IN MEMORY OF DR, HU SHIH (胡適)

by T. C. Tsao

To the sorrow of all free-thinking people, Dr. Hu Shih passed away in Taiwan, February 24th, just after our last Newsletter was released. There were multifold roles played by this remarkable man in his life pursuits -- that of a scholar, philospher, teacher, scientist and statesman. From my knowledge and acquaintance of him, I would describe him as a revered teacher, scientist, and above all a very human person.

The greatness of Dr. Hu Shih as a scholar lay in his independent thinking, broadmindedness, farsightedness, and keen appreciation of Western civilization. There was no contemporary Chinese, who with thorough attainment of Chinese culture, literature and philosophy, understood Western civilization so well as Dr. Hu. He dared to speak out without reserve that the Western civilization is useful and important to complement the old Chinese culture, and to lead youth to correct thinking and action. The introduction by Dr. Hu -- the Chinese spoken language into China's daily writing--is just one of the many aspects of Dr. Hu's courage to re-evaluate the old practice in China and to introduce new tools and new methods for the good of China. He thought, he acted, by trying to write in spoken language (白話), and he succeeded in an unprecedented mass movement!

Dr. Hu, as a scientist, had an inquisitive attitude, a fact-finding mind, and he pursued a systematic treatment of any problem rather than scientific invention or discovery. Ever since he began his career as a professor of philosophy at Peking University, he promoted scientific methods of tackling any problem. He inaugurated a motto in his teachings that every scientific success is based on trials (萬事成功在嘗試) -trials to think and trials to act.

He also advocated that young scientists in China should be courageous to state a proposition and should have the discipline to prove it.

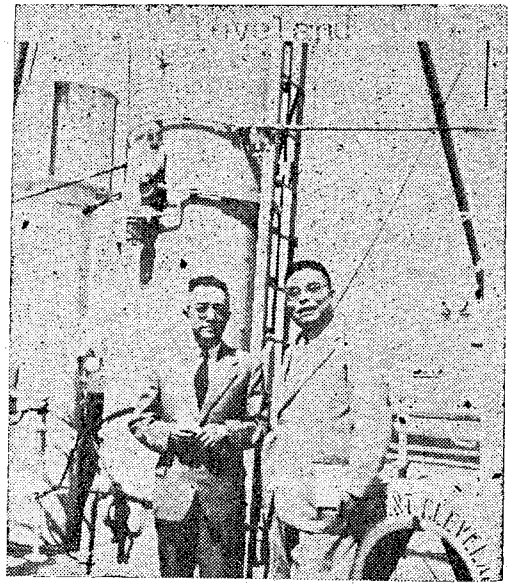

Fig. 1
Dr. Hu Shih (left) and author on board U.S.S. President Cleveland, March 1949.

His scientific clear-thinking inspired many students of his to study science. One of his students, Dr. Chien-Shiung Wu(吳健雄) is now a world renowned Professor of Nuclear Physics at Columbia University. When our Institute gave the 1958 CIE Award to Professor Wu on hor accomplishments in nuclear physics, Dr. Hu, as an honored guest, remarked that without Professor Wu's experiments the non-parity theory discovered by Dr. C. D. Lee (李政道) and Dr. C. N. Yang (楊振寧) (Nobel Prize Laurettes, 1957) would remain a hypothesis.

As he was named the Director of Academia Scinica of Free China in 1958, he decided to return to Taiwan to take the post, because he acknowledged that science is the determining factor of the Free World to win over Communism, and in that post he could promonte science in Free China. He worked energetically in spite of ill health until his death.

There remains one more aspect to mention, and this is Hu Shih the man. My first meeting with Dr. Hu was in England in 1927, when he was on a lecture tour and I, a recent college graduate, was an apprentice engineer at Metropolitan-Vickers Elec. Mfg. Co. Although we exchanged correspondence, we did not see each other again until we sailed from Shanghai on board the same ship, the President Clevland, to the U.S. During the voyage I had many occasions to discuss various problems with him. His modesty, humility and unassuming attitude formed the real basis of his personality. The photo shown in Fig. 1 was taken just before our arrival at San Francisco. He was a great enthusiast for engineering. His son, Tsu-Won (胡祖望) is a mechanical engineer, now working in Washington, D.C.

Along with his wife, Nee Ton-Hsiu Kiang(江冬秀女士), he lived in 1950 in an apartment on E. 81st Street, N.Y. City. As Mrs. Hu was a new comer to N.Y. and not accustomed to the American household, Dr. Hu would naturally take care of some chores. As I called on them, Dr. Hu told me that he was temporarily "No. 1 baby sitter." He was human and always had a real sense of humor. He made anyone who came in contact with him feel pleasant and interesting.

In conclusion, let me quote Dr. Hu's Socratic dialogue which he gave to one of his friends: "To make friends in order to enlarge one's own sphere; to instruct others in order to make one's learning not extinguish". Hu Shih's spirit will never be extinguished!

亞洲暨遠東專家考察歐洲住宅及建築材料報告書

王章清

四、結論與建議

一般性質的：

（二三八）考察團在訪問五個歐洲國家和寫出對那些國家住宅活動的印象以後，準備提出一些在發展住宅計劃方面可能對亞洲國家有益的建議。從參觀計劃的數目和從地主國家收到資料的數量來說，我們停留於每一國家的期間都很短。同時考察團也祇在考察結束後纔有一個短時間擬定這些結論和建議，然而由於考察團在組成上包含多方面的人才，終能很快地把資料整理，完成了這個附有建議的報告。

（二三九）由於這一地區各國發展階段的差異，正如可以預料的，這個考察團是由亞洲和遠東經濟委員會各國有不同經歷和背景的政府官員組成的。爲從這種集中性質的考察旅行中獲取最大的利益，參加人員必須對他們國家的住宅方面有廣泛經驗，充份認識它們的缺點和優點。考察團認爲這類考察，應該選派有最多經驗和有足够住宅背景的官員參加。但並非建議在沒有資深的高級官員可派時，不要改派比較年青的官員，因爲年青官員一般都很熱心和聰慧，工作時也很努力。

（二四〇）由於最初幾天是在日內瓦度過，考察團乃得參加歐洲經濟委員會住宅委員會的會議，看到歐洲經濟委員會的第四號決議「接觸和加强科學及技術合作」，主張鼓勵住宅專家的交換訪問；也看到住宅委員會在會議結束後，爲與會人員安排到一個大國或幾個小國作爲期約兩週的集體訪問。它認爲在亞洲和遠東地區中，也應該鼓勵這類的訪問。這比前往歐洲、蘇聯或美國考察的化費爲少，而在某些情形下，對低級和中級人員也更有益。在情形相似的國家中，有時比較容易看出它們住宅的進步，和獲得進步的利益。就在亞洲和遠東經濟委員會地區，也有某些國家在住宅方面比其他國家更有經驗，而這類訪問的交換也會有益。因此考察團建議在住宅和建築材料工作小組會議結束後，應該按照歐洲經濟委員會的辦法，組織一個團體到一兩個國家去訪問。訪問計劃應該事先擬好，以便地主國家能爲他們準備必要的資料。

（二四一）要在工作小組一九六〇年十一月會談後，組織這樣一個訪問團，時間或已太遲，但考察團認爲如能在工作小組一九六二年舉行的會議以後組織