

CITATIONS

AWARD OF HON. MEMBERSHIP OF THE S.M.A.

PROF. E. S. MONTEIRO

The Singapore Medical Association takes great pleasure in bestowing its Hon. Membership on Prof. E.S. Monteiro, who has distinguished himself in several fields during his long career as doctor, professor, university administrator and diplomat.

Born on 21st December, 1904 in Singapore, educated at St. Anthony's Boys' School and Raffles Institution, he graduated in 1929 as a doctor from the King Edward VII College of Medicine. After several years in the Malayan Medical Service, he was awarded the Queen's Scholarship in 1939. He could not go overseas till 1946 because of the Second World War. In 1947, he was elected to the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians of London and to the Fellowship of the Royal Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow, and became a Diplomat in Child Health of the Royal Colleges as well.

Numerous other academic distinctions were won by him in great profusion. He obtained the Doctorate of Medicine at the University of Malaya in 1950, and was elected Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London in 1956 and Founder Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1962.

In 1948 he became the first local graduate to be an incumbent of the Chair of Clinical Medicine at the University of Malaya. During the years 1956-1960 he was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and in 1960 he became Deputy Principal of the University of Malaya in Singapore. He was also Acting Vice-Chancellor of the University in 1960. In 1965 he retired from his post as Professor of Clinical Medicine, and for his outstanding achievements and contributions was elected Emeritus Professor of the University of Singapore.

His talents were not to be wasted in retirement. The Government of Singapore, recognizing his calibre as scholar and administrator appointed him as the first Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the Kingdom of Cambodia in 1966. This post he has held with great distinction up to the present time.

For his long and distinguished record of public service, he was awarded the Bintang

Bakti Masharakat, or Public Service Star, in 1963.

Time does not permit us, ladies and gentlemen, to enumerate today all the accomplishments and work of this truly great son of Singapore. We feel that what we have already mentioned has more than amply justified the decision of the Singapore Medical Association to bestow on Professor Ernest Steven Monteiro, the honour of being one of its first two Honorary Members.

DR. CHEN SU LAN

Mr. President, Honourable Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen,

May I present Dr. Chen Su Lan for conferment of Honorary Membership of the Singapore Medical Association.

Dr. Chen has rendered distinguished service to the medical profession and the people of this country. Throughout his life he has always been putting service before self, and has given generously of his time, energy, talent and wealth to worthy causes.

Born in 1885 in Foochow, China, he received his early education at the Anglo Chinese School in Foochow. He then migrated to Singapore and studied medicine at the Straits Settlements and Federated Malay States Government Medical School which was subsequently changed to King Edward VII College of Medicine. He graduated Licentiate of Medicine and Surgery in 1910. He then devoted most of his working life to the ministration of the sick as a general practitioner, but also found time for public service.

In 1911-12 he was President of the Singapore Chinese Library, the first socio-political association in Singapore which had 2,000 members.

He played a leading part in stamping out the pernicious habit of opium-smoking, which was sapping the vitality of the people of Singapore. For nearly forty years, from 1929-45, he was a vigorous campaigner against opium. In 1929 he became President of the Singapore Anti-opium Society & Director of the Anti-opium Clinic. He also became one of the

world's leading authorities on opium addiction and its treatment. From 1931-34 he was also a member of the Standing Advisory Committee on Opium of Malaya.

He managed to find the time to tackle another problem which was threatening the health and morals of his countrymen. From 1928-31 he laboured against the widespread prostitution of that period, and campaigned for the closure of public brothels by the Government. He was highly successful in this as well.

A lesser man would have been satisfied with two such great achievements. But not Dr. Chen Su Lan. He proceeded to play an important role in eradicating a third menace to health—tuberculosis. He contributed greatly to the arousal of public interest and government conscience on the subject; and this in turn led to the founding of the Rotary Anti-tuberculosis Clinic and the Singapore Anti-tuberculosis Association.

He became one of the foremost doctors in Singapore, but did not forget his Alumnus. In 1923-34 he became President of the Alumni Association of the King Edward VII College of Medicine.

He also led the medical profession in various capacities such as that of President of the British Medical Association, Singapore Branch, in 1949-50; and as Member of the Medical Council of Malaya.

Other spheres of public service in which he actively participated included the Rotary Club,

of which he was director for many years and vice-president three times. He was, in addition, the Founder President of the Chinese Y.M.C.A., as well as President of the Malayan Council of Y.M.C.A.s.

He has always taken a keen interest in the promotion of higher learning, and sat on the Council of the King Edward VII College of Medicine for fifteen years and on the Courts of the Universities of Malaya and Singapore.

In 1952 the University of Singapore conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws on Dr. Chen Su Lan.

Through the Chen Su Lan Trust which the founder, he has been giving regularly and munificently to numerous charities and worthwhile causes. His donations have sustained and strengthened many who were in want or trouble.

Apart from being a pillar of society, he is an outstanding family man. He is an exemplary father and husband, and has brought up his seven children in the fear of God to play their part in society.

To such a remarkable man, scholar, public benefactor, scientist, educationist, doctor and solid citizen—the Singapore Medical Association would like to accord recognition for his outstanding contributions to society and medicine in Singapore.

W.O. Phoon