

How could Rotary Spirit be related to Confucius' Philosophy

by Kunming Rotarian Paul H. Hsu

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

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In the June 1947 Issue of *《The Rotarian》* magazine, there was an article *《Confucius' Dream...and Rotary's》* written by Paul H. Hsu, President 1946-1947 of Kunming Rotary Club (昆明扶輪社徐佩璜社長 1946-1947), in capital city of Yunnan Province. How could the Rotary Spirit be related to the philosophy of China's ancient Great Teacher Confucius of few thousand years ago? For the readers' easy reference, the said article is reprinted herewith on Page 3.

Hsu Pei-Hwang (*aka* Paul H. Hsu) (徐佩璜) (Class of 1914, Chemistry, MIT) had been a Chinese government official who took different positions in the Republic of China (中華民國).

Hsu was born in Wu Xian (*Suzhou*), Kiangsu (*Jiangsu*) Province, Ch'ing Empire (大清國江蘇省吳縣), in 1888. He received his early education under private tutors, followed by finished in 1909 the study at the Preparatory School of the Shanghai Industrial College, Ministry of Posts & Telegraphs (郵傳部上海高等實業學堂) (forerunner of Shanghai Jiao Tong University 上海交通大學前身). Hsu went to the United States for further study which was sponsored by the Boxer Indemnity Fund. In 1910 he graduated with honors from Williston Seminary, Easthampton, Massachusetts. Later he graduated from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Boston, with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1914. He then took advanced courses in Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at MIT from 1914 to 1916, concurrently he served as an assistant in the Chemistry Department. Between 1916 and 1918 he was a research chemist with the Larkin Company, Buffalo. From 1918 to 1920 he served as a chemical engineer with the Procter & Gamble Company, Ivorydale, Ohio; from 1920 to 1921 a research chemist with Miner Laboratories, Chicago.

Hsu returned to the Republic of China (中華民國) as a consulting chemist and chemical engineer, and served as a superintendent of the International Soap and Drug Works, Shanghai (上海五洲肥皂廠工程師), during 1921-1923. He was considered the best soap and oil expert then in China.

From 1923- to 1927, Hsu worked as a professor and dean of the Middle School of Nanyang University, Ministry of Communications (交通部南洋大學附屬中學) (the forerunner of today's Shanghai Nanyang Model High School 上海南洋模範中學).

When the Nationalist Revolutionary Army launched the north campaign in 1927, Hsu joined the political world. From February to May 1927 he was appointed Secretary-General, Shanghai Branch of the Central Political Council. When the Branch Political Council was dissolved in May 1927, he was appointed Chief of Division, the City Government of Greater Shanghai (上海市政府參事) and concurrently, Director of Native Products Museum and Director of the Municipal Industrial Testing and Research Laboratory (1927-1928).

Hsu was promoted to a counsellor of Mayor's office in 1928. Between 1929 and 1930 he served as a senior counsellor. He was ordered to take charge of the Bureau of Education (上海市教育局局長) in October 1930. From 1929 to 1930 Hsu took up the post of the President of Technology Club of China (中國科技學會會長). From 1930 he became the President of the Nanyang Alumni Association (南洋校友會會長).

Also, Hsu served as a chairman of delegation of the Chinese Engineering Society to the World Power Conference and the World Engineering Congress in Tokyo, Japan, in 1930. The same year he became a member of the National Congress of Commerce and Industries. Later he was a member of the Civic Center Construction Commission, City Government of Greater Shanghai. Then he was known as a commissioner of Public Utilities of Shanghai (上海市公用局局長).

When serving as the Commissioner of Public Utilities of Shanghai, as a member of the Construction Committee of the downtown area, Hsu's first attempt was to pave the tramway network across the city but was not realized. He left behind a book written in Chinese 《十年來上海市公用事業之演進》(1937) (Evolution of Public Utilities in Shanghai in the Past 10 Years).

Three times Hsu was appointed the President of the Chinese Engineering Society (中國工程學會會長). Between 1931 and 1933 he resumed his office as a Director of the Chinese Institute of Engineers (中國工程師學會理事). From 1931 Hsu acted as the President of the Shanghai Branch of the Chinese Institute of Engineers (中國工程師學會上海分會會長). In 1934 Hsu was elected President of the Chinese Institute of Engineers (中國工程師學會會長).

During the Anti-Japanese War (1937-1945), Hsu moved to Kunming of Yunnan Province (雲南省昆明市), and began his industrial operation as director of a chemical materials plant as well as Yu Tien Phosphate Fertilizer Plant (裕滇磷肥廠廠長). He joined the Rotary Club there and later served as Kunming Rotary Club President in 1946-1947.

After the establishment of the People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國) in October 1949, Hsu served as deputy chief engineer of Light Industry Bureau (昆明市輕工業局副總工程師), Kunming; Vice-chairman of the Industry & Commerce Federation of Yunnan (雲南省工商業聯合會副主任委員); Deputy of Yunnan Provincial People's Congress, Sessions 1-3; Deputy of Kunming People's Congress and Member of China People's Political Consultative Conference, Sessions 1-5. Hsu was retired in 1966 back to his birth place Suzhou (蘇州) and died in 1973.



Confucius' Dream . . . and Rotary's

By Paul H. Hsu

President, Rotary Club of Kunming, China

*If the friendlier world both envision is to be,
then men of faith and goodwill must pioneer it.*

CONFUCIUS said that within the four seas we are all brethren. He planted in the minds of the Chinese people thousands of years ago the great ideal of world fellowship. Our late leader Dr. Sun Yat-sen again predicted a world utopia in advocating a Chinese democracy along the lines of Three People's Principles. So the spirit of international coöperation such as the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is not at all new to the Chinese people, and is deeply rooted in Chinese history.

But the world is not so rosy as our forebears thought. Despite the fact that many nations in the past half a century suffered two minor and two major wars, every one of them seemed to be fought on an increasing scale in manpower, magnitude, duration, and new weapons. The Sino-Japanese War brought Japan into ascendancy with further aspirations, leading to the Russo-Japanese struggle, which again gave the Japanese more imperialistic outlooks and which became a detonator of World War II. World War I gave both the defeated and the victorious nations a new angle of heretofore-unheard-of political experiments and a new set of balance of power resulting in a terrible conflagration. If another war should ever come, it would produce such devastation that only God knows.

Let us ask ourselves, then, what is the underlying cause of wars among nations? The opening sentences of the Preamble of UNESCO ably say that it is due partly to the ignorance of each other's ways and lives resulting in suspicion and mistrust between the peoples of the world which too often have all ended in war, and partly due to political "propaganda . . . through ignorance and prejudice, of the doctrine of the inequality of men and races." The

old method of making peace based exclusively upon the political and economic arrangements of Governments would not cure the evil of mankind in fighting another battle, and pressure of force alone would deter but not eradicate the ambitions of war lords.

But a war lord, no matter whether he is from the East or the West, cannot wage a total war without his peoples. Here lies our hope of preventing future conflicts.

To my mind, all human beings of this world in their inner souls are the same. All have a big heart, love for righteousness and justice, and an understanding of right and wrong. It is due to the differences in geographies, histories, resources, and social and economic orders of the different peoples that distinct groups form the different nationalities. On the surface, they differ in many respects, but in fact they have much in common.

When a man tries to understand a man of another country, a line of acquaintance is established. If more lines are secured, then a bridge of friendship is supported, which will take the place of the road of suspicion, eventually leading to a pathway of goodwill and service. From friendship grows the flower of understanding, and from mutual understanding we can create an enlightened world opinion for removing fears and threats. Thus, in time Confucius' dream will be realized and all peoples of the world would come under a world federation of nations living happily together as brethren.

This is not a mere vision. It will come if we all will make an effort to reach that goal. The

United Nations is a good sapling which the participating countries have planted for that glorious future of which we all are dreaming. Now the UNESCO has a program whose purpose is to add water, sunshine, and fertilizer to this young tree.

All this is beautiful! But the work cannot be accomplished in a day. We need volunteers and workers to carry on this important nursery work for a long time to come. We need men of unwavering faith and confidence to persevere in this work of world reconstruction.

Above all, we need pioneers of experience to set an example as to how this work can be carried out day by day with ever-increasing momentum. Among these pioneers are the Rotarians all over the world.

ROTARY has now 300,000 members in 6,100 Rotary Clubs in more than 70 countries. Long before the recognition of international understanding as a basic factor in promoting world peace, Rotary has been doing the work of world fellowship through its Fourth Object, which reads, "the advancement of international understanding, goodwill, and peace through a world fellowship of business and professional men united in the ideal of service." Those 300,000 men constitute a tremendous force in all the countries where the 6,100 Clubs are situated, and can serve as a pattern for creating real international goodwill.

The responsibility is ours. Let us all redouble our efforts to build a lasting peace through our own practice and by helping UNESCO in its many difficult tasks.





Paul H. Hsu (front right 2) in the Class 1909-1910 of Williston Seminary, Massachusetts, U.S.A.

徐佩璜 - 中華民國政府官職資料庫

命令日期 Release date	任/免 Situation	原因 Reason	機關 官/職等 職務 Organization Rank/Grade Capacity	參考用原文 Original reference
017-10-12	任	任命	上海特別市政府參事	任命徐佩璜 上海特別市政府參事
018-06-26	任	任命	上海特別市政府參事	任命徐佩璜 上海特別市政府參事
019-12-20	任	任命	上海市政府教育局局長	任命徐佩璜 上海市政府教育局局長
021-10-07	免	呈請辭職	上海市政府教育局局長	呈請辭職徐佩璜 上海市政府教育局局長
022-09-02	任	任命	上海市政府公用局局長	任命徐佩璜 上海市政府公用局局長
025-10-28	任	派	上海市普通考試典試委員	派徐佩璜 上海市普通考試典試委員

鈞長鑒核，訓示祇遵！

謹呈

兼理教育部部長職務蔣。

呈送

張校長通告一件，

教職員宣言一件，

報載市黨部談話一件，

抄學生來呈一件。

兼代上海市教育局局長徐佩璜



徐佩璜，字君陶，1888 年出生於大清國江蘇省吳縣橫扇潘岐頭。1909 年(宣統元年)公考錄取去美國，1909—1910 年在威廉士敦高中(Williston Seminary)畢業；1910 年至 1914 年于美國麻省理工學院(Massachusetts Institute of Technology)化工系畢業，授理學士。曾任該校助教、研究員。1916 年至 1921 年間，分別在美國布法羅市(Buffalo)和芝加哥市(Chicago)任化學研究員，以及在艾佛麗戴爾市(Ivorydale)任化學工程師。

1921 年(民國 10 年)回中華民國，先任上海五洲肥皂廠工程師，後為南洋大學(今交通大學)中學部主任。國民革命軍北伐勝利後，歷任上海市農工局第四科科长；社會局第二科科长、技正；市政府參事；市教育局局長。1932 年(民國 21 年)12 月任市公用局代局長，1933 年(民國 22 年)7 月至 1937 年(民國 26 年)任局長。

在任職上海市公用局局長時，作為市中心區建設委員會委員，最早設想在市中心區通行電車，但未實現。徐佩璜著有《十年來上海市公用事業之演進》一書。

徐佩璜歷任 1924-1925 年中國工程學會會長，後再任兩次；1929-1930 年中國科技學會會長；1930 年南洋校友會會長；1931-1933 年中國工程師學會理事；1931 年中國工程師學會上海分會會長；1934 年中國工程師學會會長。

徐佩璜是上海市吳江縣同鄉會會長；1930 年全國工商業代表大會的成員；出席[1930 年東京世界電力大會和世界工程大會]中國工程學會代表團主席。

抗日戰爭時期，去雲南省任化工材料廠及裕滇磷肥廠廠長。加入昆明扶輪社(Kunming Rotary Club)，1946-1947 年度擔任社長。

1949 年中華人民共和國建政後，任昆明市輕工業局副總工程師；雲南省工商業聯合會副主任委員；雲南省 1-3 屆人民代表大會代表、昆明市 1-5 屆人民代表大會代表、中國人民政治協商會議昆明市委員會委員。1966 年退休回蘇州，1973 年辭世。

