Peking – Peiping – Peking
A Rotary Club under 3 different National Flags

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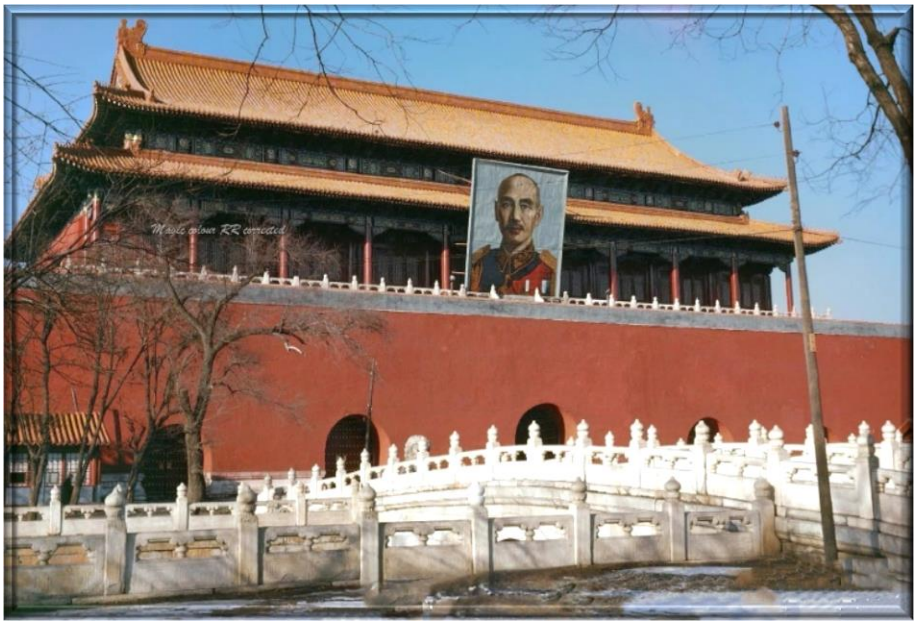
10 October 2016



In 1947 Peiping, a large portrait of Chiang Kai-Shek was displayed above Tiananmen Gate.

This is the story about Peking Rotary Club (北京扶輪社) or Peiping Rotary Club (北平扶輪社).

The English name "Peking" for the Chinese city "北京" (today known as "Beijing") was originally transferred from the Portuguese. Portugal was likely the first European country to contact China in modern times, and called the imperial city "Pequim". This name appeared in the letters of Navarrese Catholic missionary Francis Xavier in 1552. It was then transferred to English as "Pekin" or "Peking". The English name "Peking" was first seen to be used by Jesuit missionary Martino Martini (衛匡國) in a popular atlas published in Amsterdam in 1655.

The name "Peking", which literally means "northern capital" (from the Chinese characters 北 for north and 京 for capital), was applied to the city in 1403 during the Ming Dynasty (大明國) to distinguish the city from Nanking (*Nanjing*) (南京) (the "southern capital"). Prior to that, the city itself was initially known as "Peiping" (北平). The name reads literally as "northern plains".

"Peiping" was restored as the name in 1928 by the Republic of China (中華民國) Nationalist Government following its re-conquest of Peking from the warlords during the Northern Expedition. The occupying Japanese in 1937 imposed the name "Peking", then with their surrender in 1945, the Nationalist Government restored "Peiping". In 1949, the official name again reverted to "Peking" when the Communists conquered it during the Chinese Civil War and made it capital of their newly founded People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國).

As noted above, the *pinyin* romanization, "Beijing", was adopted for use within the country in 1958, and for international use commencing 1979.

Peking Rotary Club (北京扶輪社)

30 August 1924 – June 1928

The State Capital and the National Flag

The Republic of China proclaimed her establishment on 1 January 1912, as the successful result of the Xinhai Revolution (辛亥革命) broke out on 10 October 1911. The Peiyang Government (北洋政府), was the government of the Republican China which sat in its capital Peking between 1912 and 1928. It was internationally recognized as the legitimate Chinese government during that period. When the republican government was established, the "Five-Color-Strip Flag" was selected by the provisional Senate as the national flag.

The Third Rotary Club formed in China

This picture is believed to be one of the earliest group photos of Peking Rotary Club taken in 1924.

Peking Rotary Club was the third Club formed in China in 1924. The previous two was first the Rotary Club of Shanghai (上海扶輪社) chartered on 1 October 1919, while the next following was the Rotary Club of Tientsin (天津扶輪社) on 10 May 1923. Peking Rotary Club was the first located in the national capital, and its career was started with a multinational membership of 22 of which about one-third were native Chinese and the others were European and American business and professional men of the city in warlords' regime.

The earliest record on the Peking Rotary Club dates back to 18 November 1920 when John M. Phillips, Secretary of Boston Rotary Club, U.S.A., wrote to the Secretary of the International Association of Rotary Clubs (forerunner until 1922 of Rotary International), Chesley R. Perry,

reporting on a meeting he had had with the Reverend Dr. Howell Smith Vincent. Vincent had spent fifteen or sixteen years in Siam (the Kingdom of Thailand today) where he had heard about Rotary. He was to be transferred to Peking University (北京大學) to teach Vocational Education. Vincent was keen to establish a Club in Peking. But nothing was followed up.

About four years later, on 2 September 1924, Julean Herbert Arnold (安立得) (former Shanghai Rotarian; founder of the American Chamber of Commerce in Shanghai 1915), the Commercial Attaché of the American Legation in Peking, received a telegram from "Ches" R. Perry. Arnold had eagerly awaited this telegram. Confirmation of the anticipated news would mean that Arnold had finally reached the finish line at the end of a long road he had been on for too long. The road had been paved with many obstacles and sometimes Arnold did not want to continue with the mission he had imposed upon himself. Good news, however, would mean that the Rotary mission he had worked on for nearly 20 months had finally been accomplished.

Rotary archives reveal that a first meeting leading towards the establishment of the Rotary Club of Peking took place informally over tea on Tuesday 18 January 1923 when 15 influential Americans and one Chinese met in The Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits (六國飯店) in Peking. One of the participants, L. M. Bocker, acted as Secretary of that meeting. He sent a report to the Secretary of the Chicago Rotary Club---George Ludington Treadwell---who had been a charter member and the first secretary of the Shanghai Rotary Club. Bocker, on behalf of the group, requested Treadwell's help and advice on the procedures leading to obtain a Charter from Rotary International (RI). The correspondence also reveals that the Peking group was looking at the Shanghai Rotary Club for guidance. According to Bocker the prospective Rotary Club would recruit its members from the foreign banks, legations, large business interests, educational institutions, foundations and missions. Among the Chinese names mentioned was that of Dr. Chengting Thomas Wang (王正廷博士) (former Shanghai Rotarian and was in Peking serving the Government as Foreign Affairs Minister 中華民國外交總長).

As the meeting took place in Peking, Julean Arnold was guest speaker at the Chicago Rotary Club. He was unaware of the meeting that was taken place in Peking. His presentation in Chicago had made such a strong impression on the leadership of Rotary that they invited him to stay on for discussions regarding the extension of Rotary into Peking. Lester B. Struthers, RI Assistant General Secretary, spent a lot of time with Arnold and briefed him on Rotary's policies and ideas---especially towards China. Struthers observed Arnold very carefully but did not give any hints as to his thoughts of possibly suggesting him to serve as the RI Board's Special Representative to oversee the establishment of the Rotary Club in Peking. During his visit, Arnold also met with James Wheeler Davidson (達飛聲/禮密臣) of the RI Extension Committee.

Two or three days after, Secretary Treadwell of Chicago Rotary Club received Bocker's letter detailing the January 16th meeting in Peking. This letter and the visit by Arnold prompted the Secretariat to move quickly. Rather than waiting for Arnold's return to China in April or May, they contacted Shanghai requesting that they "suggest a Shanghai Rotarian who could be appointed as Special Representative for the supervision of the organizing of the club in Peking". Arnold was informed of this but RI still intended to keep in close touch with Arnold.

Not knowing that Shanghai had suggested a Chinese to serve as Special Representative, Davidson was afraid that the appointee would build a white-men's club in Peking and a club dominated by missionaries. Davidson thought that Rotary and China would be better served if the club would "bring together the many brilliant young Chinese who are now holding important positions in Peking, and many of whom are foreign educated, and the representatives of the foreign community, who are friendly to China… Such a Club we can point to with satisfaction as being primarily a Chinese Club."

For reasons unknown, Shanghai suddenly withdrew the appointment of K. P. Chen (陳光甫) (founder of the Shanghai Commercial & Savings Bank 上海商業儲蓄銀行). That opened the way for Julean Arnold to be appointed Special Representative. Shortly thereafter, in June 1923, the Secretary of Shanghai Rotary Club---Past President Dr. Julian Petit (貝久齡醫生)---sent a confidential letter to the General Secretary in which he questioned the appointment of Arnold as Special Representative and the idea of setting up a Rotary Club in Peking altogether. To Petit, Peking was "a political town which, once politics is taken away, is dead". He said a few other rather negative things which, when Arnold found out later, caused him a lot of distress.

Julean Arnold had returned to Peking on May 1st and immediately got to work on reaching his goal: the establishment of the Peking Rotary Club. On 18 June 1923 he assembled a committee of five key men to his home to discuss the requirements of RI and the idea of bringing 25 charter members together. These five were: (1) Dr. Chengting T. Wang, Foreign Affairs Minister; (2) Charles R. Bennett, Manager, International Banking Corporation; (3) Stanley Foster Howard, American Express; (4) Dr. T. Dwight Sloan, Hospital Superintendent with the Rockefeller Foundation; (5) Harold Cushing Faxon, Pressed Steel Car Company.

The committee invited 25 potential charter members to a luncheon in Arnold's home on July 11th during which the project, obligations and essential features of a Rotary Club in Peking were explained. Of the 25 selected men there were 12 Chinese, 2 Britons and 11 Americans. All present were asked to confirm in writing within one week individually their desire to continue as charter members and to obligate themselves to the Constitution, By-laws and regulations of Rotary. Twenty-four of the 25 replied positively and sent in their initiation fees. One new name was added to replace the one who had failed to respond.

On July 13th the Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. C. T. Wang, met again. Among the decisions taken was the selection of the temporary name "The Thursday Tiffin Club".

The first meeting of The Thursday Tiffin Club took place on 27 July 1923. The group would not admit any new members until receiving the Charter and agreed to meet every other Thursday from then on. Twenty-eight additional names were submitted to the RI Extension Committee as further potential members. Julean Arnold was elected temporary President of The Thursday Tiffin Club with Vice Admiral Tsai Ting-Kan (蔡廷幹海軍中將) serving as Vice-President.

Arnold also reported that they had organized a strong quartet to handle the singing, which, he hoped, would soon develop into a good singing unit for the entire club.

In his Extension Survey, Julean Arnold wrote about the city of Peking as in 1923:

"Peking is located in Chihli Province having a population of 950,000 of which 947,000 were natives

and 3,000 foreigners. It was a political rather than a commercial city. Tientsin, located 90 miles to the east had a population of 1,300,000."

Upon his return to Peking from Japan after the earthquake relief work, Arnold wrote to Ches Perry that he was about to build a Rotary Club with a strong Chinese membership; contrary to Shanghai which only had 10% and Tientsin which also only had a handful of Chinese members. Arnold was proud to have nominated about 50% Chinese to be charter members. It was Arnold's view that there were enough qualified and educated Chinese in Peking and other Chinese cities to be able to build---what he called---native clubs. He referred to the Rotary Clubs in Japan, which were all purely Japanese. He was critical of the foreign-dominated Clubs in Shanghai and Tientsin.

Arnold must have received disappointing feedback from Chicago because in January 1924 he wrote a four-page letter to Ches Perry in which he criticized the Extension Committee for stalling on the application of the Tiffin Club. After all, he had been in Chicago one year ago! Moreover, he was prevented from taking in new member until the issuance of the Charter. It had been difficult to hold the group together for so long.

The RI Extension Committee met in early 1924 and found irregularities in the Peking's application. But the Rotary International Board empowered the Extension Committee to enter into negotiations with The Thursday Tiffin Club to straighten out these irregularities and to make it believing that it would be granted a charter as soon as the irregularities have been adjusted. Ultimately, however, the application was rejected!

What were the irregularities?

Peking intended to base its Constitution on that of Shanghai Rotary Club. However, at the RI Convention in Los Angeles, a new Standard Constitution had been adopted and all new clubs established after the Los Angeles Convention in 1922 were compelled to adopt the revised Constitution.

Provided that the By-Laws was not in any way out of harmony with the Constitution and By-Laws of Rotary International, clubs may alter the by-laws to suit their own needs. The Shanghai Rotary Club had never changed either its Constitution or its By-Laws. The grandfather rule applied. However, Peking being a new club was compelled to comply with all changes made at the Los Angeles Convention. This had not been done. Therefore the documents presented by The Thursday Tiffin Club were not acceptable to the RI Board of Directors.

The rules for new clubs mandated that no more than 10% of the charter members may represent the same major classification as for instance "Finance" or "Government Service". The list of charter members from Peking, however, contained 5 names each in Finance, Government Service and further five listed as their business address the "Peking Union Medical College". Only one charter member may come from the same institution as the rules written.

General Secretary Ches Perry went through great length to explain in an 8-page letter what went wrong and he offered suggestions as to how to remedy the situation. Among the solutions: "ask some members of the Thursday Tiffin Club to resign and make room for other charter members with acceptable classifications and affiliations!"

On 1 March 1924 Julean Arnold wrote to Ches Perry informing that he has lost much of his former enthusiasm for Rotary. He was increasingly frustrated that the club has not yet been given its charter and he had meanwhile found out that Dr. Petit had written to the Committee on Extension strongly opposing the granting of a charter for Peking.

On 24 April 1924 The Thursday Tiffin Club decided to disband. A committee of three, comprising of Dr. C. T. Wang, "Doc" Faxon and "Eric" Clarke, was appointed to select a group of 15 possible charter members---in strict compliance with Rotary requirements. Julean Arnold was appointed Special Representative of RI to oversee the formation of the Peking Rotary Club.

The Club met on every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 12:45 p.m. at the Masonic Temple. Vice Admiral Tsai Ting-Kan, who had been elected President of the newly organized Club, sent the Membership Application on 11 July 1924 to Rotary International in Chicago, U.S.A., attested by Samuel S. Young (熊崇志) (career diplomat), who signed as Secretary. Both Tsai and Young were ethnic Cantonese. Julean Arnold was one of the directors to sit on the Board of the Club. Charter No. 1814 was granted on 24 August 1924 to the 22 charter members. Dr. Chengting T. Wang was not able to join the Club as a charter member, due to state diplomatic mission to be away from Peking. Instead, he was elected "Honorary Member".

Service to the community

Not much is known as to what the Club did in terms of Community Service work but there is correspondence with RI regarding flood relief, and on Christmas Eve in 1924 the Club invited 200 very poor boys for dinner. It turned out that 50 of the boys were so poor that they had not enough warm clothing to venture through the cold weather. When the Rotarians heard of this they arranged through the Salvation Army that adequate clothing was provided.

Excerpt here below are some other clippings from《The ROTARIAN》magazine:

May 1925 Would Limit Foreign Study to Graduates

In his address before the local Rotary Club, Dr. Wilson Leon Godshall, lecturer of political science at the University of Pennsylvania, made some suggestion about the education of Chinese students abroad which might perhaps be applied to all cases of education in other lands. The speaker said the question resolved itself into the problem of just which students should be selected to go abroad, whether graduates or undergraduates. It was unwise to send immature students abroad. There was no necessity for that since there were good colleges in China. Qualified students should be sent to big colleges or universities to take up special work. This would prevent them becoming denaturalized or denationalized. At least students should be matriculated in some small American colleges if they insisted on going on before they had graduated in China.

Besides interesting itself in education, the Peking Club furnished a holidays dinner for 200 poor boys, and provided 50 suits so that no guests would have to face the winter weather in insufficient clothing.

March 1926

Rotary clubs in China have the advantage of the particularly cosmopolitan membership which is possible in coast towns with well-developed foreign colonies. All nationalities are agreed as to the value of such gatherings as this Father and Son banquet held in Peking recently.

January 1927 Soap, Towel and Bag of Corn Flour

Each Christmas, the Rotarians of Peking entertains some 200 beggar children. With the assistance of the Salvation Army these youngsters are brought to the Y.M.C.A. building where they are given a hearty meal and each one is presented with soap, towel, and a bag of corn flour.

Another recent activity of the club was an inter-city meet with Rotarians of Tientsin. The train trip between the two cities takes about three hours. It is thought that other Chinese clubs will hold similar meetings before long.

February 1927 Tientsin and Peking Clubs Joint Meeting

Although postponed for nearly a year because of disorganized transport due to civil war in which Peking was captured once and Tientsin twice, this meeting of Rotarians from the two cities was finally held. Sixteen members made the eighty-mile trip from Tientsin. Common problems of the two cities was the major topic for discussion.

CAUTION:
All blank spaces must be filled out.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

221 E. 20th ST., CHICAGO, U. S. A.

ANS'D ..... P. C. ACK.....
AUG 8 - 1924
FILE .....
SHOULD THIS BE INDEXED? .....
COS MADE .....

APPLICATION FROM CLUB FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Secretary, Rotary International, Chicago, U. S. A.:

Rotary Club of PEKING of ~~the State of~~ CHINA,

having been duly organized on June 30 1924, with 22 charter members, each representing a different classification of whom a roster list is hereto attached, now applies for membership in

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the Constitution of Rotary International and the following understandings and agreements:

1. It is agreed that *no additional members* will be elected until this club has received its charter. It is agreed that thereafter this club will steadily though carefully add to its membership, but that during the first year of its existence *not to exceed three new* members shall be introduced into the club *during any calendar month.* It is agreed that during the same period this club will not establish any classification, not included in Rotary's "Standard Outline of Classifications," unless with written approval thereof by the District Governor.
2. Attached hereto is a copy of our constitution and by-laws, duly certified. It is understood and agreed that no change in, or amendment to, the club's constitution herewith submitted, nor any amendment to the club's by-laws which will conflict with the constitution of the club or with the constitution and by-laws of Rotary International, will be made without first submitting same to the Secretary of Rotary International for approval by its board of directors.
3. A remittance of $100.00, covering the charter fee, is attached hereto in accordance with the provisions of Article I, Section 2, of the by-laws of Rotary International.
4. Upon notice of our admission to such membership we will execute and deliver to you a ratification of the constitution and by-laws of Rotary International and we will remit for our members payment of their subscriptions to "THE ROTARIAN," as provided therein.
5. The present officers and directors are:
   Pres. Admiral Tsai Ting-kan
   V. P. C. R. Bennett
   Sec'y. S. S. Young
   Treas. Yen Te-Ching
   S. at A. H. C. Faxon

   Directors.
   Admiral Tsai Ting-Kan
   C. R. Bennett
   E. G. Clarke
   S. S. Young
   H. C. Faxon
   Julean Arnold
   S. G. King
6. Regular ~~weekly~~ meetings are held:
   Day— 1st and 3rd Thursdays
   Hour— 12:45 p.m.
   Place— Masonic Temple

Dated July 11 1924 Rotary Club of Peking

Attest:

S. S. Young
Secretary.

60 Ta Fang Chia Hutung
Address.

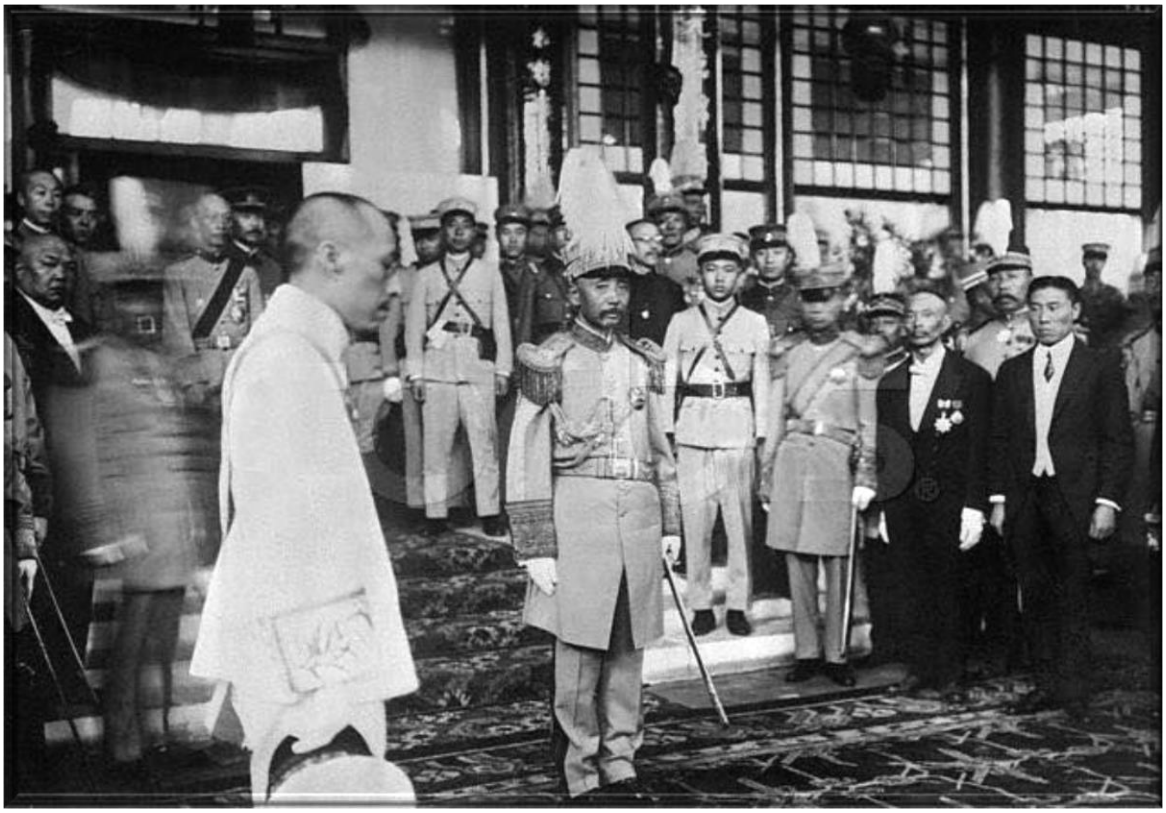
By Tsai Ting Kan
Its President.

Shui Wu Ch'u,
Hsi T'ang Tzu Hutung
Address.

311—S. 23—600

Approved Aug 15, 1924
Wm R. Manning, Chair
Committee on Extension.

10 October 1925 – Grand Opening of the Palace Museum (故宮博物院) in Peking



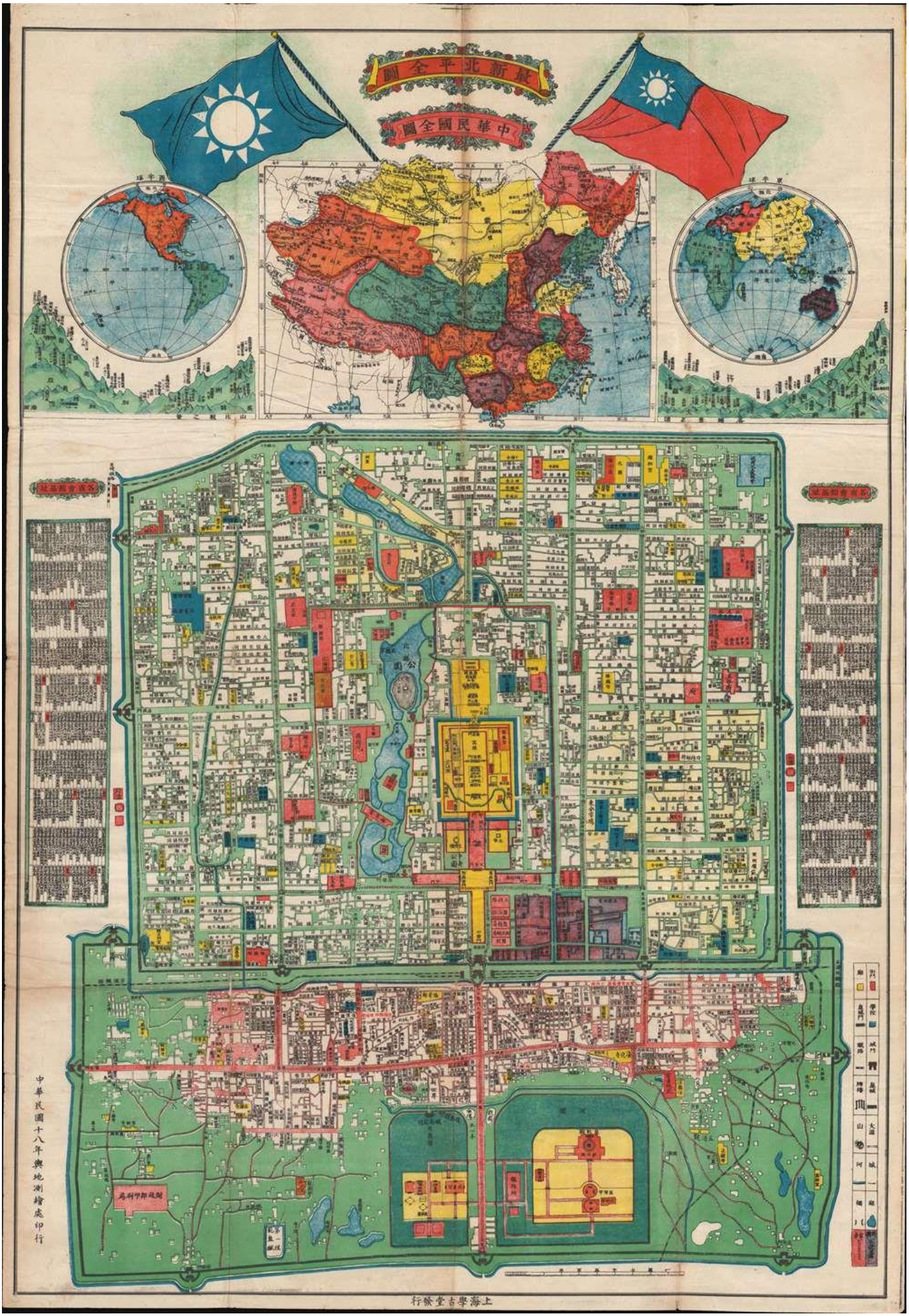
18 June 1927 Peking -- Chang Tso-Lin (張作霖) assumed the position as Grand Marshal of All Forces (安國陸海軍大元帥), and concurrently administering the Office of the Grand President of the Republic of China (中華民國大總統).

最新北京全圖

中華民國全圖

中華民國十五年興地測繪處印行

北京學古堂發行


最新北平全圖
中華民國全圖
中華民國十八年輿地測繪處印行
上海學古堂發行

Peiping Rotary Club (北平扶輪社)

June 1928 – 31 December 1943 / 14 August 1946 – 30 September 1949

The Special City and the new National Flag

The warlords controlled the Peiyang Government until June 1928 when the Nationalists on the Second Northern Expedition led by Chiang Kai-Shek (蔣中正) and allies jointly advanced on Peking. Peking was handed over peacefully to the victorious Nationalists who moved the seat of the national government to Nanking as the state capital. For the first time since 1421, "Peking" was renamed "Peiping". Peiping Special City (北平特別市) was established to take over the municipal administration. In June 1930, Peiping was down-graded to a provincial city under the jurisdiction of Hopeh (*Hebei*) Province (河北省), and later in December it was restored to a city under the direct jurisdiction of the Executive Yuan (行政院) (Prime Minister's Office).

The national flag of the Republic of China was changed officially on 17 December 1928. The adopted flag, also known as the "Blue Sky, White Sun, and a Wholly Red Earth" (青天白日滿地紅) and retroactively the Nationalist Flag of China, consists of a red field with a blue canton bearing a white disk surrounded by twelve triangles---symbols symbolize the sun and rays of light emanating from it, respectively. The flag was originally designed by the anti-Ch'ing Empire group---Revive China Society (興中會)---in 1895 with the addition of the red field component in 1906 by Dr. Sun Yat-Sen (孫文) in his speech.

Name changed to Peiping Rotary Club

In accordance with the government authorities, the Club's name in Chinese was changed to "北平扶輪社" during the new Rotary Year commencing on 1 July 1928, but the English name remain unchanged because there was not yet the approved official English name announced. Therefore, appeared on the letterheads then was [Peking Rotary Club 北平扶輪社]. Until a year later in July 1929, the Club changed its name to "Peiping Rotary Club" after the Chinese Legation in Washington D.C., U.S.A, confirmed to RI that "*the present correct spelling is PEIPING*". Subsequently, the revised Constitution and By-Laws was submitted to RI for approval.

Club Activities

By 1928 the Club had 47 members, organized one Ladies' Night a year, and charged $20 each admission and annual fee and $5 birthday surcharge for a charity fund. The Club did not belong to a District until 1 October 1935, and the attendance had improved from 69.8% in 1927 to 70.7% in 1928. The Club's publication was called《The Peking Rotarian》. The local press was very friendly towards Rotary. The Club was not growing---so the records show---because "*Removal of Capital*

to Nanking transfers many members". Many members were holding positions with the Government. It is interesting to note that the Club did not set committees to be responsible for these 3 avenues of service respectively: Vocational, Community and International Service.

Excerpted below here are some news clippings from《The ROTARIAN》magazine:

April 1929 Community Service -- Constructive vs. Non-Constructive Charity

After a long study of conditions in China, the Rotary Club of Peking has come to the conclusion that it can be of greatest service to the community by turning its funds for the nation's food and clothing to ways which will help the people to help themselves.

Instead of periodic donations of food and clothing, which seem but a drop in the ocean of want, the Peking Rotarians have decided to turn their fund and energies to the encouragement of industrial training where young people may be taught the means of earning their own livelihood.

In keeping with this conclusion an increased financial support for the North China School of Engineering is advocated. In the outline of work done by this school we find:

(a) Vocational teachers' normal course. Forty men for college entrance employed half time in technical class and half time in the shop to teach mission trade-schools.
(b) Engineering apprentice course. Seventeen men of the senior middle grade employed by half-day school courses and half-day technical courses, educated to become engineers or architectural draftsmen, inspectors, superintendents of shops, or construction work.
(c) Artisan apprentice course. About thirty men between 16 and 20 years of age of higher primary school grade who help skilled draftsmen in building as carpenters, electricians, plumbers, etc.
(d) Rotary club workmen's night schools. About 110 workmen of various shops are enrolled in courses taught by our normal class students two hours a night and three nights a week. The attendances, however, is not regular due to constant interference of their work.
(e) A great deal of work is done for small shops of the city by supplying help through the engineering department free of charge.

The increased support of the Rotary Club of Peking is planned to be applied for the expansion of the courses so that those named under A, B, and C will be expanded to fifty or sixty students each. D and E are indefinite.

May 1929 Suggestion for Sixth Object Work

President Chen of the local Rotary Club suggests a way of doing individual Sixth Object work which would be comparatively inexpensive and might aid in developing other Rotary activities at the same time. When a member has read his club publication, says President Chen, he might mail it to some other club preferably to one far distant. If the mailing goes on regularly, this oversea club will soon learn much more about the sender's club.

July 1929 Rotary at Work in China

Last month there was reported in these columns the organization of a Rotary club at Mukden, South Manchuria. Since then comes word of arrangements that are being made for the first conference of all clubs in China soon to be held at Shanghai. The suggestion was the outgrowth of a very successful intercity meet just held at Tientsin with Peking Rotarians the honored guests. Common activities in which all clubs could engage were stressed: particularly boys' work and the prevention of blindness and promotion of peace in China. The clubs were encouraged in their discussion of internal war conditions in China, by the influence exerted by Rotary in Ireland and in Peru and Chile. It was suggested that the clubs might well begin a campaign to be conducted with the support of the newspapers, schools, colleges, and the chambers of commerce. To that end a letter has been addressed to the clubs in China by Rotarian R. A. Williams, president of Tientsin Rotary and Rotarian S. P. Chen, president of Rotary in Peking. Chinese Rotarians will have the sympathetic support and well wishes of Rotary clubs everywhere in their effort to help the Chinese people recover from the havoc wrought over a long period of warfare.

June 1930 Preserving Peking

Historic and beautiful old Peking buildings are a-crumble, but young engineers are drawing plans so they may sometime be rebuilt. The youthful technicians are from the North China Engineering School, to which Peking Rotarians contribute generously.

January 1931

"Wise" Djang isn't holding a cake of soap. Use a magnifying glass and you'll see it's a marble tablet bearing the Rotary motto---in succinct Chinese! It is to become a part of the Greenville, S.C., U.S.A., boys' "hut". "Wise" and his companions are officers of the Peiping Club.

Proud to be a Rotarian

March 1933 To Start Boys' Camp

The Rotary clubs of Peiping and Tientsin have been stimulating interest among members for a boys' camp. This follows an interest in this activity in several cities of China; the Shanghai Rotary Club made it possible for seventeen poor lads to go a camp last summer.

June 1933 Essay Contest

Prizes of $100, $60, and $40 have been offered by the Rotary Club of Peiping for an essay contest, open to all Peiping university students, on the following topic: "To what extend and in what ways can international friendship contribute to the promotion of peace and prosperity of China?" Candidates are permitted to use either the Chinese or English language.

June 1935 Sponsor Debates

The Rotary Club of Peiping is sponsoring two debates, one for high school and another for college students. Six hundred dollars constitute prizes for the winners.

July 1935 Family Welfare

Serving as a model of scientific social service, the Family Welfare Agency founded by the Peiping Rotary Club, now gives assistance to thirty large families. Contributions for the support of the agency come largely from birthday contributions. This past season Peiping Rotarians also distributed over a thousand new suits of clothes.

March 1936 Take Chances for Charity

A charity night raffle held by the Rotary Club of Peiping added a substantial sum to the general fund for welfare work which the club maintains.

August 1936

Because three of its members travelled 9,550 miles to be present, the Rotary Club of Peiping, China, won the attendance trophy at Rotary's Atlantic City Convention. Second place went to the Rotary Club of Foochow, China.

October 1937

Yen Te-Ching, charter member and Past President of the Peking and Nanking Rotary clubs in China, had two uncles who without knowing it, fought against each other in the Civil War of the United States. One of them, Dr. H. N. Woo, then a student at Kenyon College, Gambier, Ohio, was in the Ohio cavalry. The other, Dr. T. C. Tsao, then studying at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn. Fought with the South. Both returned in China with such souvenirs as canteens, army blankets, and swords. Rotarian Yen's late father was graduated from Kenyon College, also, but

returned to China before the Civil War broke out. Rotarian Yen, his three brothers, and a sister were all educated in the United States.

January 1938 $1000 for War Refugees

For the relief of war refugees in the neighborhood, the Rotary Club of Peiping contributed $1000, dividing the gift equally between the Salvation Army and the Chinese Christian Church Union.

October 1938 Provides Aid to Refugees

Sixteen persons, most of them refugees from every section of the country, have been helped in recent months by the Rotary Club of Peiping. For some, employment was found, several were sent back to their native provinces, other were given temporary financial aid. A total of $685 was disbursed by the Club in caring for the cases.

November 1938 Give $300 for Needy Folk

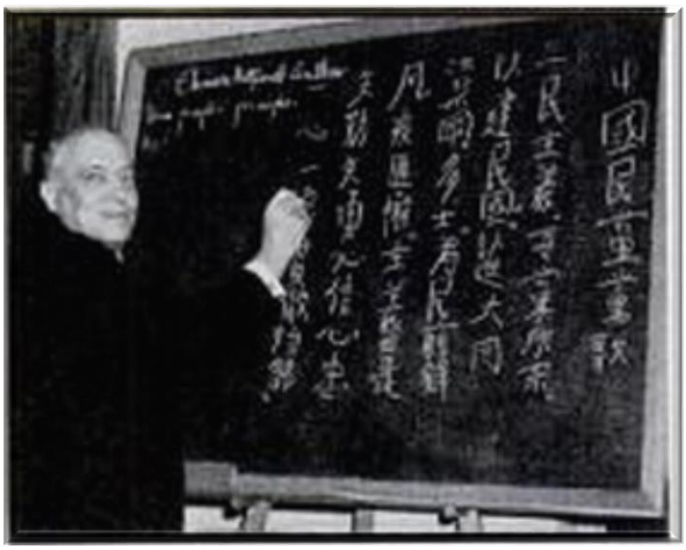
To care for an university student for ten months and to help in additional cases of pressing need, the Rotary Club of Peiping has appropriated $300.

May 1939 Charity Night Brings $3,000

As a result of a charity night sponsored recently by the Rotary Club of Peking, more than $3,000 was received. More than $2,500 in cash has since been distributed for charitable purposes through organized agencies. In addition, 500 winter cotton padded suits, costing $557, were distributed. Five hundred dollars was retained for future community service.

April 1942

Rotarian Julean Arnold (of the former Club of Peiping, China) writes the Chinese national anthem for Berkeley, California, Rotarians.



December 1948 Peiping Prays for Peace

Rotarians of Peiping, China, recently cooperated in a "call for prayers" service for the United Nations General Assembly meeting in Paris, France. Among items on the program was the recitation of the Lord's Prayer in five languages. Thirteen nationalities are represented in the Club's membership of 75. Incidentally, it costs $1,100,000 (Chinese National Currency) to send word of the meeting to《The Rotarian》office.

December 1949

And is still more feminine charm at a Rotary gathering! This time it's in Peiping, China, and the ladies are enjoying refreshments at the Rotary Club's garden party. Entertainment included a lively play which was followed by a quiz.

Support The Rotary Foundation Education Program

Sponsored by Peiping Rotary Club, a 1947 science graduate from National Tsinghua University (國立清華大學), Cheng Che-Min (鄭哲敏), after gone through a nation-wide selection, was recommended to The Rotary Foundation of Rotary International to receive a fellowship for advanced overseas study from the then war-torn China to the United States of America. In the fall of 1948, Cheng was admitted to the Graduate School of the California Institute of Technology (CIT), Pasadena, California, U.S.A. Through the Rotary Program with the goodwill and international understanding on the American people, in his report to the Rotary International Secretariat in 1949, Cheng wrote: "I think the people here are hard-working and enterprising. They have formed a democratic social and political system in which they have infinite confidence as to the promotion of welfare of the people in general." In summer 1949 with a Master's Degree of Science (M.Sc.), Cheng became a doctoral student in CIT under the research counselling of Professor Tsien Hsue-Shen (*Qian Xuesen*) (錢學森)---who was later best known as the "Father of Chinese Rocketry".

Cheng today is a leading scientist of the country and has been a winner of more than 11 items of awards and prizes. In recognizing Cheng as a pioneer in the field of explosion physics, he was awarded the "2012 State Preeminent Science and Technology Award of China" (國家最高科學技術獎) from the hands of Chinese President Hu Jintao (國家主席胡錦濤) on 18 January 2013.

Re-organization and Re-admission

The Peiping City came under increasing pressure from the Japanese Empire, who established the puppet state of Manchukuo in Manchuria in 1931. In July 1937 fighting broke out between Chinese and Japanese troops near the Marco Polo Bridge (盧溝橋), southwest of the city; Peiping was subsequently occupied by the Japanese until 1945.

The Rotary Club ceased to function on 8 December 1941 when The Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits, which served as the Club's headquarter, was taken over by the Japanese military forces for their own use. Many foreigners were interned and the Chinese members found it unwise to hold meetings elsewhere. Moreover, communications with RI in the United States was disconnected after outbreak of the Pacific War in 1941. The Club was terminated on 31 December 1943.

After the fall of the Japanese Empire in August 1945, the Peiping Rotary Club was revived on 30 August 1945 when 17 of the previous 44 members and 12 visiting Rotarians---most of whom from various internment camps---attended the meeting. But due to the exorbitant cost of lunch, which many members could not afford, it was decided to hold only one meeting per month and offer Chinese luncheons. In fact the general manager of the hotel permitted Rotarians to bring along their own lunchboxes.

All records, including the Charter, had been lost because the office of American Express, where most files were kept, had been ransacked at the time of the Japanese invasion. However, the banner, the bell, badges and flags had survived because they were stored in another section of the Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits.

At the peak of the Pacific War, Dr. Chengting T. Wang, of Chungking Rotary Club (重慶扶輪社), was elected to serve RI as Director in 1944-1946, and concurrently the 2nd Vice-President in 1945-1946. Simultaneously, he shouldered one more appointment to serve as "Administrative Advisor for China" when there was no district governors to take care of those remaining active clubs during the wartime. Soon after the end of the War, he encouraged the revival of the Peiping Rotary Club. A first official meeting was held on 9 December 1945 at the Masonic Temple. Twenty-four of the previous members rejoined and four additional new members were accepted. Rotary International re-admitted the Peiping Rotary Club with 30 charter members on 14 August 1946, giving it the old Club No. 1814. Dr. C. T. Wang, who had become the District Governor supervising Districts 96-97-98 in one, had signed the Application. The Club met fortnightly at 5 p.m. at the Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits, where the President, Peter Joseph Lawless, worked under the classification "Restaurants". One year later the Club had increased its membership to over 50.

The Club carried on its commitment to serve, and contributed CN$1,000,000 to various Salvation Army Charities. A resolution was passed to support the City Cleaning Campaign, which was launched by the Municipal Government of Peiping.

The membership at the end of the Rotary Year 1946-1947 had risen to 58 with the largest contingent being Chinese (28) or 48% followed by Americans and Britons, Germans, Italians. However Japanese were not admitted pending the signing of Peace Treaties between China and other countries. The financial situation, however, was deteriorating, that membership fees and fines were not enough to cover the Club's running expenses during the rehabilitation after War.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
CENTRAL OFFICE
RECEIVED Via Air Mail
AUG 9 - 1946
ANS'D
INDEX I
FILE WHERE

To the Secretary of Rotary International:

We, the undersigned president and secretary of the provisional Rotary Club of Peiping (China), are pleased to inform you that on December 9, 1945/1946, this provisional Rotary club was organized and now seeks admission as a member club of Rotary International.
(date)

This club has seen and has adopted or agrees to adopt upon receipt the constitution for a Rotary club prescribed by convention of Rotary International for adoption by all member clubs of Rotary International. The club will adopt by-laws based on the by-laws recommended by Rotary International for a Rotary club, with the understanding that any deviation from the recommended by-laws will not be out of harmony with the provisions of the club constitution or the constitution and by-laws of Rotary International.

The officers of the club are as follows:

		Classification	Address
President:	P. J. Lawless	Restaurants	Hotel des Wagons-Lits
Vice-President:	C. C. Lin	Wool Textile	The Jen Li Company
Secretary:	M. R. das Chagas	Government	Portuguese Consulate
Treasurer:	L. H. Howell	Finance	Hotel des Wagons-Lits

Board of Directors:

L. H. Howell	Finance	Hotel des Wagons-Lits
C. C. Liang	Real Estate	50, Shih Chia Hutung
J. C. Sun	Publishing	The Peiping Chronicle
F. C. Fette	Past Service	8, Erh Tiao Hutung
M. R. das Chagas	Government	Portuguese Consulate

This club agrees that it will meet once each week, even though it may not be possible to meet for luncheon or dinner. As soon as conditions permit the club will have its meetings in connection with luncheon or dinner.

The club agrees that it will adhere strictly to the classification principle of membership and that it will not admit members with classifications which duplicate those of other members of the club. A list of the members of the club, together with their classifications, and business and residence addresses is attached hereto.

If possible we desire that the number assigned to the former Rotary club in this city be assigned to this club.

We understand that no charter fee will be required and that per capita tax is to be paid to Rotary International, beginning 1 July, 1946, at a preliminary rate of the equivalent of fifty cents U.S. currency per semiannum, to be paid at the current rate of exchange, with the understanding that gradually as economic conditions improve the per capita tax will be increased until the club is paying to Rotary International at the then current rate of exchange per capita tax at the rate established by Rotary International for all Rotary clubs in the world.

The club desires to subscribe to "The Rotarian" for all its ~~members~~ directors; subscription rate $1.00 U.S. currency per semiannum. (This clause is optional -- please delete if it does not apply.)

The club ~~has~~ /// (does not have) the charter issued to the former Rotary club in this city.

for the President

Secretary

Peiping, July 22nd, 1946.
Date

Regular ~~weekly~~ fortnightly meetings are held:

Day Thursdays

Hour 5.00 p.m.

Place Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits.

Rotary International

C.L. #1

NOTICE OF ADMISSION OF THE ROTARY CLUB

OF PEIPING, CHINA

(READMITTED CLUB)

Dist. 96-97-98 Pop.

FORWARD PASS TO:

C620 124 8/22

~~OD~~ ~~TR~~ ~~PO~~

~~600~~ ~~900~~ ~~500~~

~~330~~ ~~C-62-0~~

~~CEO~~ ~~MAO~~

CHARTER NO. 1814

DATE ORIGINALLY ORGANIZED: 30 June, 1924

RE-DATE ADMITTED: 14 August, 1946

DATE ORIGINALLY ADMITTED: 30 Aug., 1924

NUMBER OF CHARTER MEMBERS: 30

DATE CHARTER CANCELED: ~~January, 1944~~ 31 dec 43

MEETING DAY: Thursday (fortnightly--until conditions become normal)

DATE REORGANIZED: 9 Dec., 1945

HOUR: 5.00 p.m.

GOVERNOR: C. T. Wang

PLACE: Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits

NUMBER OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO "THE ROTARIAN": 7 -- copy for each bd. member

PRESIDENT: P. J. Lawless
(restaurants)
Hotel des Wagons-Lits
Peiping
CHINA

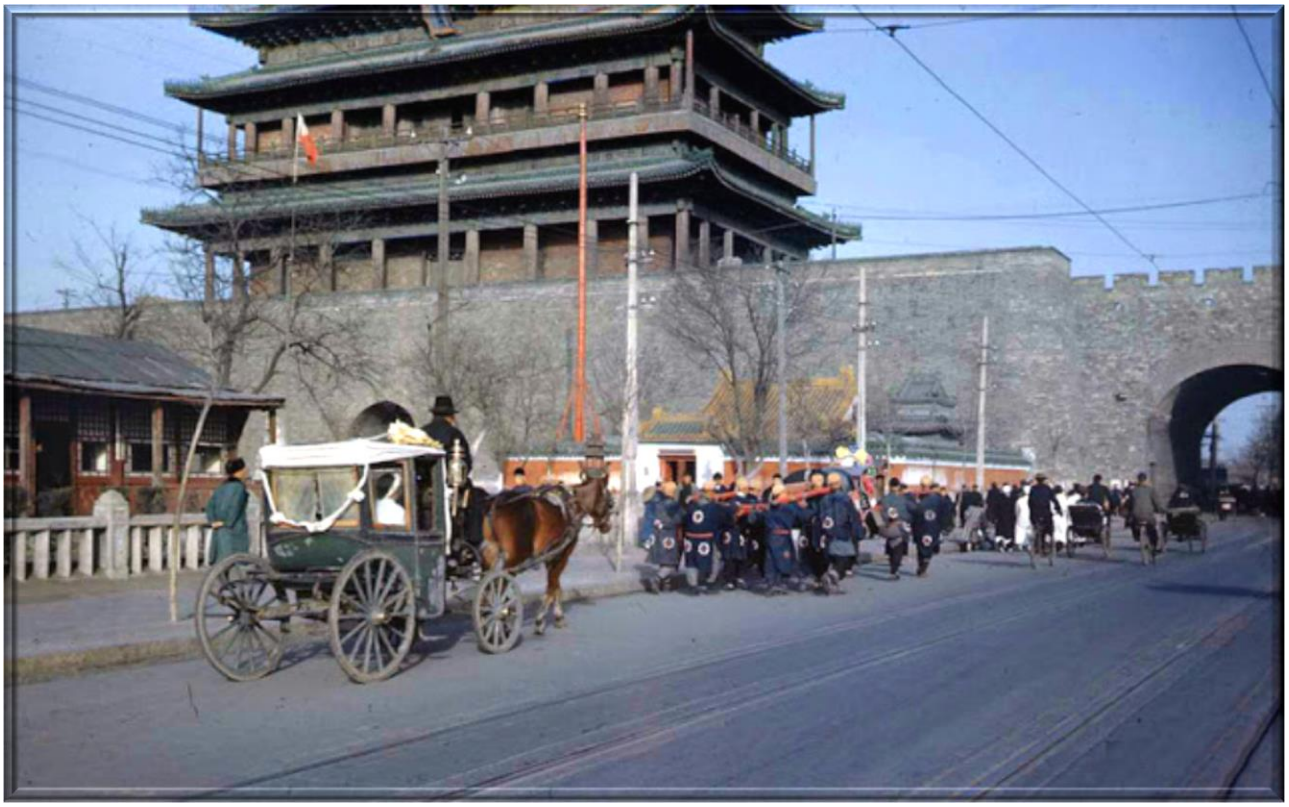
CORRESPONDENCE—
IF NOT IN ENGLISH
SHOULD BE IN:

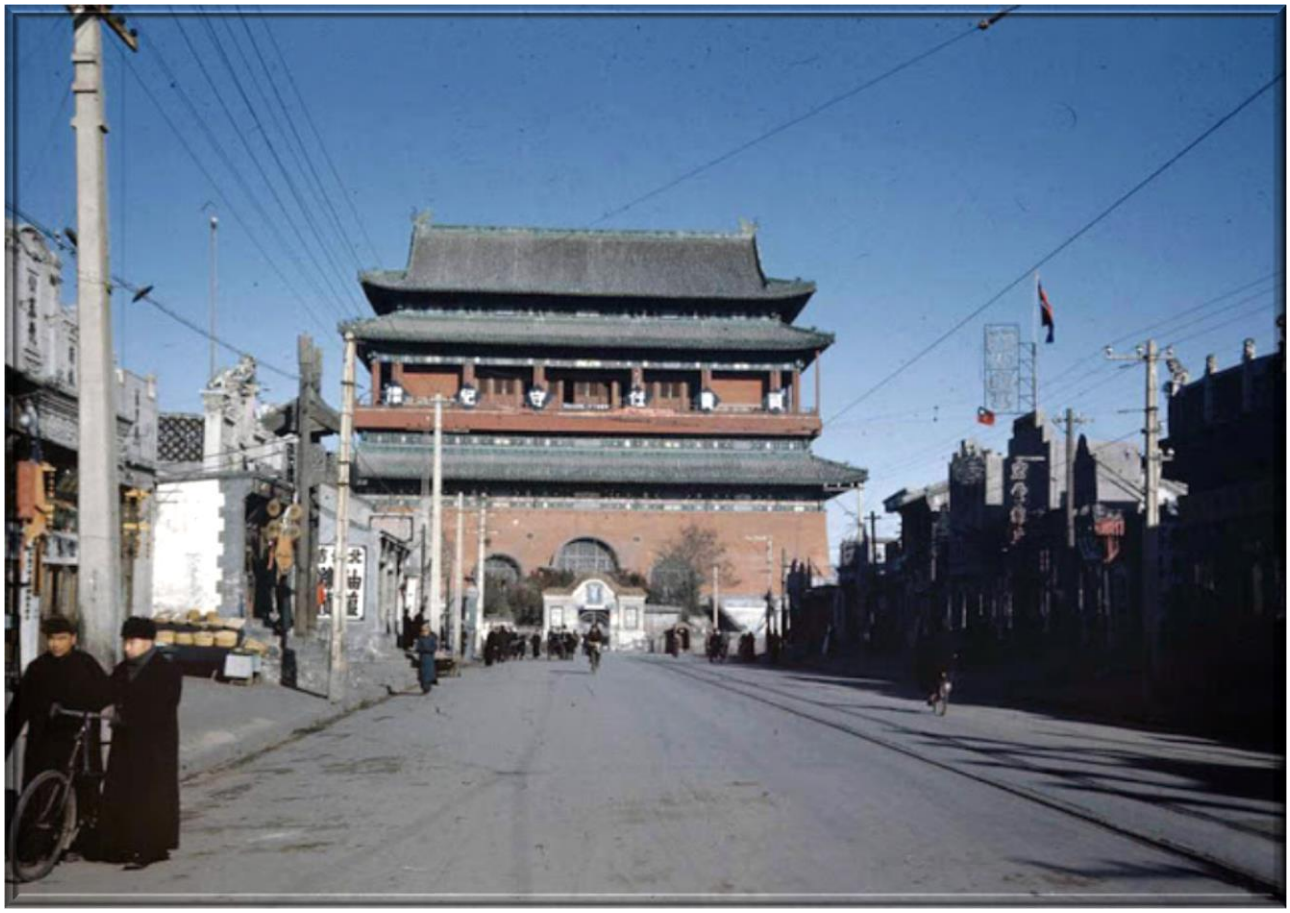
SECRETARY: M. R. das Chagas
~~(gov (foreign govt Consular Ser~~
(foreign govt. consular service)
Portuguese Consulate
Peiping
CHINA

SIGNATURE: W.P.

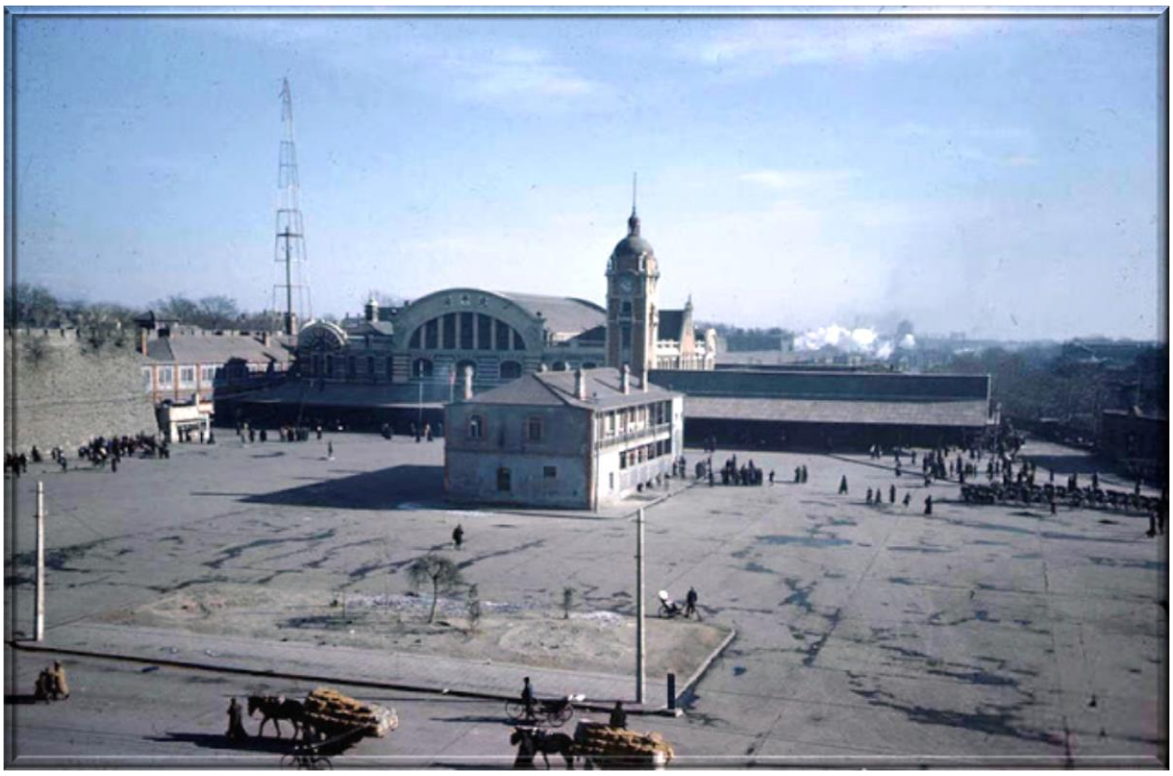
DATE: 15 Aug., 1946

4115-APR46-500—G-65





Peiping in 1947



Peiping in 1947

Peiping in 1947

The People's Liberation Army of the China Communist Party entering Peiping on 3 February 1949.

Peking Rotary Club (北京扶輪社)

1 October 1949 – 26 June 1951

The State Capital again and the new National Flag

Victory on the 2nd Sino-Japanese War in 1945 did not cease battles fire in China. The power of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) (中國共產黨) grew considerably. In March 1946, despite repeated requests from Chiang Kai-Shek (蔣中正), the Soviet Red Army continued to delay pulling out of Manchuria, while the CCP army forces moved in to behind them, which led to full-scale Civil War between the Kuomintang (中國國民黨) and the CCP for the control of the Northeast.

On 29 November 1948, the CCP People's Liberation Army (PLA), fresh off a decisive victory in Manchuria, launched the Peiping-Tientsin Campaign (平津會戰). They captured Tientsin on 15 January 1949. With the defeat of the Kuomintang in the Huaihai Campaign (淮海戰役/徐蚌會戰) further south, over 200,000 Kuomintang defenders were surrounded in Peiping. After weeks of intensive negotiations, Kuomintang Army agreed on 22 January 1949, to pull troops out of the city for "reorganization by the PLA". The defection spared the city, its residents and its historical architecture from imminent destruction. On 3 February 1949, the PLA marched into Peiping.

As the PLA continued to gain control over the rest of the country, Communist leaders, friendly Nationalists and third party supporters convened the first Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (中國人民政治協商會議) (CPPCC) in Peiping on 21 September 1949. In preparation for establishment of a new regime, they agreed to a new name, flag, emblem, anthem and capital for the nation.

The city's name was restored to "Peking", which again serves as the national capital.

The CPPCC gave the newly designed national flag's name to "Five-star Red Flag". The flag is a Chinese red field with five golden stars charged at the canton. The design features one large star, with four smaller stars in an arc set off towards the fly. The red represents the Chinese Communist Revolution and the five stars and their relationships to each other represent the unity of the Chinese people under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party.

The flag was officially hoisted for the first time in Peking's Tiananmen Square on 1 October 1949, at the proclaiming ceremony on the establishment of the People's Republic of China.

Finale of the Rotary Club

The Peiping Rotary Club carried on its activities though there was the change of the regime. On 18 July 1950, acting on the recommendation of the Secretary of the Peiping Rotary Club, the RI Secretary, acting on behalf of the Board, approved once again the change of the name to [Rotary Club of Peking 北京扶輪社]. This in view of the fact that the city is now the capital of China.

Peking Rotary Club closed that year with 41 members and not a single meeting had been cancelled. Records indicated that the Club was practically the only organization of international character still remaining in Peking.

Unfortunately, on 25 June 1950, the Korean War broke out. Communist China and the United States were in hostility. Though there had been vision and mission on 1 July 1937 to develop 2,000 Rotary clubs in China, the 3 Rotary districts spread on most of the provinces were ultimately dissolved in July 1951. Excerpted here is the Rotary International Board of Directors' decisions laid down in January 1951:

With regard to Rotary in China, the Executive Committee, acting in behalf of the Board of Directors, recently took this action: It

(1) accepted the resignation of Keats Chu, Governor of District 59;

(2) agreed that the territories and Clubs of District 58 and 59 be considered as one District (58-59) under the supervision of the present Governor of District 58;

(3) called upon Rotary's Secretary to terminate the membership of Clubs in China where there is sufficient evidence that they are not functioning; and

(4) agreed that effective July 1, 1951, District 57 and District 58-59 shall be dissolved and that any remaining Clubs in those territories be considered as non-districted Clubs under the supervision of an Administrative Advisor.

The reason behind the resignation of Governor Keat S. Chu (朱繼聖), of Tientsin Rotary Club (天津扶輪社), was that he responded the call of Mao Tse-Tung (*Mao Zedong*) (毛澤東), Chairman of the Central People's Government, in supporting the Chinese Air Force to fight against the United States and the Allies in the Korean War, by donated one unit of fighter.

But the uncertainties were rapidly accelerating. Only 2 Clubs in Northern China continued to function and Peking suggested to merge all remaining Rotary Clubs in China under one District---as in previous years.

From the archives of the Rotary Club of Hong Kong---in its Club Bulletin reporting on the 12 June 1951 meeting that President T. E. Shaw and Secretary A. C. Hausske of the Peking Rotary Club were notable guest-Rotarians at their meeting. They were on their way back to the U.S.A. and "*the Rotary Club of Peking virtually goes with them*". On the eve of their departure the Chinese members had a special meeting to consider the petition to disband the Club. The authorities had taken over, one after another, all major institutions normally available for the Rotary Club meetings. It had become impossible to find acceptable venues. T. E. Shaw said that there had been no request from the outside to close up the Club, which could have gone ahead so far as he knew, except that the Chinese members began to feel that their association with the American and other members was embarrassing. The full membership then, including absent members, was 26.

On 26 June 1951 RI terminated the membership of the Peking Rotary Club and declared the Charter null and void. In November 1951, RI Assistant General Secretary George Means confirmed

to A. C. Hausske that RI was holding USD 27.68 from the Peking Rotary Club "and nothing would thrill Rotary more when, one day, Rotary would return to Peking when this money would be waiting as a credit for that club."

Rotary | Service Above Self

APPENDIX

List of Charter Members of Peking Rotary Club as on 30 August 1924

(1) Armer, Conrad W. (Construction Service – Architecture) (American)
(2) Arnold, Julean (安立得) (Government Service) (USA Embassy) (American)
(3) Bennett, C. R. (Finance – Banking) (International Banking Corporation) (American)
(4) Chamberlain, Walter Edward (Agricultural Industry) (Yenching University) (American)
(5) Chen, Szu-Pang (陳祀邦) (Medicine) (Government Medical Officer) (Malayan)**
(6) Clarke, Eric George (Finance - Security Brokerage) (Jones, Clarke and Co.) (British)
(7) Cook, Joseph William (Business Service - Accounting Service) (Thomson Bros & Stedman) (Australian)
(8) Davis, George Lowry (Religion) (Methodist Episcopal Mission) (American)
(9) Edwards, Dwight Woodbridge (Associations) (Young Men's Christian Association) (American)
(10) Faxon, Harold Cushing (Railroad Equipment & Supplies) (Pressed Steel Car Co.) (American)
(11) Fei, H. J. (費興仁) (Wool & Miscellaneous Textiles) (Jen Li Rug Co.) (Chinese)
(12) Goodrich, Luther Carrington (Institutions and Hospitals) (China Medical Board) (American)
(13) Howard, Stanley Foster (Transportation) (American Express) (American)
(14) King, Sohtsu G. (金紹基) (Real Estate) (Chinese)
(15) Kwong, H. K. (鄺煦堃) (Printing and Publishing) (Peking Daily News) (Chinese)**
(16) Paulden, R. W. (Insurance) (S. W. Frodsham & Co.) (British)
(17) Severinghaus, Aura Edward (Education – Colleges) (Peking Union Medical College) (American)
(18) Green, G. Gordon (Iron & Steel Industry) (Etablissement Arnoult) (American)
(19) Tsai, Ting-Kan (蔡廷幹) (Government Service) (Customs Administration) (Chinese)**
(20) Tyau, Min-Ch'ien T. Z. (刁敏謙) (Fine Arts – Literature) (Chinese)
(21) Yen, Te-Ching (顏德慶) (Engineering – Railroad) (Chinese)
(22) Young, Samuel S. (熊崇志) (Coal Industry) (Chinese)**

** ethnic Cantonese 廣東人

List of Charter Members of Peiping Rotary Club as on 14 August 1946

(1) Aeschliman, Edward John (E .J.) (Missionary - Theological Professor) (Methodist Mission)
(2) Chagas, Mario R. das (Mario) (Government - Foreign Government Consular) (Vice-Consul, Portuguese Embassy)
(3) Fette, F. C. (Frank) (Past Service) (The Fette Rug Co., Fed. Inc., USA)
(4) Freeman, Fulton (Tony) (Government - Diplomatic Service) (Consul, USA Embassy)
(5) Friedlaendey, A. P. (Dixi) (Transportation - Freight Shipping Agencies) (The Yung Sheng Trading Co. 永盛洋行)
(6) Gfeller, Hans (Hans) (Hotels) (The Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits 六國飯店)
(7) Hausske, Albert C. (A l) (Religion - Mission Treasurer) (American Board Mission)
(8) Hanson, Richard E. (Dick) (Religion – Rural Work) (Methodist Mission)
(9) Howell, L. H. (Leo) (Finance - Security Brokerage)
(10) Kandel, Leo (Puck) (Dentistry - *Additional Active*)
(11) King, Zunglieh D. (Zunglieh) (金紹坊) (Fine Arts - Bamboo Carving)
(12) Lawless, Peter Joseph (Pete) (Hotels - Restaurants) (The Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits 六國飯店)
(13) Li, Hsiung-fei (Hsiung-fei) (Finance - Savings Bank) (Tah Chung Bank 大中銀行)
(14) Liang, C. C. (C. C.) (Real Estate - Renting Property)
(15) Lin, C. C. (凌其峻) (Sea) (Wool Textile - Rugs) (Jen Li Company 仁立公司)
(16) Liu, N. T. (N. T.) (Engineering - Reinforced Concrete)
(17) Mertirys, George N. (Recreation - Motion Picture Distributing) (Twentieth Century Fox Films)
(18) Nystrom, E. T. (Uncle) (Insurance – Life, Fire & Motor) (Bryner & Co.)
(19) Prentice, W. B. (Doc) (Dentistry)
(20) Pyle, Stephen D. (Steve) (Religion - Protestant Churches) (Union Church)
(21) Sun, Jui-Chin (孫瑞芹) (Sunny) (Printing & Publishing – Newspaper Publication)《The Peiping Chronicle 北平時事日報》
(22) Sun, T. A. (Tasun) (Food Industry – Flour Manufacturing) (Chung Foo Union Bank 中孚銀行)
(23) Tao, T. T. (T .T.) (陶榘) (Finance – Commercial Banking) (Kincheng Banking Corporation 金城銀行)
(24) Wang, C. F. (C. F.) (Metal Mining)
(25) Wang, William Shou-Kun (Willy) (王守堃) (University Education – Agriculture) (Peking University 北京大學)
(26) Wong, C. Zungying (Lama) (Construction Service - General Contracting) (Union Construction Company)
(27) Wu, Lai-Hsi (吳賚熙) (Wulai) (General Merchandise – Antique Retailing)
(28) Young, K. P. (K. P.) (Chemical Industry Research) (Institute of Materia Medica 國立北平研究院藥物研究所)
(29) Young, Lawrence (Major) (Transportation – Coastal Shipping) (The Yung Sheng Trading Co. 永盛洋行)
(30) Yui, P. H. (P.H.) (Exporter of Chinese Art Goods)

The Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits, Peking (六國飯店)---the home of Peking Rotary Club Secretariat.

Legation Street, Peiping (北平東交民巷), in probably 1930s. Yokohama Specie Bank (橫濱正金銀行) on the left and the Grand Hotel des Wagons-Lits (六國飯店) on the right.