

甘聲

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建立我們的第二故鄉

蔭山

自覺始於自強，自強才會感覺到團結的重要。團結所產生的力量，用之以安內攘外，定能克竟全功。覽古今中外興亡史可資鑒證。

本同鄉會之組建，本此宗旨以成立，出發點純正，既不爲名，亦不爲利，只做我們國內應做的福利，故能登高一呼，群相響應，可證我鄉昆仲姐妹，心坎中早已存此觀感。前輩父老過去也曾有此建議，雖未成功，但歷來對於鄉中舉凡辦學辦鄉等事，無不熱誠擁護，接二連三捐輸鉅款，其愛護鄉土的濃厚，爲各鄉之冠。我記得在本鄉會議廳中（即英佐祠），懸掛着清末民初時由縣府頒給本鄉的獎狀，譽爲模範之鄉，其中最精警的幾句云：「查該鄉風俗淳樸，里仁爲美，熙攘往來，鷄犬相聞，父教其子，兄督其弟，男耕女織，各安本份，與鄰鄉××比鄰而居，但有涇渭之別。……」及今思之，誠足自豪！

回憶我初次參與此地宗親會舉行懇親聯歡會，與各鄉親闕叙，獲睹各鄉親事業輝煌，人材傑出，聚居此地者不下數百人，儼成第二故鄉，惜因散居各別，難得少叙，以致消息隔闕，稱爲憾事。乃向柏旋、禮聖、邦傳、植禮、禮遜諸公動議，組織同鄉會。果也群策群力，復得全體鄉親

熱誠擁護，出錢出力，成立會所。又立即籌措鉅款，購置樓業，使會務基礎永固。我們的小小團體，能有此偉大的成績表現，邑僑群相贊譽，誠足自豪。

本會康樂組每年舉行春宴及郊遊聯歡大會，各鄉親父老妯娌姊妹，不論遠近，皆踴躍參加，少長咸集，盛況空前，相處融融，熱情洋溢，處處表現一片歡躍的呼聲，憧憬在鄉新春祀祖宴耆情形，宛在目前，此乃諸公努力策動之功，熱誠感召所致也。

「年深外境猶吾境，日久他鄉是故鄉」，始遷祖早已獨具遠見，訓示於前，願諸公精誠團結，推進會務，發揚光大貫貫聯香港各地宗親，互相呼應。當前之急，更要設法融和「代溝」問題，掖誘年青一代的接班人，認識彼此之間骨肉相連的關係，灌輸以道德傳統觀念，使其辨五倫、明禮義、知廉恥，才是本會的重要任務，亦即各宗親父老對家庭間應負責任，使本會在此得以建立我們的第二故鄉。

恭賀新禧



僑社五年

黃偉林

前幾天我到同鄉會去坐坐，遇到了「甘聲」的總編先生，他說「甘聲」就又快出版了，責我幾期來都沒有文稿交去，這次再不要賴帳了；難道有時間爲報館寫文章就沒有時間爲「甘聲」寫嗎？我說賴帳是不會的，不過我的工作實在太忙了，爲報紙寫東西可以隨便一點，爲「甘聲」寫就不同啦。如果准許我說些隨便的話，我可以寫一些我個人幾年來對僑社的感想，但要先得讀者們原諒我的膚淺愚魯才行。

我來到美國已經十多年了，在這悠長的歲月中，大部份的時間是在讀書和爲生活忙碌，甚至很少有機會在公共的場面出現。有時偶然在街上遇到一位曾經相識的人，也只有點頭招呼，最多是幾句寒暄話，便各自奔走前路。大約在五年前，柏旋兄邀約我參加組織同鄉會，我認爲也很有意思，亦可借這個機會多認識幾位鄉親。很佩服他有這遠大的眼光，幾年來同鄉會的組織已經非常成功，我也擔當了最初三年的中西總文書職。

同時前幾年我在羅省華埠開設建築事業，也認識了不少華埠各層人物，在一班宗親的邀約下，也加入了黃氏宗親會，並擔當了兩任西文書記，和中華會館理事等職。在最近二年，擔當兩任黃氏宗親會主席和兩任中華會館福僑委員會會長。並曾在親友邀約下，加入大小團體組織總有十多個以上。

當我初到美國的時候，也和其他新客一樣，很少到華埠來。十幾年前的華埠，當然也沒有現在這麼繁榮，那時到了華埠，只見公所堂口林立，給人一個舊時代遺

物的感覺，至少對我們一般新客是沒有吸引力的。但萬想不到，十年以後我竟然經常在那裡出入，還居然當起主席來，這真是初想不到的轉變。

話又說回來，自我參加組織同鄉會後，對僑社團體組織的背景和形成漸漸有些認識，對於這些姓氏團體的評價也有了改變。在國家組織上，是劃分若干行政地區，集地區單位而成國家。現在的僑社，是劃分若干姓氏團體單位，集姓氏團體單位而成僑社。這真是一種高明的組織法，雖然不是科學化，但或者是最天然而易於施行的辦法。何況我們中國人，一向對家族的觀念很重，這麼一來，可以發揮最大的向心力。這確實是先僑高度的智慧，就靠這種組織，維持僑社百多年的歷史。據說有一個時期，確實有對內對外保障每個人的性命財產權益的能力，和爭取移民條例及社會待遇平等，建下輝煌的功績。但是近年來美國對移民條例已經放寬，社會上及法律上對少數民族的歧視已經減輕，大部份地方華人都可自由遷去居住。這樣，從前靠着維持或爭取權益的僑團，已經達成使命，日漸進入退化期，加以年來各種案件及僑社是非的影響，也有些人不想插足其間，結果所有僑團會員名額的增加遠比不上當地華僑人口的增加率。所有僑團，雖然大都還標榜着「聯絡感情，增進會員福利」招徠新會員，但能夠做到「聯絡感情」的僑團又有幾個呢？更談不上去改進，適應時代的需求，增進會員的福利了。

我們生活在美國民主制度中，最特點是少數服從多數。一件事情不論合理與否

，只要多數人贊成便行。結果通過的條例居多，是少數人吃虧的。所以形成各種不同利益的會社組織，只有集體一致，才能希望保障應得的權利。回顧我們今日的華僑，在社會上並沒有達到和其他民族絕對平等的地位，而且日漸形成少數民族中的更少數。年來亞洲移民大增，日本、南韓、菲律賓等僑民人口，都有急劇的增加，以羅省區而言，據上次政府統計，華人只有日本人口的一半，亦僅比菲律賓人多一千名左右。在這種形勢下，我們似乎更應有堅強的組織和集體的行動，才能應付現在及未來的社會轉變和保障應得的權益。照現下僑團的情形來說，能否達成這種使命，真是很難說了。中國人的保守及固步自封，有時真令人難以置信，幾年來我想轉變一點，但能夠做到的真是微不足道。

兩年來，我會到市縣政府去申請華埠福利，經常聽到他們表示僑社應統一性組織辦理，而且要隨時到他們的辦公室去聯絡，使他們知道現在僑社需要興辦的是甚麼福利。他們極願意幫助華人是真實的，試想那個民選的官員不願意增加行政效率，和做到有政績呢！至於能否成功，當然還要其他人事和環境條件的配合，但最初的一步驟，是我們有效的組織去爭取及政府的聯絡。

去年中華會館福僑會舉辦的暑期職業訓練班，當結業的時候，市參事及市代表們都來參加，市參事握着我的手說：「你辦的暑期職訓班真是非常成功，不但是這一區最好的，而且是全市的模範。」市代表及官員們還攝了很多照片，大事宣揚，結果今年的暑期職訓班，名額是多給一倍了。還鼓勵我舉辦青少年暑期康樂活動，願給一筆小的款項支持，但我的時間和工作人員，已經全部集中在青年職訓班，那能還有辦法旁及呢！結果找不到適當的負責人，只得將此計劃取消。這些都是微不足道的社會福利，我們華人繳納龐大的

地稅、入息稅，統計所得到政府直接給與的福利，比其他任何的少數民族所應得到的，真是微少得很。

從這些事例上看來，現在的客觀環境對僑社福利事業的興辦，是非常有利的。只可惜是我們都漠不關心地讓所有政府補助福利，全落在黑人、墨西哥人、日人和韓人等社區的手。我華人社會有那麼多的團體，也不乏才能學識的人材，但現在所能做到的是甚麼呢？除了春宴、郊遊、娛樂以外，似乎也舉不出甚麼其他有意義的活動吧。

『水能載舟，亦能覆舟。』是要看人們怎樣利用它罷了。我們的僑社團體，何嘗不是這樣呢。倘若我們善於利用它，群眾就是力量，將會帶來華僑更多的福利。我們常常聽到老一輩的人說，年青的一代很少來參加僑社的活動，其實我們若能把這些社團給與新的意義和方針，不論老少，我相信誰都會積極地參加的。這雖然是我個人的推論，但也曾歸納了很多人同一的意見。

在僑社服務了幾年，幸得各位鄉親戚友，在精神上及實際上盡力的支持和協助，也應該藉這個機會向各位致以衷誠的感激。經過兩任的黃氏宗親會主席和中華會館福僑會長，依章程明年都不會連任了。我計算着距今還只有個半月，除了縣政府費用舉辦的華廚訓練班，我還擔任着董事會董事長外，其他一切的職務都卸任了。亦應退下來休息一些時日，但將仍追隨僑社的英明領導者和廣大群眾，繼續獻身為僑社人民服務。暫時就此擱筆，下次有機會時才再和各鄉親戚友讀者們見面罷。

★鄉親

禮遜

歲月催人又一年

鄉親相愛志成城

更有職員齊合作

會務發展無限程

故鄉私塾話當年

麟

我國自孔子杏壇設教，弟子三千，實已創智識份子訓練的中心，開私塾之先河。幾千年來，講學之風，盛行不絕，迄至唐、宋、元、明、清。雖以科舉取士，而士子學問根基皆得自私塾的薰陶、涵煦。私塾俗稱書館，書館有四書館、經書館之別。經書館又名大館，學生年齡較大，多數是準備應縣府及院試，求取功名之初步者所設，研習四書五經、詩賦及八股時文，尤注重楷書小字，預備為將來入考場書寫試卷應用。

四書館亦名村塾，又名子曰館，為鄉村兒童所設。村人合資延師，兒童納錢入學。所授者不外三字經、幼學詩、千字文，進而中庸、論語、孟子，家長所求，上焉者，能粗通文字，寫書簡、草契約，在鄉村做文人、充鄉紳，已足願矣。次焉者，能識日用文字，能算日用帳項，便於工商應用而已。杜甫詩有：「小兒學問只論語，大兒結束隨商旅」。不僅近代如此，唐代已然。

聘請塾師須送呈聘書，亦稱學關。開學之日，在書館行謁聖拜師禮，上供「至聖先師文宣王孔之神位」，神牌一座，紅燭交輝，香烟繚繞。學生先向孔聖行三跪九叩禮，隨向先生行跪拜禮，先生坐而受之。入學禮告成後，每日早晚必揖孔聖，每月亦必具香燭拜孔聖。遇有讌會必請先生，而且要坐首席。在書館，學生亦要替先生灑掃，及汲水堡茶及其他工作。「有酒肉，先生饌。有事，弟子服其勞」。尊師重道，良有以也。

村塾多設在祠堂或神館。廿餘個學童，每人自備一張書桌，先生獨用一張方桌，放在最易監視學生動靜的地方。桌上除

了文房四寶外，必備戒方，還有幾根大便簽，用竹或木片製成，上面寫着「出恭入敬」幾個字。學生出外大便，必須取了大便簽放在自己書桌上，方能出外去。學生年少好動，加以關在書館時間既長，藉口大便，先生無法管理的機會，川流不息溜出外去，閒散片刻，造成公開欺騙，足以影響兒童心理。

村塾最先的課本，例先讀三本「紅皮書」，因書皮是紅色故名。那三本紅皮書即是三字經、幼學詩、千字文。三本讀完，接着上論、下論、上孟、下孟，而後才依次詩經、書經等……當時先生所教，只教書本的字音，就令學生死命張口誦、瞑目背，以背誦得滾瓜爛熟為合度。每天所教必須背誦，一本讀完，尤須通本背誦一次，至於書中的意義，則俟至讀大館聽書時，才能得到先生講解。另一重要課程是寫字。寫字從「描紅」開始，先生用紅筆寫着紅色的字，學生用墨筆跟着在上面描，謂之描紅。以後就印格、脫格、臨摹字帖，由淺入深，循序漸進。尚有等書館，放置一塊方磚，約二尺丁方，厚五、六寸，為練習大字之用，蘸水奮筆，隨寫隨乾，既省筆墨，又可練字，一舉兩得，甚為利便。

村塾大約正月下旬起館，臘月中旬解館，時間頗長，一年之中僅有十天重陽假，俗稱紙鷲假而已。以視現在學校，星期有假，寒暑有假，節日有假，一年之中，假期佔了三份之一，更有種種文娛享受，較之當年村塾奚啻霄壤。

往日常家長咸認嚴師出英材，先生為避免「教不嚴，師之惰」起見，每亦以嚴師自豪，故有各種體罰，主要是「戒方」，又名戒尺，以堅質之木為之，長尺餘，方二寸，用以打手心。亦有些先生用手指節

之背力敲頭殼，甚至用藤條笞鞭，所謂「朴作教刑」也。記得周遐壽所著的「魯迅的故家」有這樣的記載：「仁房的伯文在鄉下坐館，用竹枝打學生的背脊，再給灑上刷牙齒的鹽。立房的子京，把學生的耳朵放在門縫裡夾，彷彿是小孩的軋核桃」，有如快捕拷打小偷的這二位嚴酷先生，若在今日學校，其不惹官非才怪呢！

孔子曰：『自行束脩以上，吾未嘗無誨焉』。脩是肉脯，束脩是一捆乾肉，當是臘肉之類，是先生收受薪酬而名脩金的濫觴。酬勞多寡向無一定標準，恒視先生的聲望、學生的年齡而定。一位八十歲鄉前輩告訴我，他讀子曰時每年脩金二元，另白米三斗。另一位七十歲鄉前輩說，他讀子曰館時全年脩金三元。而我自己初入學的脩金依稀記得是六元。雖然當年物價低廉，維持一家開支，教書生涯總是相當清苦。記得鄭板橋未達時自嘲詩：『半飢半飽清閒客，無鎖無枷自在囚，課少父兄嫌懶惰，功多子弟結冤仇』。菜根苦味，慨乎言之了。

在帝制時代，取愚民政策，以功名誘惑智識份子，旨在虛名籠絡，對於人民一般教育，沒有普及推行，培植子弟的責任，純由家長自行處理。農工商賈各階層，爲其子弟應世知識，便利其職業，皆須由私塾陶冶。就以我甘邊鄉而言，每村都有一間私塾，絃歌處處。所聘的塾師，有本鄉人亦有來自外鄉者，不過因種種關係，人事之去留，流動性頗大。在我的記憶裡，設帳授徒的塾師計：教大館的樂之伯在惠卿書室，仰周先生在朝佐祖祠；教館仔的張炳英先生在和慶書室，敬之伯在孚受祖祠，黃同振先生在相悅祖祠，純世公在宏秀祖祠，禮賢伯在甘棠書室。據老一輩宣稱：周平公、晉三公、耀世公、禮康伯、君傳伯、宗元叔等曾在本鄉充任塾師，致力桑梓，承前啓後，有足多者。

前清進士黃榮熙未達時曾在甘邊設帳

授徒，逸軼事而爲父老所樂道，留下墨寶字跡頗多，朝佐祖祠的門額即其手筆者也。又李新吾先生亦嘗在甘邊鄉坐館，迨甘邊學校成立後，復來校任教席，與本鄉樂之伯等成爲我甘邊私塾及學校二代教育的播種者。

在男權社會中，「女子無才便是德」認爲是天經地義，尤以鄉村女子更難得有機會讀書。民國肇造，女子枷鎖次第打破，女校漸興。在甘邊學校成立前後，和慶里、甘棠村、皆有女塾之設立，教師是楨傳夫人、卓勳夫人，開風氣之先，實在難得。到了民國十五年，又增加仁和里一間，每間學生約有廿名左右，當時教師陣容：據甘邊學報第一期載：和慶里李佩芳女士、甘棠村譚步真女士、仁和里利潔英女士，於此故鄉女子教育，更邁進一步。

清廷經過八國聯軍攻佔京都，吃了洋人的虧，才如夢初醒，知非變法維新不足以圖存，非廢除科舉制度，則一切新政將發生阻礙，乃毅然決然，於光緒卅年（公元一九〇四年）最後一次會議後，即下詔停止考試，開辦學校，以後人才皆取於學校，而且規定每縣設一勤學所，每省設一提學司，縣有一所高等小學，鄉村有一所小學，府有一所中學，各省會則無一定，北縣有京都大學，爲全國最高學府。可是頑固官僚、冬烘腐儒，認爲原有制度對他們都有利，一旦更改，好處失掉了，便祭起他們因循敷衍，空言塞責的絕招。加上無知的鄉紳，推波助瀾，凡事牽制，致令新政不能收到實效。就以故鄉而言，甘邊學校直至民國十三年（公曆一九二四年），才「應時代之需求，蒙昆仲之努力，呱呱以誕，開發奇葩」。蔭山兄甘聲發刊辭之句——已距清廷興學之詔，恰逾廿載，可云遲矣。

舊甘邊的新生

征鴻

回鄉紀行之二

我們參加粵第七隊華僑旅行團，三月廿八日經長沙北上旅行，一連參觀過有三個大城市。四月廿九日到達杭州西湖，那是我們的團體最後的三天活動了。至五月二日由杭州起機經南昌飛回廣州，即結束了三十五天的旅程，開始我們的私人自由活動。

當天下午，佩珍的姊妹妹妹，和她的弟弟與家人們，有從香港、有從澳門、連她的老媽媽都從鄉間趕來廣州相會，親友雲集，在久別重逢的剎那間，出現在我的眼前是一幕動人的悲喜劇。她們在互相擁抱，相對痛哭，那種充滿感情，悲喜交集的情景，殊非筆墨可能形容。初見面時，她們熱烈地互相擁抱，許久都沒出聲，過了一段時間，她們又放聲哭，最後才轉為歡笑。她們不斷地互相問長問短、好像想把隔別二十多年的事物，一下子盡量吐露出來。她們像缺堤河水般滔滔地談着，還是我打斷了她們的話柄，我提議要趕辦手續明天回台山甘邊鄉和南溪村去。

『還要去鄉下？』

佩珍感到驚異地說：

『返到中國不去故鄉一走，等於沒有來過中國，百聞不如一見啊！』我說：

『三十多天在國內的旅行，到處看到解放後社會主義祖國的偉大成就，處處朝氣勃勃，欣欣向榮。但是故鄉甘邊，在解放後的變化怎樣？一定要回去看個究竟，返回美國後，才有資料向海外的鄉親們交卷哩。』我繼續地說下去，她們聽了這段話，無詞可駁，也都同意我的意見。當天晚上，我托我們的領隊李同志，憑我們的通行證辦好了回鄉手續，同時也買好了車票，準備明天起程了。

第二天一早醒來，匆匆地用了一些點心，停在華僑大廈門外的一輛巴士，已早在等候着載我們到車站去。車行不久，已到沙河的汽車總站了，我們登上由廣州開往開平路綫的汽車，早上六時半由沙河起程，上午十一時已抵長沙車站，全程只費四個半小時的時間，故鄉交通的進步可見一斑。依照華僑旅行的安排，下車後，步行不遠，即找到長沙華僑大廈，華僑大廈是解放後新建的一座五層高的偉大建築物，俯視潭江，風景美麗，全座樓宇可以同時接待旅客三百人。

我們開了房間，略作休息一會，吃過午飯，決定先過新昌埠去找黃月華先生（她是以前在甘邊學校當過教師的）。從潭江大橋一直步行過海，經新華路轉往永富路，依址找到月華先生的住處，大家久別重逢，免不了又一番寒暄。她知道我們在爭取時間，要先去佩珍的家鄉，於是馬上叫她的兒子和另一位朋友，準備好兩架單車載我們到南溪村去。

單車載到村前，一個三、四歲大的小迎面跑過來，很有禮貌地問道：

『你不是從美國回來的五大姑？』

『你怎知道我是五大姑呢？』佩珍回

問他。

『大婆說，你和姑丈到北京，今天一

定會回家見我們的。』

『你是誰呀？』

『我是然洽的兒子。』

原來然洽就是佩珍的堂弟，我們就跟着這個小孩子帶進村裡去。我在行在想，一個那麼小小的年紀的，舉動和說話活像個成年人，更覺得在新社會培植長大的孩子夠活潑，夠志氣，和我們那代相比，十多歲還不敢在大人的面前抬頭，相差何止千里？

整個下午，陪着佩珍留在她們的家裡，我這個「新返面的姑爺」，給她的兄弟姊妹們重重圍住，像應付什麼大人物似的，沒法脫身。大家說說笑笑，時間也很快地溜走了，看看手鏢，已近六時，我們連忙告別。佩珍並囑她的兩個姪兒，明朝到寶興墟車站等候，送我們到甘邊去。

返到長沙華僑大廈，負責接待我們的周同志恐怕我們餓壞了肚子，趕過來問我們吃過晚飯沒有。我們長途探親，樂而忘飢，倒沒有想到飯也未會吃。周同志知道了，連忙叫廚房弄來好幾味菜，正是菜熟飯香，我們都吃個大飽。剛從餐廳食完出來，又碰到周同志，他很有禮貌地問道：「黃先生，菜色怎樣？你們夠吃得飽嗎？」

「菜式很好，價錢又平，招待週到，我們有機會嘗到這麼好的家鄉風味，真不知怎樣感謝你才好！」

「黃先生真客氣，說老實話，我們做得還不夠。你們老遠地回到家鄉，接待你們是我們的責任，請你再不要這樣客氣好了！」說完他接着問道：

「黃先生，明天又準備到那兒去呢？」

「明天我想回去甘邊看看老家。」
「你需不需要打個電話給親人來接你呢？」

「甘邊也有電話嗎？那真是千古未聞了。以前有人對我說鄉下有電燈照明，我還疑信參半……」

周同志隨即對我解釋，解放之後發展水利，水電力也隨着增加，現時國內許多農村都已改用電燈照明，電動機械。每個公社的大隊都裝有電話，互相聯絡，很為方便，如果我需要跟大隊通電話的，他可以帶我去服務台接駁。我當時心裡好奇，很想試試，後來一想現在鄉下正是農忙季節，恐怕驚鄰動里，妨礙了他們的生產工作，於是婉謝了周同志。

由長沙開往台城的巴士，每天都有好幾班，第二天早上我們到車站買了車票，剛趕上搭上午八時那一輛。車行約廿餘分鐘已到寶興墟車站，其昌其方兩兄弟早已駕了兩架單車在等候了。我們騎上單車尾，直向寶興墟開入，剛巧在以前甘邊鄉人趁墟出入的大成藥店經過，只見店門緊閉，心裡有不勝今昔之感。出了寶興墟，磬山已遙遙在望，附近那些荒山野嶺，都已開闢山崗，廣種雜糧；那些較高的山頭，也遍植樹木，實施「種樹植林，綠化祖國」的計劃，所以舉眼一看，到處是一片新綠。

我們沿着做戲山後面的那條山路，一直向灌田裡文咀村邊經過，正在山崗上工作的農民，都爭相趨前看望，我聽到其中有人說：「他們可能是加拿大的華僑吧？」
「我們是從美國回來的。」我回答道：「你們是第一個了！」真的，我們是解放後從美國回鄉的第一個。

轉落山邊，一眼望見一條寬闊的大路，直通鑊底塘邊的榕樹頭，突然發覺自己讀過書的甘邊學校，但是德充祖和相悅祖那兩間祠堂卻不見了，後來問起鄉人，才知道舊祠堂因年久失修，早已倒塌，現在亦已建成新的甘邊學校校舍了。破舊立新，甘邊鄉就是這樣一步一步地建設起來。

甘邊大隊和甘邊民兵營，均以新霞村英佐祖祠（即舊日團防）為辦事處。甘邊的醫療站，則設於高屋村宏秀祖祠。目前甘邊大隊由黨書記主任金澤、大隊隊長沃均為領導鄉中行政的主要負責人，我們在回鄉訪問期間，得到他們的熱情接待，並將解放後家鄉巨大變化詳細情況逐一見告。他們年富力強，故把鄉務辦得很好。

當我們抵達大隊時，金澤和沃均都親自前來迎接，還很客氣地說：「××哥，我們接到你從南京寄回來的信，高興得很！天天都在等着你和嫂嫂回來，但你沒有說明時日，使我們沒法預先安排接待，

，真是非常抱歉！」

「那裡，那裡！大家都是鄉親，用不着客氣。能夠回到家鄉跟大家見面，已經很覺歡喜了。何況又逢農忙時節，要大家放下工作來歡迎我們，這實在太不好意思了。」大家寒暄一番，一齊進入會客廳，那兒也有好幾位負責的工作人員在等候着，坐下不久，我們互相談談着。

我最關心的是人民的吃飯問題，因為多年來在海外聽過不少「國內人民吃不飽，穿不暖」的傳說，所以我第一句就問，「大家有飯吃得飽嗎？」「我們都有飯吃得飽。」回答我的是沃均。「我看家鄉的生產還不夠，是不是還要政府幫忙呢？」我繼續問下去。「你對家鄉的事物很熟識啊，不錯，有過多年我們是要政府幫助，才有足夠的米糧。後來我們開闢山地，改良耕種方法，廣種雜糧，又增闢茶場，增加收入，近年來收成都很好，早已不需要政府幫助了。現在我們的糧食很充足，請你們不要擔心！」沃均繼續回答着。

「甘邊的合作醫療辦成怎樣？」

「甘邊有合作醫療和人壽保險，每人每年收費人民幣二元，包括一切醫藥費用。」醫療站有男醫生二名，女醫生一名，

皆屬於赤腳醫生的醫務人員，負責鄉中的醫療任務。其中有一名醫生是甘棠村禮操的兒子啓鐸主理，據啓鐸的報告，全鄉居民健康良好。他的工作是每天替鄉民檢驗體格，看病的人很少。甘邊近年來，全鄉都沒有過嚴重的病症發生。小病是在醫療站治療，如遇有需要開刀手術的病，即送去台城人民醫院救治。在解放前，鄉間窮人固然有病沒錢醫，就是有人得病，也要遠遠的跑去寶興墟或水步墟請醫生，請了醫生到來，看過了病，開好藥方，又要托人跑到墟裡執藥，往返多次，費時誤事，一旦遇到急性症的，生命很難挽救。現在鄉中有了合作醫療，醫生經常檢驗身體，病向淺中醫，小病即治好，大病也就生不成，這種簡單的全民保健方法，真不知

道挽回多少人民的生命，中國政府關心人民的健康和生命，於此也可見。

甘邊大隊還設有「信用社」和消費合作社。「信用社」等於由全鄉人民合辦的銀行，利便鄉人就近儲蓄。儲戶也有定期和活期存款的多種，利息也隨之不同。

鄉人如有急需，可向信用社借款。華僑匯款給鄉裡的親人，可托信用社辦理，也可托信用社保管，或依照你的主意，按月支給你的家眷和親友。因有政府保障，存款在信用社安全妥當，與存放在人民銀行無異。消費合作社也是為利便鄉民而設的，但只有少量的日常食品和用品供應。

離開了大隊，他們帶我去參觀甘邊學校，那是解放後新建的樓宇，前座兩層，後座一層，有七個課室，學生三百多名，教師十一人，學制是由小學到高中，小學五年、中學四年。甘邊學校的變化真大，以前我們是在祠堂上課，現在却有完備的新校舍；以前我們要跑到省城才有高中讀，現在鄉間可以一直由初小讀滿高中，不用離鄉；現在的學生還經常有免費或很少費用的電影看，也是舊時發夢也想不到的。

我們跑上學校樓上去，跟學校的負責人談了一會，那時剛近放學時間，一群小學生圍攏過來，我站起來對他們說：「今天大家這麼高興，好不好唱支歌給我聽聽？」起初小朋友們有點害羞，都沒出聲，後來一位女教員說：「大家要唱呀！問問亞伯要唱什麼？」我說：唱「大海航行靠舵手」好嗎？話剛說出口，全堂哄然，大概他們覺得我也懂得這首歌而感到驚異吧！我跟他們唱完了歌，他們也跟我下樓一齊拍了個照，離開學校時，這群小朋友還熱情地送到校門外，依依不捨地不停揮手，不斷嚷着「再見！」「再見！」，我回頭再向小朋友們說：「你們要『好好學習，天天向上』呀！」學校負責人笑着對我說：「你也學到了！」

一個真實故事的回憶

澄

三叔父帶同了三嬸和獨一的女兒，在比我們一家遲了三年後從越南返回廣州，那時我的年紀還小，大約八、九歲吧；看到叔父一家回來，快樂得很，蹦蹦跳跳的常坐在叔父的膝上，不斷地問長問短，他也很喜歡地告訴我許多新鮮的東西。但是三嬸總是板着臉兒，呆望着叔父；而堂妹也沒有半點笑容，像很不快樂似的。我的小孩子心裡那曉得什麼道理？還覺得她們有點討厭，那裡曉得她們滿懷抑鬱啊！住了幾天，叔父也打發了三嬸和堂妹回鄉下去了。

打那時起，父親跟叔父的談話總是放低聲音，他們在談什麼，當然我也不明白。後來有一天，叔父要帶我去看新娘，小孩子的心理，聽見有新娘看反而十分高興，那裡知道，從此三叔的家庭便陷入悲慘的境地呢？

我跟着父親和叔父走到一條很窄的小巷，進入一間破陋的人家，一位老婦人招呼我們坐下，奉過了茶，一會兒，從房子的另一邊走出一位十五、六歲的小姑娘，羞人答答，默然地在我父親和叔父的對面坐下，連頭也不敢抬起來。還是那老婦居間介紹：「這是我的女兒阿容，還未夠十六歲，年紀小，未懂事，招呼不到，還請二位原諒才好……阿容，叫聲兩位先生啦！」這時那小姑娘才展開笑容，叫了他們之後還向我問好。坐談了一會便告辭了，當時叔父問我喜歡不喜歡她，要是我喜歡的話，他便娶了她過來做我的三嬸。我心裡很覺奇怪，明明鄉下有個三嬸了，爲什麼又要另娶一個呢？但當我把這意思問三叔時，馬上給父親喝止了。遲了一個月左右，他果然把那小姑娘娶了過來，我們的大家庭裡從此便多添這位細嬸。

三嬸不會替三叔生下一個男孩子，故此常常遭遇到我祖父母的歧視和冷落，現在有了細嬸，更加把她看成眼中釘了。她受不起種種的虐待，終於拋下惟一的女兒，獨自跑到南洋謀生去。我堂妹自從母親離去後，也覺得孤苦零丁，時常以眼淚洗面。細嬸的性情很好，但也一直沒有生育，更不要說生男的了，所以這個家庭也一直不會快樂過。

後來我年事稍長，才知道我祖父母見得三叔年逾四十，膝下只得一個女兒，無人繼續香燈，死後沒人祭祀，女兒始終要給了人家，不能算是自己人，又說什麼「不孝有三，無後爲大。」最可笑可恨的是把能否生育的責任，完全推在婦女的身上。舊社會還奉着孔夫子的禮教，什麼「三從、四德。」在家從父，出嫁從夫，夫死從子，做女人只有一生服從，沒有自主權，沒有地位，完全不把婦女當作人來看待，簡直是奴隸而已。

去年我參加甘邊同鄉會回國觀光團，旅遊過祖國許多大小不同的城市，參觀過許多大小不同的工廠；也會見了許多男女老幼的親友們，深深地感到，祖國的婦女確確實實已獲得了解放了。婦女們在政治上、經濟上和家庭裡都和男子一樣平等的地位；而生育和養老還得到特別的照顧。工廠裡，工作不分大小輕重，都有婦女擔當，和男人同工同酬。在台山瓷器廠和南京石油化工廠的廠長，也由女人充當。全國實施一夫一妻制，早已取締了婢妾。新的一代根本不知道什麼是婢女、妾侍；奴隸兩字也只有字典裡才可以找到。

祖國自解放後，已把封建殘餘和舊社會種種毒害，真正正的連根都拔掉了，再也沒有重男輕女的思想存在。他們和我們都爲着社會主義的祖國前途而努力，很有意義的快樂地生活着。

和慶里立村之追述

甘邊份子

溯自甘邊鄉立和慶里以還，至今約有七十餘年歷史。余當稚年，童子何知？不過後來稍長，聞得甘邊父老傳說，按和慶之名，由來以久，信得過有數百年。言其大略，尚記憶多少，略陳於後：

考和慶里之原址，是一個荒蕪之小山，蔓草叢生。山上有一間古廟，其名叫和慶廟，又有一社壇在焉。時適甘邊人丁蕃盛，原有屋宇，不敷居住，是以本鄉父老商議，與陳山村孚受房之父兄商量，承買和慶廟之山，取來立村之用。三面言定，雙方允肯，交易順利完成，向平之願已償。遂趁此時機，招集鄉人，定取屋位。各人極爲踴躍，不滿一個星期之久，報名取屋位者，竟有一百餘間之多。各父老見此情形，以和慶廟之山太小，而報取屋地者頗多，想來難以容納。故又再行會議，議決，在潮龍對面之網山邊處，又開多一條新村，取來補充前日在和慶廟報取屋位者。務使各人得有餘地，選擇而建居，其意至善也。不料消息傳出，竟遭別房子孫反對，因德智公墳墓葬在網山頂，而在山邊立村，有阻礙風水之嫌，故作罷論。但經此挫折，而鄉人立村之志益堅。後來闔鄉老幼再行集議，擬在腦村後邊之路頭神山處立村，其目的與網山邊相同，其後結果取得妥善之良方，即將和慶廟遷移安置和慶里衆人館後邊，又將社壇遷移安置惠卿書室圳邊處。因就地取材，以和慶廟之名，改名叫和慶里，此和慶里之由來也。

當立村之初，由甘邊禾更立屋二間，招人投充，以高價者得。記得世儀翁充得一間。後來各人開始上樑建造，先到先得，不滿半年，建立約有六十餘間之多。繼之以歷年建造，共有七八十間之多。按甘邊建立新村有數條，首推甘棠、康樂、和

慶、仁和、平安里等。按和慶里之建立，本鄉人之心意，以爲該村之屋地乃係明買明賣而來，各人可以安心建造而居。不料鄰村有人，在今和慶里之社壇前面處，建屋二間。想來稅田立宅，理所當然，不料其風雲險惡、枝節橫生，倡言和慶里之地方，乃係隱龍祖之遺產，各房子孫有權在此立宅而居。但理由欠佳，格於正義，只是恐嚇，沒採實際行動，夏蟲秋鳥，自鳴自息耳。但一波未平，一波又起。其間最感困惑者，鄰近村有人在和慶里左邊山邊處，上樑有十餘棟，籍口猶說其山邊之水向他下邊而流，應屬他村所管的土地。因此雙方爭執，相持不下，不惜興訟公庭，糾纏數月。卒至解鈴還須繫鈴人，由鄰村之父老到來甘邊鄉調解，取和平二字爲基本、雙方滿意爲主旨。幸雙方父老深明大義，念本是同根生之情，懷訟則終凶之戒。雙方議決由和慶里左邊之山邊，割開八條地，由他們管業建屋而居。雙方允肯，言歸於好，恢復如初，係雙方之幸福也。後來世變日承，大局動盪，加以幾次天翻地覆，屋宇年久失修，雅房書室變爲林鳥之鄉；高樓大廈早爲蟲鼠遊樂之場，一切已非當年面目，撫今追昔，不勝滄桑之感。

★甘聲

禮遜

一日凌晨，
從遠處送來的鐘聲，

使我想起久已生了鏽的——甘聲

而今、噹噹高鳴，

我幾會想到牠會在美洲復刊呢？

我希望牠

把我們的鄉親感情聯絡起來——同心合力

我們相見時一齊握手言歡！

我更希望

美妙、熱情的「甘聲」永遠地生存下去！



村頭巷尾集

清明時節，禮薦先僑，同鄉會於三月廿八日虔具三牲醴酒、銀寶鮮果，前往中華墳場，拜祭先僑，籍表哀思，以慰幽靈。是日於下午一時在同鄉會集合，鄉親參加前往祭掃者甚衆，禮成後回同鄉會聚集，同饗祭品。

銀瑞姑於四月來羅省探親，並到同鄉會訪問，談笑歡洽。銀瑞姑初到美國時居華盛頓州，二年前遷居南三凡市。

光林君去年七月來美，是個裁剪師，又是燒臘師傅，現任大埠著名酒家專職燒臘，多才多藝，可喜可嘉！

羅省中華會館，福僑會主辦之暑期青年職業訓練班，於六月廿八日正式開課，工程組課程由會長黃偉林親自主持，並講授「工程有關之數學」，又請黃振達先生講授「橋梁建築之設計」云。

念市餐館主人禮聖翁，於今春退休，將其餐館業務來與其次公子顯光君主持。顯光君年前畢業於省立大學，他對商業管理極有心得，深信念市餐館的業務，今後更加蒸蒸日上。

甘棠村鎮業夫婦之媳婦啓元夫人，久病纏身，藥石無靈，卒於今春與世長辭。葉氏夫人克勤克儉，持家有方，今一旦遊，聞者莫不惋惜悲悼。

柏錦君令壽堂傳燭太夫人，因年事高老，新陳代能，功能衰退，而致中樞神經失調。自今春入老人療養院醫治，經醫生悉心料理，及休養數月，近來大有起色，能言笑，辨識親人矣。

英煖伉儷偕公子來羅省探視其在政府部門工作的女公子，順到同鄉會訪問與諸鄉親話舊，談笑甚歡。英煖君尙記得初來美國時，與禮聖兄同住香港廣南興候船，五十年前事談來如昨，真好記性。

健和夫人巧雲女士現兼職僑聯實業公司，專誠爲僑胞服務。鄉親們若欲買屋置業，可找和嬌商量。

錫柱夫婦之千金禹華小姐，今夏結婚，設宴於金國酒家，款待親友，捐助本會伍拾元，謝謝！恭喜新娘新郎愛情永篤！聞禹華小姐現任教席於華埠小學。

旋歡夫婦之千金碧嫦小姐，於今年初夏結婚，設宴於羅省香港樓，款待親友，情況熱鬧非常，並捐助本會二十五元，多謝！恭喜百年好合！碧嫦小姐任職燕梳公司。

仲素姑，和慶里人舉業叔之千金。旅美多年，與夫婿許佑先生向居三凡市，生活環境極佳，今夏來羅省渡假及探親，並捐助本會賀儀二十元，謝謝！

柏旋夫婦之千金婉貞小姐，嫻靜好學，冰心聰穎。本就讀於南加省大學，因學習興趣起見，今夏轉學加州大學羅省分校現攻讀微生物學云。

植禮君早年於同鄉會主持國語班所用之錄音機一套，捐送給同鄉會，謝謝！適柏錦君錄有獻世翁的國樂笛仔演奏，真有高山流水之妙，愛好音樂之鄉親，請來同鄉會玩玩。

禮聖君古道熱腸，對社團福利事業，不遺餘力，從不後人，今又捐獻本會名廠十七寸彩色電視機一架，多謝！多謝！鄉親們週末請來同鄉會看電視啦！

錫柱夫婦之公子禹康君，年青有爲，志氣凌雲，學貫中西，對商業貿易活動，特有心得。近來代理推銷台灣金蘭公司出品之豉油，現爲酬謝顧客，實行大贈送，對我甘邊鄉親特別優待，免費贈送一瓶，請移玉步到同鄉會領取，多謝禹康君！

煖傳公的外甥孫雷華耀君，今夏畢業於加省大學羅省分校。雷君好學力行，再求深造於該校，攻讀碩士學位云。

日記一則——慶祝謝神節

(一)時間地點：十一月十八日，在本同鄉會會所。

(二)場面：熱鬧異常。其具體情況，十二時左右鄉親陸續來到會所，一時左右達到高潮。男的、女的、老的、幼的如波浪式湧進，一批來、一批去，會所內水洩不通。有些鄉親們被擠得要站在門口，邊談邊吃。

(三)分工合作：十一時榮高伯、泮麟伯、健和伯已將會所佈置妥當。禮遜主席、柏旋伯熱情地招呼鄉親父老。曠傳公主理廚政，執大刀、切火鷄；禮聖伯坐在另一角裡，任勞任怨地把一爐又一爐熱辣辣麵包仔供應給大眾。

(四)奉獻：顯利夫婦致送杏仁豆腐花。植禮夫婦致送蘋果批四盒。柏旋夫婦致送糯米飯。柏錦夫婦致送炒飯。禮遜夫婦送焗甜薯。英昌隆辦莊致送甜橙兩箱。

(四)總結：非常成功的慶會，同鄉會領導有方，鄉親們熱烈響應，充份表現甘邊一家親的精神。

伯權兄、甘棠村人。數月前合府由港移民來美，現居羅省。伯權兄現在工作之餘，努力學習英文，加緊適應新環境，準備創造新天地。

焜禮夫人暨公子柏權君，去歲來美，現定居於大埠。焜禮夫人原居上棠村，及後遷至和慶里。

振捷叔叔、著名建築劃則師也，十二月四日應南加省華人醫學會邀請，參加該會舉行之年會，並邀他作專題演講，購題為「現代建築藝術」。聽眾掌聲不絕，獲得該會好評。

張權廣姑丈秀屏姑之公子蔭球君，於昨十一月廿八日舉行婚禮，設宴於羅省金龍酒家，款待親友，並捐助本會六十元。多謝！恭喜！

× × × × ×

金圓餐館東主泮良叔叔，其快婿家聲先生（慕華姑丈也），免費義務為本會按裝電視天綫，連天綫也大贈送，謝謝！謝謝！慕華姑丈在本埠開設電視機修理商店，兼售名廠電視機，工精價平，保證滿意。

榮高叔叔、長江餐館之東主及本會七六年度之理事長也。他雖然商務繁忙，但是對本會工作認真支持與積極，既出錢、又出力。他化了兩個工作日，把會所內粉飾一新，添上新的通告板及許多架具。榮高叔的大我精神值得我們學習的好榜樣。金園餐館東主泮良夫婦之公子植輝君，聰敏好學，現攻讀南加省大學，榮獲政府獎學金數千元。

莘莘學子為鄉爭光

本鄉莘莘學子，一連五年榮獲羅省黃氏宗親會獎學金首獎，今年錦上添花，二獎也是我們的子弟潤祥君，真是狀元、探花、雙及第臨門。現將一九七二年至七六年榮獲獎金者及其家長芳名列後：

- 一九七二年，首獎周玲小姐，（景煇夫婦之千金）
- 一九七三年，首獎嬌蓮小姐
- 一九七四年，首獎婉貞小姐（柏旋夫婦之千金）
- 一九七五年，首獎文耀君，（權禮夫婦之公子）
- 一九七六年，首獎國俊君，（景澄夫婦之公子）
- 次獎潤祥君，（振達夫婦之公子）

× × × × ×

★學子零訊

廣興隆辦莊東主景澄夫婦之公子國俊君，稟賦聰穎，學業成績每列前茅。高中三年來的成績，全獲四點滿分。今夏畢業於天尼耶市地高中，榮獲多項獎學金，及羅省黃氏宗親會首獎獎學金。此君前途無可限量，現攻讀士丹佛大學。其兄國榮君，學業成績也很優異，今夏轉學到芝加哥西北大學攻讀醫科云。

振達夫婦之公子潤祥君，聰敏好學，學業成績優異，一連三屆榮獲 A 等學生榮譽，今夏畢業於依高勒高中，榮獲羅省黃氏宗親會第二獎獎學金，及政府獎學金等，現攻讀加省大學羅省分校。

家權碧琴夫婦之公子珏景（玉旁）君，今夏畢業於天尼耶市地高中，成績優異，現攻讀加省大學羅省分校。

潤棠君係振健金緒夫婦之公子也，早歲畢業加省大學羅省分校，便前往市得頓太平洋大學深造，攻讀藥劑學博士學位，今年已在三凡市實習，聞明年便畢業云。其弟潤潮君，品學兼優，力爭上游，現攻讀加省大學羅省分校。

健祥瑞瑤夫婦之千金伊仁小姐，今夏畢業於羅斯福初中，學業成績優異，初中三年來成績全是 A 等及 B 等，被推選為畢業典禮上主講員，其演講詞全文載在英文版。

寶兒小姐係家權碧琴夫婦之千金，秀外慧中，幼承庭訓，勤勉力學。現就讀於天尼耶市地高中二年級，今首次獲 A 等榮譽學生，可喜可嘉！

仲仁君乃健祥瑞瑤夫婦之公子，連獲兩次 A 等榮譽學生，現就讀於嘉蘭刁高中三年級。



鳴謝

本會承蒙各郵親戚友及商號熱心支持，解囊輸捐，隆情厚誼，曷勝銘感，特此鳴謝！茲將七六年捐款人芳名錄後：

★一九七六年捐賀儀芳名

禮遜夫婦 柏旋夫婦

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禮聖夫婦 群禮夫婦

植禮夫婦 邦傳夫婦

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復禮夫婦 鎮業夫婦 傳珠夫婦

傳富夫婦 泮麟夫婦 群越夫婦

民世夫婦 健祥夫婦 小羅夫婦

羅郎夫婦 錫柱夫婦 松柏夫婦

群秀夫婦 振強夫婦 柏宗夫婦

樹培夫婦 蔭山夫婦 松進夫婦

旋悅夫婦 仲蘇姑 荷珍姑 冠華

艷芳姑 瑞清姑 天開 光林

秀屏姑 (以上每捐二十元)

麗珍姑 黃林保安合捐二十元

振達夫婦捐一十五元

傳爵夫婦 仁義夫婦 英強夫婦

庚傳夫婦 振威夫婦 炳橋夫婦

曠傳夫婦 旋悅夫婦 泮良夫婦
 自然夫婦 崇仁夫人 堅磐夫婦
 紹光夫婦 傳富夫婦 忠義夫婦
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 禮茂夫人 妙娟姑 淑瑜姑
 淑卿姑 慕蘭姑 佩瑜姑 舉業
 婉人姑 心人姑 婉英姑 家駒
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 麗珍姑 遇清姑 腦村偉林夫婦
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 黃禮揚先生夫人
 啓元夫人喪禮捐銀伍拾元

★一九七六年郊遊大會樂捐者芳名

禮遜夫婦 邦傳夫婦 榮高夫婦
 禮聖夫婦 植禮夫婦 鎮業夫婦
 泮良夫婦 海元夫婦 家權夫婦
 余永盛先生夫人 群禮夫婦 天開
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 泮麟夫婦 復禮夫婦 柏宗夫婦 婉嫦姑
 樹培夫婦 振輝夫婦 錫柱夫婦 寶琴姑
 蔭山夫婦 銳敬夫婦 堅磐夫婦 有儉姑
 炳橋夫婦 振達夫婦 健和夫婦 新有姑
 顯利夫婦 禮勛夫人 傳勝夫人 羅 郎
 和慶偉林夫婦 康業夫人 傳兆夫人
 禮茂夫人 惠棠夫人
 (以上每捐拾元)
 河經夫婦 曠傳夫婦
 (以上每捐伍元)

英昌隆 白糖糍叁百伍拾件
 柏旋夫婦涼水十箱
 禮遜夫婦粽糍及者路
 健祥夫婦玻璃獎品十七件
 惠棠夫人碗頭仔糍及者路
 顯達者路二盒
 南華餐館中秋月餅二盒
 榮高夫婦報效叉燒
 柏錦夫婦大膠波二箱

甘聲在美復刊，一切經費均由各父老
 鄉親厚愛樂助，高誼隆情，感激莫名，謹
 此鳴謝！

茲將本期捐款人芳名錄後：

禮遜	三十元	銳敬	拾元	錫柱	拾元
禮聖	二十元	傳法	拾元	泮良	拾元
邦傳	二十元	柏錦	拾元	荷珍姑	伍元
柏旋	二十元	權禮	拾元	民世	伍元
榮高	二十元	社優	拾元	鎮業	伍元
植禮	二十元	禮典	拾元		
荷珍姑	二十元	泮麟	拾元		
和慶偉林	拾元	禮勛夫人	伍元		

甘聲進支結算表

★甘聲進支數目(由一月至十一月)
 進一九七五年結存銀壹百貳拾伍元
 進一九七六年捐助甘聲捐款貳百柒拾元
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 二柱共進銀叁百玖拾伍元
 支甘聲第四期出版費：打字費一百二十五
 元，印刷費一百六十二元六角，郵費三
 十六元。
 三柱共支叁百貳拾叁元六角
 進支比對尚存銀七十一元四角
 財政經手人：健祥

倘有錯誤請指正

樓業還本

本會樓業股票，第三次抽籤還本，下面已抽中之號碼，請各持股票人，對照自己之號碼，並於股票底面簽名，親手交回或郵寄本會，當即發還兌現支票，以便進行清理手續，請祈留意！

禮聖—三四，四三，四六，五三，五九，九九。寶琴姑—一〇二。仁義—一〇六，一一〇。顯榮—一一九。旋悅—一二七，一二九。柏錦—一四二。榮高—一五二，一六九，一八三，二〇二。振威—二二三。振輝—二二七，二二八。邦傳—二四六。羅郎—二五七。銳敬—二八一，二八三。炳橋—二九三。惠棠夫人—三〇七。振健—三一三。賡傳—三二五。復禮—三三六。柏旋—三四四，三五八，三六五，三八九，三九六，四〇一，四〇八，四二〇，四二三。少華—四七二，四八九。思寧—四九七，五一〇，五一四。婉貞—五一五，五一八，五二一。清慈姑—五四一，五四五。松進—五五七，五五八，五六八。沛林—五七五，五七六。炳森—五九九，六〇三，六〇四，六一九，六二二，六四二，六四四，六五一，六八一，六八八。星義—七〇一，七一五，七二六，七三〇，七三六，七四三，七四四，七八二，七八四。權禮—八一五，八一九，八二六，八二七。景回夫人—八三七，八四六，八五六。黃贊—八七三。柏宗—八九一。雅蘋—九一三。秀屏姑—九一三，英強—九二三。華章—九二七。振強—九三四，九四四。泮良—九四九。碧雲姑—九七四，九八六。自然—一〇〇三。旋歡—一〇二〇。佩瑜姑—一〇二二。錦佩姑—一〇三五。天開—一〇四六，一〇四八。潤蘭姑—一〇五〇。

本會一九七七年度職員

主席：振達 副主席：榮高

理事長：偉林、禮聖

監事長：植禮、煥傳

中文書記：健祥、泮麟、家權

西文書記：榮高夫人、偉林

財政：健和、錫柱

樓業部財政：柏錦、泮良

核數：傳珠、振強

青年組：顯利、宇康、英強、景洲、潤祥、小羅。

事務組：炳橋、復禮

監事：禮典、松柏、樹培、毓明、傳爵、芳傳、銳敬、

民世、傳法、舉業、鎮業、景澄、柏宗、禮沃、

蔭山、天開、歡祥、社優、權禮、傳球、偉林。

任全 紹光

永遠名譽顧問：柏旋、禮聖、植禮

、邦傳、禮遜。

聯絡組：傳珠夫人、松柏夫人、振亞夫人

禮聖夫人、禮遜夫人、柏旋夫人

柏錦夫人、柏宗夫人、偉林夫人

振達夫人、健和夫人、植禮夫人

錫柱夫人、炳橋夫人、旋悅夫人

家權夫人、健祥夫人、泮麟夫人

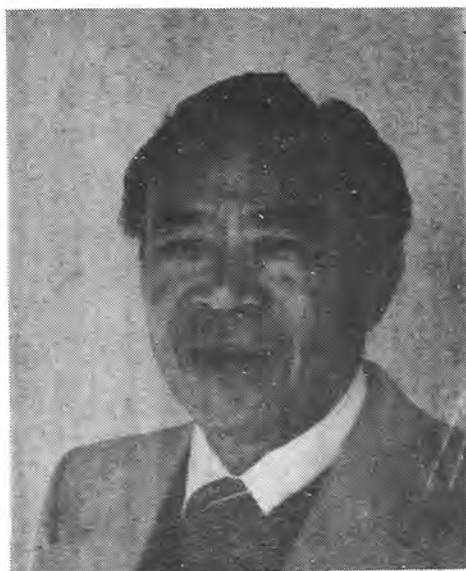
禮典夫人、康業夫人、林盛夫人

景煇夫人

本會永遠名譽顧問簡介：一



黃柏旋： 曾任本會第一、第二屆主席，
甘邊同鄉會實業公司總理，
現任本會名譽顧問。



黃植禮： 曾任本會第三屆主席，甘邊同
鄉會實業公司董事長，現任本會
名譽顧問。



黃禮聖： 曾任本會第四屆主席，暨第一
第二屆副主席，甘邊同鄉會實業
公司第一副總理，現任本會名譽
顧問。



黃禮遜： 曾任本會第五屆主席，現任本
會名譽顧問。



黃邦傳： 曾任本會第三、第五屆副主席，
甘邊同鄉會實業公司第二副總理
，現任本會名譽顧問。

本會職員玉照

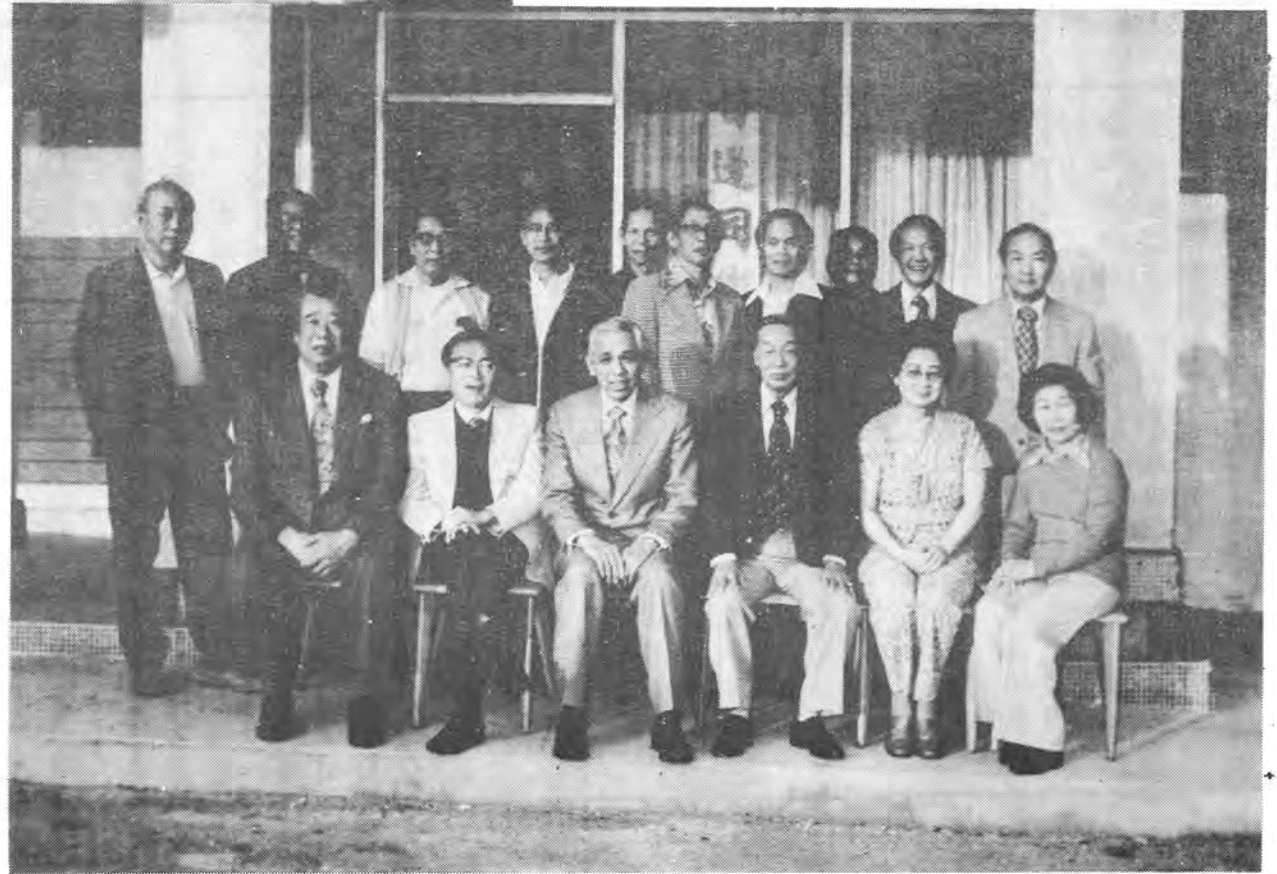


甘聲小啓

本刊是一份免費贈閱的小冊子，多年來，皆由各熱心親友，捐款支持，使本刊得以繼續出刊，現在我們為酬謝各親友捐助的盛意起見，由本期起，特備有「賀年廣告」多頁，凡是私人或商號捐助本刊，美金十元以上者，本刊將免費代其刊登「賀年廣告」一次，以酬盛意，謹此敬告各讀者。

甘聲編委會啓

本會職員玉照



甘聲編輯委員會

編輯：征鴻、健祥、泮麟
 特約撰述：陳豐美、偉林、蔭山、
 家權。
 英文編輯：振達、少華、雷杏屏。
 財政：健祥、柏錦。
 顧問：禮聖、邦傳、植禮、錫柱、
 禮典、復禮、曠傳、蔭山、
 禮遜、榮高、泮良。

請光顧本會會員各商號

<p>金獅餐館 Goldan Lion Restaurant 29127 S. Western Ave. San Pedro, CA Tel: 831-9319</p>	<p>三盛肉舖 Sam Sing Meat Co. 670 N. Spring Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Tel: 628-8030</p>	<p>金園餐館 Kim's Restaurant 3860 Crenshaw Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90008 Tel: 294-6677</p>	<p>鳳凰餐館 Fong Wong Kitchen 722 Montana Avenue Santa Monica, CA 90403 Tel: (213) 393-4714</p>	<p>那治機器洗衣公司 Norge Village Laundry 33 Peninsula Shopping Str. Rolling Hills, CA 90274 Tel: 377-9024</p>
<p>明記參茸行 Ming Kee Co. 2347 Harwood Los Angeles, CA 90031 Tel: 2228828</p>	<p>英昌隆公司 Ying Chong Lung Co. 956 S. San Pedro St. Los Angeles, CA 90015 Tel: 623-3733</p>	<p>祿利公司 Look Lee Co. 461 Pacific Avenue San Francisco, CA 94133 Tel: (415) 481-2345</p>	<p>廣興隆公司 Kwong Hing Lung Co. 2600 S. San Pedro St. Los Angeles, CA 90015 Tel: 231-4335</p>	<p>炳橋洗衣館 Kent Laundry 11272 W. Washington Place Culver City, CA Tel: 397-4597</p>
<p>念市酒家 Nam's Restaurant 205 E. Valley Blvd. San Gabriel, CA Tel: 280-8377</p>	<p>長城酒家 Great Wall Restaurant 232 S. Glendora Avenue West Covina, CA 91790 Tel: (213) 332-3011</p>	<p>長江酒家 Yangtze Restaurant 126 N. Euclid Avenue Ontario, CA Tel: (714) 986-8941</p>	<p>昆明飯店 Kun Ming Kitchen 632 S. Shoppers Lane Covina, CA Tel: (213) 339-8041</p>	<p>月宮餐館 Moon Palace Restaurant 16 3/4 E. Huntington Drive Arcadia, CA Tel: (213) 446-7707</p>

玉西餐館

Jade West Restaurant
6420 N. Rosemead Blvd.
San Gabriel, CA
Tel: (213) 285-1411

請批評

請指導

請投稿

★編後話

自上期本刊改用影印，出版後，即獲各鄉親的好評，紛紛捐款支持。給我們在經濟上解決了困難。在親友的熱情鼓舞之下，又得到讀者們踴躍投稿，使這一期比上一期的內容更為充實、更為豐富。在這方面，我們熱誠地向各位讀者作者，和在各方面支持者，致以深意的感謝！

本期收到蔭山兄從市作頓來稿——「建立我們的第二故鄉」，鼓勵我們加強團結，愛國愛鄉。我們又獲得連任羅省黃氏宗親會主席偉林君寄來「僑社五年」，這是他參加僑社所體會到的經驗之談，對關心僑團工作者，可資借鏡。「故鄉私塾話當年」、「和慶里立村之追述」，是對甘邊舊教育和立村的變遷，有詳細的記錄，富有歷史性的研究價值。瑩女士寫的「一個真實的故事」、和維珍娜小姐寫的一篇英文稿，暴露了舊社會中女子遭受的不幸，比起今天新中國婦女的頂起半邊天，有一百八十度角的轉變。「舊甘邊的新生」——回鄉報告之二，將繼續寫下去，以加深我們對家鄉的認識。英文「一九七六年」，是伊仁小姐中學畢業的演講詞，語意深刻動人。

我們皆在百忙中抽空來做這編排和寫稿的工作，自知錯漏難免，當得各位讀者的原諒。但在推陳出新的要求下，我們希望遠近親友，時賜教益，多作聯系，或來信報導鄉親們生活情況，使「村頭巷尾集」的消息更多，這是編者的厚望！

Congratulations to Glenn Wong, son of Ging and Marian Wong, and to Ronald Chin, son of Gene Art and Alma Chinn, for winning the Wong Family Association annual scholarship awards for 1976. Glenn, a graduate of Pacific Palisades High School, with a 4.0 average and valedictorian of his class, won first place. Ronald, a graduate of Eagle Rock High School, with a 3.98 average, won second place. Glenn is attending Stanford, majoring in journalism. Ronald is studying at U.C.L.A., taking biochemistry. Nice going, fellas, keep up the good work. Also, look for Ronald's article in STUDENTS' CORNER.

Many students from the Gom-Benn Village families have won these awards in the past. To qualify, a student must be a senior with a grade point average of 3.0, or better, and his father must be a member of the Wong Family Association. Let's have our good records continue. Encourage our high school seniors to apply.

Ben and Cindy Wong of West Covina, are brother and sister, and the children of the Bing T. Wongs. Ben is working on his Ph. D. in cellular and molecular biology at U.S.C. His sister, Cindy, transferred from U.S.C. to U.C.L.A., after changing her major to microbiology from pharmacy. Let's hope they did not watch the S.C. vs U.C.L.A. football game at home on the same TV!!

Speaking of TV's, we want to thank Nam Wong for contributing a handsome 17" Sony color television to the Gom-Benn Association. Also, thanks to Sam Wong, son-in-law of Mr. and Mrs. Ock Y. Wong, for installing an outside antenna for the Association office on his day off. Sam is an excellent TV repair man. He does most of his work by contract with well-known manufacturers. Thanks, Sam, our television is working beautifully!

Bing S. Wong of San Bernardino donated a set of recording equipment and Chinese tapes to the Association. He firmly believes in self-learning. With this machine, he learned to speak Mandarin by himself. Bing is a self-taught linguist. Besides his native Gom-Benn dialect, he speaks Cantonese, Mandarin, and English fluently. The equipment and Mandarin lessons are available at the Association office. All members and their families who want to borrow the equipment are welcome. Thanks, Uncle Bing!

Jerri Hoi, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Chew Hoi of Glendale, graduated from Roosevelt Jr. High School with high honors and was chosen Valedictorian of her class. Congratulations, Jerri! Her article in the STUDENTS' CORNER was her speech at graduation.

"FORTRAN, COBL, CPS PL/1, JBL, Assembler language, Terminal language, load (alyex, engr), xeg," all these codes, abbreviations, and phrases may seem and sound like Greek to most of us. But to Karl Lee, it is bread and butter. After graduating from computer school last year, he went to work for the Aerospace industry. At the present, he and his associates are setting up a computer programming system for an import and export company in the San Francisco area. Karl is a man of tremendous ability that has been proven from his success as a businessman, a confident MC, and a physics teacher in Hong Kong. The odds are one hundred to zero that he will succeed in his new venture.

Mrs. Hall Jin Louie's family is monopolizing the pharmaceutical profession. Her older son Bill and daughter-in-law, Nora, both are pharmacists. Bill is a manager for Longs Drug Store, and Nora works for Thrifty Drug Store. Another son, John, is in his second year in pharmacy school at the University of the Pacific. Hall Jin, who lives in Stockton, is a "daughter descendant" of Gom-Benn.

more ...

Lawrence Wong, son of Mr. & Mrs. Roger Wong, has completed his pharmaceutical internship in a hospital in San Francisco last Fall. He is ready to go back to U.O.P., in Stockton, for his final quarter before graduation.

Mr. & Mrs. Park Kam Wong of Los Angeles, after years of hard work, sold their market business last year. The Association wishes them a happy retirement.

In April, 1976, Gom Suey, another member of the Gom-Benn Village, moved to San Francisco from Washington. He enlightened us with a visit, when he came to the GBVS, while in Los Angeles.

Gong Lim, still another member of our Village, arrived from Hong Kong in June of '76. Not only is he a good tailor, but he is now a barbecue chef in one of the largest restaurants in San Francisco.

Last June, William Wong, president of the Wong's Benevolent Association, helped "Chung Wah Club" form some classes in occupational training for the young youths for the summer.

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Wong of San Francisco, visited us during their vacation last summer. In talking with Nam Wong of Monterey Park, they reminisced when the two of them were waiting to board a boat to come to "the land of opportunity" some fifty years ago. How time flies! They agreed that it seemed like they "just came" to America.

Members of the Gom-Benn Society gathered at the Association on August 28, 1976, the day known as "Ting Ming", to go to the Chinese Cemetery to place flowers on graves of some of their deceased relatives. After the ceremony, the group returned to the Association for a snack.

Mrs. Lila Gin Jue, employed by a branch of the Bank of America, is also an established real estate broker. Anyone interested in purchasing any property or selling any property can get in touch with her at Unity Co. Realtors, 680-2780.

Mr. & Mrs. Lui Wong's daughter, Theresa, became the bride of Jim Lee when they were married in August. The "new" Mrs. Lee is an elementary school teacher in Chinatown. A scrumptious wedding banquet was enjoyed by many of the friends and relatives of the bride and groom at the Golden Palace Restaurant. A very generous donation of \$50 was made to the GBVS on behalf of the bride and groom.

Another treat was in store for members of the GBSV when the daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Soon Foon Wong, Big Shang, held her wedding banquet at the Hong Kong Restaurant. The bride works for an insurance company. They also donated \$25 to the GBVS.

Shirley, daughter of the Bing T. Wongs and sister to Ben and Cindy, is now working as an assistant to the regional sales manager for Qantas Airways. She recently went on a three day business trip to San Francisco and returned home by way of Honolulu (Qantas flies out of San Francisco). After spending the weekend in Honolulu, she flew home on United Airlines to Los Angeles. It's a round-about way to West Covina from San Francisco, but we know how Shirley enjoys travelling. And speaking of travelling, she'll be doing more this coming year. As Christmas presents, she has received two trips; one from Canadian Pacific and the other from Pan American. And to top it off, it's to go to any destination, which means anywhere in the world, as long as their plane can take her there! How about that! But they couldn't have gone to a more deserving person. Have fun, Shirley, we'll be thinking of you!!

The Gom-Benn Village Society meets on the 3rd Sunday of every month at the Chinatown office at 2:30 p.m. Again, we extend an invitation to you fellow villagers and urge you to attend these meetings. We need your support!

THERE ARE EMBARRASSING MOMENTS ...

Weekend golfers, has this ever happened to you? Yes, on the first hole your partner has just driven the ball 250 yards straight toward the green. You were next. The starting schedule was running a little late. There were several foursomes waiting behind you. As you were walking out to the tee area, your heart was pounding because of the unexpected gallery in back of you. You took a deep breath. Trying to relax, you teed up the ball, placed the driver next to it to insure the ball was at its proper height, tossed a few grains of grass up in the air to check the direction of the wind, took a couple of practice swings, then, you placed the club head behind the ball cautiously. Bending your knees and keeping your eyes on the ball, you were ready and hoping to duplicate your partner's excellent shot. You brought the club head back slowly trying to do exactly what you had learned from the pros. With one smooth and continuous motion, from back swing to forward swing, you whacked at the ball and followed through. Results ... you topped the ball and did not get a good hit. The ball rolled 40 yards in front of you. Well, don't feel too badly! It happens to everybody, including Andy Williams. He dubbed the ball three times in a row at the Bing Crosby Open two years ago, with millions of people watching on television ...

Guys, have you ever been waiting in line at a check-out stand in a supermarket, holding a giant size box of kotex, which your wife sent you out to buy? It is a week day morning when most of the husbands are at work. You are the only male among eight or ten customers in line. You can sense that some ladies are looking in your direction. So you focus your eyes on the cash register purposely to avoid having eye contacts with them. After standing in line for a long five minutes, you are next. Finally, you will be out of this embarrassing situation, or so you thought! Yes, you will be next, but not til the store manager comes to approve a personal check for the lady in front of you ...

You look up and see a pretty girl waving at you. She was about 20 yards away. She looked familiar, but you could not recall who she was or where you have met her. Maybe she was the girl you have seen in school once in awhile and was never formally introduced. Or she could be someone in your bowling league whom you have not seen for years. Or, is she the neighbor whom you have seen only twice since she moved into your block a year ago, once at a PTA meeting and the other time when she was closing her garage door. Regardless, you must have known her, otherwise she would not have waved at you, or so you thought. Not knowing exactly what to do, but being polite, you waved back and gave her a friendly smile. At the same time, you hear someone in back of you yelling, "I tried to call you last week!" Finally, you realize that she was waving at the person behind you. You had not seen her before in your entire life. Trying to hide behind the people in front of you, you think to yourself, "well, it's better to be embarrassed than sorry!"

more ...

STUDENTS' CORNER ...

COLLEGE: THE FUN IS OVER by Ronald Chin

The entering freshman is struck by a reality that makes college an entirely different experience from high school. In college, the fun is definitely over. A student must seriously face the responsibilities of campus life or he won't survive. The relaxed atmosphere of high school gives way to the anxieties of higher education.

The most pronounced change occurs in the classroom. The competition for good grades immediately shakes the freshman out of any lethargic mood prevalent from the high school years. Everybody in class is usually a good student, especially at a university. An even more disheartening point is that these good students are truly interested in mastering the subject. The contrast with high school is painfully evident. In high school, the relative intelligence was lower and students in general didn't relish the thought of learning, as much as college students do.

The use of a strict curve in the college grading system also keeps the student in a serious mood. Almost without exception, good grades in high school were earned by reaching a pre-set standard. Achievement by peers did not affect this rule. An example of this was the practice of giving "A"s to anyone getting ninety percent correct on a test. The strict curve used almost exclusively at a university level only allows for so many "A"s. As a result of this each student tries to do "that" much better than the other student. Adding further to this competition fervor is the fact that good grades are needed for graduate school. More than one graduate student has stated emphatically that straight "A"s are a necessity to get into graduate school. Whether this is exactly true or not is irrelevant. Everybody seems to believe it. Thus each student is even more motivated to earn high grades. The help which students gave to each other in mastering high school subjects might not be given so liberally for college subjects. In this atmosphere of frenzied competition it is no wonder students don't have fun and must take on a serious, responsible attitude.

Homework is another case in point. Homework given in college requires a great deal more thought than high school. It is also given in greater quantities. To make matters more difficult, homework is not reviewed in class the next day. The reason for this is simply that there isn't time, which is especially true in math and science. All the time is needed for lectures.

Classroom lectures also provide no relief for the college student. The pace is so fast that the student has to wonder how the professor can keep up with it himself. High school lectures were very deliberate. The teacher took time to clarify his points. The student could take his time coming to a class in high school and could even let his mind drift. In college, just taking his mind off the subject for an instant can cause the lecture to become totally incomprehensible. All concepts of the lecture must be grasped. In addition, notes have to be taken at the same time. That is no easy task. No wonder college students are all business.

Since the lecture is so fast paced and usually only touches the general aspects of the subject anyway, students must get the additional information out of their textbooks, a task that often wasn't necessary in high school. Sometimes it's tough enough just getting a textbook. A high school teacher passed out all the books that the students needed as if it were his God-appointed duty. In college, though, just to add to all the rest of his worries, the student has to buy the required books from the student store. In the event the store runs out of the needed books, it's the students' problem. The professor certainly won't wait ... here again, it's pretty hard to feel relaxed when there's a rush

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on for something like books.

Yes, the change from high school senior to college freshman is a drastic one. College is the foundation of a person's future livelihood. With such high stakes, there's no fooling around in this "game."

#

1976 by Jerri Hoi

1976 is here right now, and we are presently in the middle of the age of nuclear weapons, solar energy, and intensified space exploration. To find the answer to how this all has been accomplished, we must look to the past.

In order to build a safe and sturdy building, a good, solid foundation is needed. In the early development of our country, our founding fathers provided us with such a foundation.

They approved the Constitution, which governs us and eliminates any confusion whatsoever, so that we could start to build and develop our nation.

All the workmen and builders of a structure must possess many important qualities. First of all, they must be honest and truthful. We could not possibly begin to build our nation with fraudulent, dishonest men. And of course, they must be skilled and experienced. They must know what they are doing, or else they may cause the whole building to topple. An unwise decision by one of our leaders could possibly result in problems for the entire country. The builders of our country must be wise, so that they cannot be easily fooled. They must be hard-working, full of perseverance and very ambitious. Without ambition, the building would not get off the ground.

Our founding fathers possessed all of these qualities, so they began to build our nation. The first question they asked was "What kind of materials are we going to use?" Obviously, they were going to use the best they could find. The purpose of school and of acquiring an education is to become the best citizens, because actually, we, the people, are the materials for that building.

And while we continue to build, there are other structures which are also under construction. Other builders are trying to outdo us, and the feeling of competition spreads.

Competition is good for all parties involved, because now we are on our toes and ready to improve. There is no room larger than the room for improvement, and we shall always try to improve ourselves until we honestly feel that we have accomplished all we can, as far as our capabilities can take us.

Our building is nearly completed now, and we must put the glass in our windows. Without windows, we would be unable to see the outside world and we would be completely isolated. We must all keep open minds and not reject ideas and opinions which we do not share. That is why our windows are such a necessity -- they enable us to see all the happenings in the world around us and to see different viewpoints so that we do not have one-track and narrow minds.

The final touches to our great building are being added. The paint is being carefully brushed on, to ensure no faults or cracks in any of our nation's communities. Our open doors signal a welcome to every race, creed and color and religion to our nation.

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We are now ready to furnish the interior. In order for a country to be strong, it must first be strong within. Once we have secured internal strength, we may reach out to the corners of the world and help others. We cannot help others if we do not know how to help ourselves.

Presently in 1976, our building is 200 stories high, and we hope it will continue to grow eternally.

#

FROM THE VIEWPOINT OF A CHRISTMAS TREE
by Darlene Chin (6th grader)

"This looks like a fine tree. How much is it?" questioned the man. He pointed to me, while the clerk checked my tag.

I wish he would make up his mind, he's been at this all day, I silently told myself.

"\$10.75 for this freshly-cut, beautiful green Christmas tree. It's one of the very best I have," replied the sales clerk fingering my branches gingerly.

"Well, I don't know. Maybe that white one over in the corner would be nice. How much is it?"

Oh, I wish he'd make up his mind. I, William J., will not wait any longer. I'll give him one final chance, and only one.

"That one's \$8.00, but the other one is so much better looking."

I heard the white tree, I think his name was Fred S., mumble something about being prejudice against white Christmas trees. I giggled softly.

"I guess you're right. I'll take the green one," the man told the clerk.

Smart choice if I do say so myself, I quietly commented.

"That'll be \$11.47, including tax."

I looked at the man's driver's license as he opened his wallet to pay. My owner would be Paul Luther Nelson. Nelson, I guess that was a gretty good name. Let's see. Now my name is William J. Nelson. I guess it's not bad.

Mr. Nelson and I rode home together in a small pick-up truck. It was pretty bumpy, but it was fun. When we arrived at my new home, I was put in front of the fireplace. Presents were being placed around me when it dawned on me. What was going to happen to me when Christmas was over? I thought it over until the most logical reason came to me. They would probably put me out with the trash. The very thought of it made me feel ill.

The Nelsons decorated me happily as the spirit of Christmas entered the house. I was in no mood for Christmas. I wept quietly to myself.

Christmas morning came and I was still sick. I wish I hadn't been so beautiful when the men came to chop down some Christmas trees.

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Just before the Nelson children opened their gifts, the oldest, Nancy Nelson, asked her father, "What's going to happen to the Christmas tree when Christmas is over?"

"I've been thinking about that. I have decided that since this is such a lovely tree, we'll plant it in the backyard and use it for future Christmases," Mr. Nelson answered, starting to unwrap one of his presents.

My heart leaped for joy. I was saved! I settled down and watched their eyes light up as each present was opened. Every Nelson, including me, had a very Merry Christmas.

#

"MOTHERS DAY" by Trellis Huahn

Since it is mother's day
And also since it is in May
We will have a lot of fun
And, tie you in a bun
Make sure that you do stay
"Happy Mother's Day"

Trellis wrote this to her grandmother on Mothers Day.
She is the daughter of Loretta and Stephen Huahn and
the granddaughter of Mary and Harold Wong of Palos Verdes.

#

FROM A GUEST WRITER ...

Virginia Eng is a girl with quite a knowledge of Mainland China. She was born in the United States, but was raised in Mainland China. In 1975, she and part of her family immigrated here and are now living in the Los Angeles area. She has a good knowledge of the English language, but her memories of China and how it was is far superior. The following, is what Virginia wrote, to share with us ...

HOW TRAGICAL THE CHINESE WOMEN WERE IN THE PAST
by Virginia Eng

China is the most populated country in the world, and more or less half the people are women. Since 3,000 years ago, China was governed by the feudal system, and there were a lot of unequal laws that were made to control the people. From that time, Chinese women had been suffering a lot of pains, and many inconveniences and discriminations against them -- there was not too much freedom for them. Today, I'd like to talk about the Chinese women in the past.

According to the old custom and tradition in the past, Chinese men and women's marriages were decided by their parents, so called blind marriages. Many men and women had never seen or met their so-called loved one before they were married. When a girl was 16, 17 or 18 years old, her parents considered that she was old enough to get married, so they usually found a man for her to marry without her consent. They used to demand so many cookies or cakes and a lot of things and money from the man's family. If the man's family did not pay a big dowry to the bride's family, they may not get a daughter-in-law.

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In fact, a girl, when she got married, was more or less like goods to be sold by her parents. Therefore, this kind of marriage is called a feudal purchase marriage. The bridegroom's family carried cookies and cakes to the bride's house. On the wedding day, they sent a sedan-chair to receive the bride to their house, and arranged a very big banquet and entertainment to invite all their relatives and friends to celebrate the occasion.

After the women married, they were usually subjected to the feudal ethic of "three obediences and four virtues" which bound women like a heavy rope. What are the "three obediences and four virtues?" The "three obediences" meant female obedience to the father and older brother when young, obedience to the husband when married, and obedience to the sons when widowed. Women were thus placed under the rules of men from the cradle to the grave. The "four virtues" were women's virtue, speech, appearance and work. Specifically, women's virtue meant that a woman must know her place and act in complete compliance with the feudal ethical code. Women's speech meant that a woman must not talk too much. Women's appearance meant that a woman must adorn herself to please men. Women's work meant that a woman must do all her household work well and willingly.

Therefore, according to these rules and regulations, a woman had to obey and serve her husband, father-in-law and mother-in-law when she was married. Her husband could scold and beat her whenever he wanted, and all she could do was bear it. At meal time, a daughter-in-law had to stand by to show due respect to the elderly one, ready to serve whatever was needed or to refill rice bowls for her father-in-law, mother-in-law and husband. Her husband could get many wives if he wanted, nevertheless, she had to be faithful and loyal to her husband during her whole lifetime. Furthermore, she could not get married any more, even if her husband died. Otherwise, she would be shamed in the family circle in that she was not a moral woman, and was looked down on by the people. At that time, woman only did all her household works everyday and could not or was not supposed to go outside the doorstep. Of course, they had been lacking in their education. Therefore, for a long, long time women were unknown, backward and narrow-minded, so-to-speak.

Why did the women have to submit under the strict control of the man? Why were the women thought to be servants and suffered a lot in the past? In the last analysis, the feudal ethical code, holding that men were superior to women, shackled the Chinese women spiritually as well as physically for more than 2,000 years. It was more or less like a knife which was used to kill people without causing blood. Therefore, many women were injured and killed by it at that time. Even today the influence of this thinking has not been completely cleared away from people's minds.

Times have changed, and the world began to climb up the stairway of modern times and civilization. Today Chinese women have been learning to read and write and have made much progress in winning their liberation. Especially they rejected the old customs and habits, and broke down male supremacy. They have achieved many equal rights for themselves politically as well as economically. Therefore, in today's China, more and more women work shoulder to shoulder with men in achieving their country's independence. Whatever men can do, women can also do. Women should be able to hold up half the sky in reconstructing their country... that is what the women are saying and doing in today's China.

恭賀新禧 並向各宗親戚友問好！

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