewall and Sir Shou-Son Chow (周壽臣爵士) were appointed chairman and vice-chairman respectively, and Lo was appointed member of the Committee. The Committee held 59 meetings and was later on replaced by the Chinese Representative Council (華民代表會) and Chinese Cooperative Council (華民各界協議會), in which Lo was member of the latter.

Lo was able to escape the opprobrium of outright collaboration with the occupying troops due to a series of possibly “diplomatic” illnesses. In contrast to his years in the Legislative Council before the War, Lo generally remained silent on the wartime councils. One of the only time he spoke was when the Japanese authorities asked how they might improve relations between Chinese and Japanese, he replied that the Japanese troops could take the initiative by not relieving themselves in the public.

After the Victory and the British administration returned in 1945, many local leaders were no longer appointed to public positions by the colonial government due to their collaborations with the Japanese. Sir Robert Hormus Kotewall was asked to withdraw from public life and had to resign from the Executive Council. Sir Shou-Son Chow never completely returned and Mr. Li Tse-Fong (李子方太平紳士), J.P., was not re-appointed to the Legislative Council. However, Lo was able to return to the public life because the British Government believed that he had worked with the Japanese only with great reluctance.

Hong Kong Governor’s “Cabinet” – the Executive Council

The Executive Council (行政局) of the British Crown Colony Hong Kong government before 1 July 1997 was “the cabinet” presided by the Governor of Hong Kong (香港總督). It was analogous to other

Executive Councils in the British Commonwealth such as the Federal Executive Council of Australia, the Executive Council of New Zealand, and the Privy Council of the United Kingdom.

In 1949, the Executive Council had 5 ex-officio members: Commander-in-Chief of the British Forces in Hong Kong (駐港英軍三軍司令) (until 1993), Chief Secretary (布政司), the Attorney General (律政司), the Financial Secretary (財政司), and the Secretary for Chinese Affairs (華民政務司). There might be the Commissioner of Labour (勞工處處長), while an “official” was not an ex-officio member. In addition, there were 6 “unofficial members” appointed: the chief manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (香港上海滙豐銀行), the Tai-Pan of Jardine Matheson (怡和洋行), a solicitor, two barristers, and a physician. In later years, more unofficial members were appointed who were representing various interests from the Colony.

All important decisions must be approved by the Governor in conjunction with the Executive Council prior to implementation.

Lo was appointed by Hong Kong Governor Sir Mark Aitchison Young (香港總督楊慕琦爵士) an Unofficial Member to the Executive Council (香港行政局非官守議員), from 1946 until the last day of his life. And he was re-appointed to the Legislative Council in 1946 until he resigned on 5 June 1950, where he played a great role.

After the Second World War, the Labour Government in London decided to give further representation to the people in the colonies. On his return to Hong Kong in 1946, Governor Sir Mark Young announced a constitutional reform plan of “giving to the inhabitants of the Colony a fuller and more responsible share in the management of their own affairs.” The Young Plan included the larger share of unofficial members in the Legislative Council and formation a municipal council with larger power elected by the people of Hong Kong. Lo also supported Governor Young’s initiative of imposing direct taxation for more social services.

However Young’s successor Hong Kong Governor Sir Alexander William George Herder Grantham (香港總督葛量洪爵士) did not share the same view as Young. As the Chinese Communists was winning the civil war, Grantham suggested London to drop the reform plan as it would create the chance for the Communist penetration. At a meeting of the Legislative Council on 22 June 1949, Lo suggested that the Young Plan was no longer the best means for giving the inhabitants of the Colony more share in the Government. He tabled a revised proposal supported by all unofficial members which called for a smaller reconstituted Legislative Council with an unofficial majority and abandonment of the establishment of a municipal council. Fear of possible Communists’ reaction, the British Cabinet eventually rejected both proposals by Young and Lo and only re-opened the two elected seats in the Urban Council.

In 1950 the government appointed Lo to the Committee on Chinese Law and Custom in Hong Kong to consider reform on the Chinese custom. In the report of the Committee, Lo suggested not to abolish the custom of Chinese man taking concubine as he stated the old law “if it is not so acted upon...will gradually die out.”

Honours

Lo was awarded the King George V Silver Jubilee Medal in 1935, and the King George VI Coronation Medal in 1937. In recognition of his distinguish service to the Colony, Lo was decorated in 1941 Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (C.B.E.), by King George VI, of the United Kingdom and the Dominions of the British Commonwealth. Lo was bestowed again by King George VI a Knight Bachelor (Kt.) in 1948.

On 16 March 1951, Lo was conferred a degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) by the University of Hong Kong (香港大學). (*Full text of the citation can be read on Pages 11-14.*)

Lo suffered from heart disease in his later life. He died suddenly of a heart attack at 7:45 p.m. on 7 March 1959 at his Robinson Road (羅便臣道) residence at the age of 67, when he was preparing to join the banquet at the Government House for the visit of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

On the funeral day, hundreds of prominent local citizens including Hong Kong Governor Sir Robert Brown Black (香港總督柏立基爵士) and Commander of the British Forces Major-General Kenneth Cecil Orville Bastyan paid their respects at Lo's residence and at the Wing Pit Ting (永別亭), the "farewell pavilion" in Pokfulam (薄扶林), with the marching band of the Hong Kong Police Force leading the cortège. Wreaths were sent from Governor Black, Secretary of State for the Colonies Alan Lennox-Boyd, and former Hong Kong Governor Sir Alexander Grantham.

Lo was highly rated by Sir Alexander Grantham in his autobiography 《Via Ports》. Grantham said Lo was outstanding among the Executive Council and had "*a first class brain, great moral courage and a capacity for digging down into details without becoming lost in them.*"



《APPENDIX》

At the Congregation 1951 of The University of Hong Kong, Sir Lo Man-Kam, Kt., C.B.E., J.P., was conferred the Degree of Doctor of Laws (*honoris causa*) by The Chancellor, Sir Alexander William George Herder Grantham (葛量洪爵士), Governor of Hong Kong. Excerpt below is the full text of the Citation written and delivered by The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lindsay Tasman Ride (香港大學校長賴廉士博士), C.B.E., LL.D., E.D., D.M., M.A., B.Ch.:

Mr. Chancellor, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Whether it be justified or not, the prophetic warning and unfortunate experience of Julius Caesar have vested not only the Ides, but the month of March itself with a lasting, sinister reputation; but it would appear that Caesar's fears have never been shared by the powers controlling the destiny of this University. It would be interesting to speculate on what our history might have been, had these early powers not been mundane medicals, had they been of the finer clay which produces Historians and men well versed in the Arts.

With, shall we say, commendable contempt for historical warnings, March was chosen for the laying of the Foundation Stone of this building in 1910: the following year – just forty years ago today – the University was officially founded on the 16th of March, and again, two weeks later – still in the month of March – the University was incorporated by Ordinance.

In 1912, the 11th March witnessed the official opening of the University by Sir Frederick Lugard, as the commemorative stone at the foot of the stairs leading into this Hall bears lasting witness.

Today, to this long list we add yet another March, made memorable by three significant events.

Since writing that I have been made to realize what a grave mistake it is to fail to make use of the topic of weather as an opening gambit in a speech as well as in conversation. Hong Kong's weather has taken umbrage and I am forced to make humble amends. Today's Congregation has been made memorable on four counts. First and foremost, our weather. This morning's fog prevented the landing of the 'plane bearing our guest of honour, and in the faint hope that it would make it possible for him to attend, we had to postpone this Congregation from 3.30 to 4.30. I apologise for the inconvenience I know this must have caused you all.

Next it will be my pleasurable duty in a few minutes to ask the Chancellor to confer our highest academic honour on the Right Honourable Malcolm MacDonald, His Majesty's Commissioner General for South East Asia. If you care to look at our list of Honorary Graduates, you will see the names of many worthy and famous men, but you will find none so worthy on so many counts as the name of Malcolm MacDonald; on the academic side he is a link between the old and the new, for he is a graduate of one of the oldest of our British universities, the University of Oxford, and at the same time, the Chancellor of the Youngest, the University of Malaya; being the worthy son of a worthy father has not influenced one way or the other his outstanding successes; his service and his attainments in his chosen profession are wholly due to his own outstanding ability, his human approach to his fellow men and his sympathetic understanding of their problems and their aspirations. Whether with the legislative walls of Westminster or in the new-world democracy of Canada, or at the caldron from which we confidently hope and pray will emerge a peaceful and progressive South East Asia, he has served his country and humanity with fervour, with humility and with honour.

This Congregation is also important because today we similarly honour a leader of a lesser state but a statesman of no lesser caliber; Sir Man-Kam Lo of Hong Kong. This University cannot claim the honour of having played any part in his professional training which led to his being awarded First Class Honours in the Law Society Examinations in London, but the Colony can claim the honour of being his birth place, for it was in this city he was born and it is to the people of this Colony that he has dedicated his life of public service. In view of his illustrious service to the Colony in general and to the University in particular, we today with pride and with pleasure add his name also to our list of honorary graduates.

The third point of significance about today's Congregation is that the Hall around you and the mace before you both proclaim that the active stage of our post-war regeneration has now really begun.

Regarding the Hall, I should like to take this opportunity of congratulating the Professor of Architecture, the Associated architect Mr. George Hall, and the Contractors Winsome and Company, for the admirable way that they have pushed on the preliminary work of restoration in order that you may sit here today in surroundings more congenial than those of last year when you suffered so stoically and for so long, the discomfort of the ruined Hall and then tortures of our winter weather. Today we are doubly fortunate; you sit in comparative comfort, the weather- God, though fickle, has been kinder.

The Hall is by no means yet finished and many of the fittings are but temporary, but the work thus far completed reveals the fact that it is the intention of the Council and our Department of Architecture to produce new University buildings worthy of this lovely city and it keeping with their comparable surroundings; it is important that our buildings and the compound in which they are set should instill a sense of pride not only in the members of the University but also in the citizens of the Colony; this sense of pride should prove an added incentive for us to match the standard of our attainments and our served with that of the accommodation which the public purse has so generously provided.

Another example of a beautifully appointed building you will see when Lady Grantham has opened the Lady Ho Tung Hall later this afternoon; our women undergraduates are indeed fortunate in being able to live and work in such comfortable and pleasant, almost palatial, surroundings. I believe it has already

had a disturbing effect on the men who are fast becoming house-conscious and envious, and it has, at the same time, also disclosed a new aspect of the age-old problem of inequality of the sexes!

This benefaction from Sir Robert Ho Tung has been referred to on a previous occasion, but I cannot let this opportunity pass without stressing again our gratitude made all the more pleasing by the knowledge that his donation of one million dollars to the University has not affected his continuous stream of contributions to the poor and needy of the Colony. To his lasting praise, this stream flows unabated, and we in the University consider ourselves very fortunate that Sir Robert should extend his generosity to us in this magnificent fashion.

For the new mace we are indebted to the munificence of Mr. Leung Yew who immediately after the last Congregation came forward and offered to cover the cost of its manufacture. During tea this afternoon I hope all of you will take the opportunity of examining the mace, and although it still lacks its jade ornaments, I am sure you will agree that it is an outstanding example of British craftsmanship; combining as it does, oriental history through the medium of occidental art, it is a fitting emblem to symbolize the supreme authority of a British University set beside a China sea.

On the shaft of the mace you will see four panels; on one is embossed a scene of early Hong Kong, on another a picture of this building as it was last year; the third bears an inscription recording the munificence of Mr. Leung Yew and the fourth remains empty and on it later is hoped to depict the main building as it will be when completed. On the obverse of the head of the mace is the Colony Coat-of-Arms, and on the reverse that of the University, both beautifully embossed, a significant reminder that we are an integral part of the Colony.

Last year I put to you the case for a British University in Hong Kong. Since then I have heard the cogency of the argument admitted on many sides, but I have also heard the question raised, "What service does the University render the Colony in return for the public and private money spent on it?" I don't intend to answer the ethical side of that question today, or to deal with the obvious advantage it is to the Colony that the responsibility for the higher education of its young people should rest in its own hands; we have only to look at the history of totalitarian countries during the last generation to realize the magnitude of that advantage; but I do want to consider for a few moments the economic side, an aspect which I hope will appeal to the practical business man of this Colony.

In July last year a simple, unostentatious but significant ceremony was performed at the Tsan Yuk Hospital by the Director of Medical and Health Services Dr. Isaac Newton. It was this; a small inscribed silver bowl was presented to one of Hong Kong's poor because she happened to be the Mother of the 50,000th baby delivered by the University Obstetrical Unit since it was organized. Each year now the University gives to over 5,000 of the poorest of the poor mothers in this Colony, the best advice, attention and care that medical science in this part of the world can provide. In addition to this obstetrical care, it provides ante- and post-natal attention for over six thousand women each year, treats about two thousand out-patient cases and performs about one thousand gynaecological operations. This argument could be amplified by quoting the large numbers of cases dealt with by our Surgical, Medical and Pathology Departments and by reference to our consulting services to the more well-to-do patients of the Colony.

These services alone would cost the community many hundreds of thousands of dollars annually had they to be provided through other channels, and they form but a fraction of what the University does for the Colony in the field of medicine. In this connection it would be unjust if we claim all the credit for the University, and if we did not acknowledge the part played in all this work by the Hong Kong Government; for it must be emphasized that we are not a Government institution, and not being in the fortunate position of most other medical schools who have their own hospitals, we have to depend on Government hospitals for our teaching facilities without which most of our public medical services just referred to would not be possible. I should like here to take this opportunity of stressing with

gratification and pleasure the close co-operation and mutual good-will that exists between Government Departments in the fields of Public Works, Education, Social Services, Architecture and Gardens as well as Medicine, and their sister departments in the University.

There are yet other services we render which, while not so readily translated into dollars and cents, are nevertheless just as valuable. In addition to doctors, University graduates including teachers, economists, lawyers, engineers and business men. Have you ever thought how much it would cost the Colony – either directly or indirectly – to send all these people abroad for their professional education?

Nor is the value of post-graduate education to be forgotten. We are providing Diploma courses in Social Studies and in Education, and each year post-graduate courses are given in one or another of the medical clinical sciences and recently our Department of Engineering has run a post-graduate course at which over 100 engineers of the Colony have been attending. Our fee for this course is \$25: would anyone care to estimate its worth to the engineering profession of the Colony?

In the senior staff we have a body of men of recognized status in their professions; they owe no allegiance to any vested interest, their professional opinions are not swayed by the official views of Government; they are a body of men intellectually independent, whose services are at the disposal of the community on whatever boards or committee they may be required, and it is very gratifying to us to see how much in these post-war years these services have been solicited. “Can any good thing come out of Nazareth?” I shall answer the modern and local version of that old taunt by one statement. The Royal College of Surgeons of England honours the memory of one of the world’s greatest eighteenth century anatomists and surgeons, John Hunter, by appointing Hunterian Professors each to deliver a lecture on his special contribution to the advancement of the science of surgery. One of those chosen this year is the Professor of Surgery of this University, and this November Professor Stock, to whom we offer our heartiest congratulations, goes to London to deliver his lecture before the Royal College of Surgeons on “The Surgical Treatment of Cirrhosis of the Liver”. To sum up – the function of a University does not begin and end with the ringing of a lecture bell or the posting of degree examination results; should you try to evaluate its services by a profit and loss account, or to estimate its efficiency by the total expenditure per student, you are neglecting the consideration of those ancillary yet important functions which characterize a vital university. These functions the University of Hong Kong does not neglect.

May I now just say one word to the graduands. You have finished your course; you have satisfied your examiners. In what way are you going to use your talents? Advice this year regarding that problem is easy to give because I venture to predict you will remember this 16th of March 1951 not merely because it was the day on which you took your degrees, but because it was the day on which you graduated in company with two famous men. A generation ago they too satisfied their examiners, but that was not the end of their striving, their learning, or their serving in the University of life – and that is the larger meaning of the word – in life universal they have satisfied their fellow men. May you continue to strive, may you continue to learn, and each in your own profession according to your own talents, may you continue to serve as did your fellow senior graduands, Malcolm MacDonald and Lo Man-Kam.



SERVICE Above Self