

南洋学会会员文集之二



椰陰館文存

潘之題



陳育彰著

第三卷

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陳育崧著

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# Foreword

Mr. Tan Yeok Seong's career is a remarkable one. He received his education in Chinese and English and succeeded in mastering both languages. He had experience of working in the public and the private sectors, and did well in both. He never taught in a University, yet he had contacts with more academics than those who work in academia. He is an amateur historian, yet he had achieved much more than many of the professional historians. He is a scholar but never claims to be such. He is a connoisseur of art but never professes to be an artist. He even made a brief incursion into industrial development, but unfortunately this proved to be too much for him. He has many "firsts" to his credit: he was the first to set up a company to publish Malayanised textbooks for the Chinese schools; he was the first to compile a series of Chinese language textbooks for non-native speakers of the language; he was the first to donate an entire collection of his books to the National Library. In short, he is one of the rare breed who is gifted with an original mind, an enquiring spirit and an impatience that characterises many of the things he has done as well as those that he left undone.

As a long-standing member of the South Seas Society, Mr. Tan has indeed given of his best. He has taken an active part in the running of the Society when he was young, having held the positions of Vice-Chairman and Chairman for many years. Moreover he has contributed some valuable articles to the Society's journal, all of which, in addition to others, are now reproduced in this book. The quality of these articles has been judged to be high, and they truly reflect Mr. Tan's depth of knowledge and perceptiveness of analysis. Although written many years ago, they have stood the test of time remarkably well.

Mr. Tan will be eighty this year. There is perhaps no better way of celebrating this grand occasion than in collecting all his writings— both Chinese and English — and putting them together under the imprint of the South Seas Society. I am sure all his well wishers will join me in singing "Happy Birthday to Mr. Tan" and thanking him for enriching the scholarship and culture of our beloved Republic.

October 1983

GWEE YEE HEAN  
Chairman  
South Seas Society

# Mr. Tan Yeok Seong

## A BIOGRAPHY

In what is often called the "cultural desert" of Singapore a handful of Chinese scholars are working hard to keep alive the traditions of Chinese learning. Prominent among these scholars is Mr. Yeok Seong, a gentleman greedy of knowledge and rich in most of the graces of life. Mr. Tan's achievements are particularly impressive in that he is able to match his Chinese scholarship with a thorough knowledge of the English language and Western Culture. Born Overseas and educated both in Malaya and China, Mr. Tan has made full use of the opportunity to equip himself as a cultural interpreter between China and the West.

Mr. Tan's family comes from Hai Teng district in Fukien province. One branch of the family settled in Penang, and it was here that Mr. Tan was born in 1903. His early education was in the Penang Anglo-Chinese School and the Chinese High School. At the age of fifteen he entered the Chip Bee High School in Amoy, and later went up to Amoy University where he majored in education and economics. After obtaining his B.A. degree in 1926 he returned to Penang and joined the Education Department of the Straits Settlements as an Inspector of Chinese Schools. In this capacity he served in all of the Straits Settlements, and the experience he gained from this career stood him in good stead when he later changed his profession to that of publisher. On the outbreak of World War II he organised and headed the Chinese Press Censorship Department and also got himself qualified as an A.R.P. instructor.

Towards the end of 1939 Mr. Tan resigned from Government service and set himself to the task of producing textbooks adapted to the special needs of Chinese schools in Malaya. In 1939 he visited Shanghai to study the publishing industry in China. In 1940 he was once more in China where he organised an editorial board to edit textbooks for use in Malaya. The board worked with the full support of the Science Society of China, Chinan University, and the Ministry of Education. Later in 1940 Mr. Tan made an extensive tour of Indonesia in search of materials for his books. In 1941 he was appointed Supervising Director of the Nanyang Book Co., Ltd., which then published a series of textbooks known as the "Nanyang Readers". These were unique in their adaptation of the modern Chinese curricula to the special conditions in South Seas. The Nanyang Book Company has branch offices at Penang, Sungei Patani, Kulim, Kuala Lumpur, Malacca, Rangoon, and Batavia.

Apart from his activities as an educationalist and a publisher, Mr. Tan has been in the forefront of the Chinese cultural movement. He was a Malayan

representative at the Third Congress of Far Eastern Prehistorians in 1938. In 1935, with Professor Lim Hui Siang, he founded the Anthropological Museum of Amoy. He arranged for the exchange of prehistoric finds between Chinese institutes in China and Raffles Museum, Singapore. The Chinan University has appointed him a special editor of "Southseas Research." In 1940 he was unanimously elected president of the South Seas Society in Singapore and he edited the Journal of the Society and the Nanyang Miscellany, both of which have set a high standard of research into the complexity of Overseas Chinese problems.

With the coming of the Japanese hordes, both his business and intellectual pursuits were hamstrung. The Nanyang Book Company was destroyed and Mr. Tan's younger brother, Yeok Hong, in charge of the Penang branch, was killed by the Japanese. During the occupation Mr. Tan was a careful observer of the strange turn of events, and at the end of the war he was able to produce a very interesting account of the methods employed by the Japanese in administering the colony.

Since the end of the war Mr. Tan has further enhanced his educational and cultural interests and activities. In conjunction with the Education Department and the Department of Public Relations, he founded the "Young Malaysians" in 1946. This paper, published in both Chinese and English, is specially meant for the youth of Malaya and both editions have a circulation of twenty thousand each. Earlier in 1950 he was elected President of the newly-formed Chinese Study Group, an English-speaking association for the study of Chinese affairs and culture.

The outline of Mr. Tan's career shows a man of varied interests and commendable ability. The education, training, and intelligence which have gone to the making of this scholar and business executive have also been instrumental in making a man who in his social contacts is refreshingly easy-going and intellectually stimulating. When Chinese and Europeans study one another through the eyes of Mr. Tan they see further and deeper, for he possesses a broad and genial nature, a rich poetic temperament and a facile and ornate power of vivid and graphic description, symbolical of a great mind.

*From Biographies of Prominent Chinese in Singapore*

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## COLLECTED WRITINGS FROM THE YA-YIN STUDIO

### Volume III

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## A NOTE FROM THE DONOR ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE YA YIN KWAN COLLECTION OF BOOKS TO THE NATIONAL LIBRARY

In my youth I went to Amoy for my studies. While I was there I visited towns and villages in Chuanchow and Changchow. As many people from these places had migrated overseas, I found there many Chinese and South Seas documentary records, and developed an interest in the comparative study of these documents.

Later, on my arrival in Singapore I became a merchant, then a public servant and was active in society. It was to my deep regret that my studies were neglected because of lack of time. Fortunately, however, my reading did not slacken, especially in the field of South East Asian history and geography. This interest prompted me to spare no effort in collecting all relevant materials, even though some were incomplete parts of journals, and I treated them like gems. As time went on, the collection grew and I named it the Ya Yin Kwan or Palm Shade Pavilion Collection, for the materials represented the culture of China and the South Seas.

During my leisure hours I carried out some research, and occasionally contributed articles to the Tung Fang magazine and Nanyang Hsueh Pau magazine. These writings led to a number of enquiries from general readers and scholars who did not mind my lack of academic attainment. I was delighted that they shared one common interest, and I did not dare keep the knowledge of this collection to myself.

Scholars in Singapore and from abroad have visited me to discuss subjects relating to the South Seas or to request information and reference material. Teachers and friends from the University of Singapore and Nanyang University engaged in research, and students writing theses for their degrees have had discussions with me which sometimes lasted through the night. I have always enjoyed these discussions and visits, and have never felt bored. Time flies, and several decades seem like a day.

Knowledge is public property and must be shared by all. South East Asia is situated at the crossroads of the world. In the founding of a new state one needs to ponder deeply, and all existing knowledge must be assimilated and collated, before an authentic history can be prepared for posterity to extend the glory of past days. I am getting old, and this task cannot be accomplished in one day or by one man. Success depends on the effort of all, and upon the future generation.

Under the Colombo Plan, the Singapore National Library was fortunate



to have Miss Priscilla Taylor of New Zealand to be its Director. She has been here for over two years during which she has been remarkably successful in shaping the expansion of the Library. I admire her expert and methodical care of the collection of books in the Library which are always available for public reading, and I am therefore presenting the Ya Yin Kwan Collection of Chinese, English and Japanese books and publications to the Singapore National Library, with the agreement that a South East Asia Room be set up to house this collection for public reading and staff to look after it. Those who have an interest in these studies could make good use of them to reward their efforts.

It is my sincere hope that the National Library would do its best to enlarge and enrich the collection by continuously adding materials from all possible sources.

# The Extortion by Japanese Military Administration of \$50,000,000 from the Chinese in Malaya.

## (1) Conditions before the formation of the Oversea Chinese Association.

When hundreds of thousands of helpless Chinese were held by the Japs in the concentration camps and awaiting their fate, they were completely cut off from news of the outside world in those few fateful days. They saw only proclamations and notices issued by the Japanese Commander which contained nothing but threats of punishments. On their 2nd day in the concentration camps, the *Syonan Shinbun* appeared, to the surprise of every one. The proclamations of the Japanese commander covered the greater part of the page. There was also a sprinkling of "frightful" news such as "Tan Kah Kee caught by the Imperial army in Batavia", "Kao Lin-Pai, the Chinese Consul-General drowned in Java Sea", "Yap Peng Geck and Yeo Chan Boon executed for their connections with the volunteer force and the China Relief Fund". These bits of news were received with the greatest consternation and nervousness. Yeo Chan Boon, the Chinese thought, took only a very small part in the China Relief Fund. If he was to be shot, what would happen to hundreds of others who were much more active? Every prominent Chinese in society was terror-stricken. The people in the camps began to curse Tan Kah Kee for running away and also Sir Shenton Thomas for his betrayal of the population. Members of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, Government boards and J.Ps. who used to swagger about in society had now all disappeared. Nobody dared show up to be a spokesman of the Chinese. Indeed, no people on earth was more pitiful than the Chinese at that time.

## (2) How Dr. Lim Boon Keng came to the limelight.

On the 3rd day in the concentration camp, the *Syonan Shinbun* brought out the news that Dr. Lim Boon Keng "who had been deserted by the British Army, has been rescued by the Japs from the fire-line". The news added that Dr. Lim was the only Chinese leader who survived and that he had got in touch with the Japanese army.

It transpired afterwards that Dr. Lim and his family were spotted by the Kempeitai while undergoing examination at the concentration camp at Arab Street. He at first refused to accept the Japs proposal of his becoming a leader of the Chinese, whereupon the Kempeitai turned their anger on Dr. Lim's wife. She was made to kneel down under the scorching sun for 4 hours at a stretch, in addition to bearing other insults. Eventually through the persuasion of Shinozaki, Dr. Lim accepted and he and his wife were released from the camp

and a Kempeitai spy was sent to stay in his house to keep watch over them.

### (3) The nucleus of the O.C.A. and first gathering.

The first order to Dr. Lim Boon Keng from the Japs was to search for Chinese leaders to form a committee. After several days of running, he managed to rally two doctors, one lawyer, two European firm compradores several businessmen. Those Chinese who had made a great noise in society before had all disappeared.

On 27th February, Dr. Lim was suddenly asked to go to Goh Loo Club where a number of China Relief Fund Committee members congregated. Lee Choon Seng, the acting Chairman of the Singapore China Relief Fund, was found dressed in monastical robe with a string of beads in his hands. Tan Ean Khiam, the acting Chairman of the Pan-South Seas China Relief Fund, was in a trembling mood his sweat running down like beads. The other members included the blood-stained Lee Wee Nam, the reborn Yeo Chan Boon, and the well-dressed S. Q. Wong and Shaw Brothers. These people were taken out of goal and gathered there by a Taiwanese, named Wee Twee Kim, who donned on Japanese military uniform and carried a pistol. This was the dictator of the Oversea Chinese Association. He addressed the gathering that day and told the listeners that when the battle for Malaya started, the people of Japan held a mass meeting in Tokyo at which a resolution was passed to ask the commander in-chief of the Japanese forces attacking Malaya to exile all Chinese in Singapore to a no-man's island and starve them to death, because they were responsible for sustaining the war against Japan in China. Singapore, they insisted, was the hot-bed of the anti-Japanese elements. If the Chinese there were not severely dealt with, the people in Japan would have nowhere to ventilate their anger.

The listeners turned pale on learning this piece of intelligence. Silence reigned the hall. However, the following proposals were adopted at the instruction of the Director.

1. To call an Oversea Chinese mass meeting in order to pledge obedience to Japanese army orders.
2. To give "comfort" to Japanese troops.
3. To appoint delegates to see the commander of the Japanese army regarding the above resolutions.

### (4) 1st interview of Kempeitai HQ.

At this time, Singapore was under the complete control of the Japanese Kempeitai. The Japanese administrators had not yet come then. It was therefore devolved upon Lt. Col. Oishi, the Chief of the Kempeitai, to receive the Chinese delegation. On being brought to his presence, the spokesman of the Chinese explained through an interpreter the object of this courtesy call. Then Oishi asked them to speak at will. Nobody dared move his lips. Finally Tan Ean

Khiam mustered enough courage to speak a few words. He implored the Kempeitai chief to release all Chinese detained during the past few days. One of Mr. Tan's sons had been detained and this accounted for his courage to speak. This request was interpreted by Wee Kian Teck, a trader from Japan. Hardly had he finished his interpretation, Oishi got into a fit of temper. He banged his hands on the table and said, "This is not for you to request. Get out of here, all of you! "

#### **(5) Plight of Chinese leaders.**

From 27th February to 2nd March, a large number of Chinese leaders reported themselves at the Goh Loo Club. Some had just been released from goal where they were given a dose of the Jap torture. Some came of their own accord, hoping to seek safety therefrom. But by this time the club was full of Jap spies and informers. They were from the special Branch, the Kempetai, and the police. Armed Japanese with or without military uniform haunted the club every now and then. Shinazaki also sent there his informers. Domei reporters and war correspondents also came for news. Dr. Lim Boon Keng was surrounded by those people and every step was watched.

Those Chinese leaders who went there to seek protection were not aware that they were running into a trap. Tan Lark Sye, Vice Chairman of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, and Ong Piah Teng a Banker who came back from the islands to report to Goh Loo Club were arrested by the Special Branch within 15 minutes of their arrival to receive their quota of torture. No one escaped. Tang Choon Poh, Manager of the Great World was flogged to death by the Special Branch because the members of his family made a wrong move by giving "tea money" to the detectives of the Kempeitai instead of passing it to those of the Special Branch who caught the "fish"! While at the meeting, Tan Siak Kew, a Teochew member, was warned by a member of the Special Branch that he would have his head chopped off if he was found speaking English, the nationally extinct language, for the second time.

#### **(6) Oversea Chinese Liaison Officer:**

The number of Chinese leaders who congregated at Goh Loo Club rose from 40 to some 250. Each was given a badge with the words "Oversea Chinese Liaison Officer". These badges were taken out from the Gunseibu, the J.M.A.

#### **(7) The "Peace Maintenance Committee":**

From 2nd March 1942 the Gunseibu (J.M.A.) gradually came into being. Col. Watanabe, first appointed as vice military administrator was later promoted to be chief administrator. Under the chief military administrator there was the General Affairs Department and under this a secretarial section. A minor official by the name of Takasei who worked in this section eventually proved to be one of the greatest devils that ever haunted the Chinese. He bullied, threatened and

flirted with the so-called Liaison Officers by turn. He claimed to be a worshipper of Confucius for 6 generations. In controlling the Chinese he had 2 assistants, one was a shop assistant in a Jap commercial firm in Java and another was Wee Twee Kim who was a store-keeper in Nanyo Shoko, Singapore in pre-war days. Under the directives of this gang of crooks, the "Liaison Officers" were officed. They styled it as the Peace Maintenance Committee.

#### (8) Two kinds of Singapore Chinese:

The Chinese leaders who were gathering at Goh Lee Club to seek refuge and protection were divided into 2 cliques. The Straits Chinese and the China born Chinese. The former came under the wings of Shinazaki. The latter came under the wings of Wee Twee Kim who bailed out many of them from the military prisons. In due course these 2 cliques—one under the Municipality (i.e. Shinozaki) and the other under the J.M.A. (i.e. Wee Twee Kim) became at logger heads. As Shinozaki and Wee Twee Kim were fighting for the control of the Chinese organisation each invented something to fasten the tie on the Chinese.

The Straits Chinese adopted the attitude that as they had nothing to do with Chungking, and had taken no part in China Relief Fund activities, nor in anti-Jap activities, they should be distinguished from the China-born Chinese, and share no part of their terror. The China-born Chinese, on the other hand, were too well known for their anti-Jap activities to deceive the Japs, and being without courage to sacrifice their lives and property to keep their "Honour", they had no alternative but to play with the Japs. This was, in short, the feelings of the Chinese here who could not get away.

#### (9) First interview at the J.M.A. and Takasei:

Soon after the formation of the J.M.A. the Chinese delegation was summoned for an interview. It should be recalled that the atmosphere at that time was extremely tense. Many frightful rumours had been circulated. Arrest and execution of Chinese continued without respite. Threats were uttered on all sides. The sword of death was hovering over the Chinese every where. It was in this atmosphere that the Chinese delegation approached the J.M.A. with awe and great humility. They waited in the room for a long time, every one standing. Then emerged the devil, Takasei—a typical Jap, short dark roguish and wearing a tooth-brush on his upper lip. In the tone of a conqueror, stern and threatening, he said "You are my enemies, you know? You have been carrying out subversive activities against Japan the last few years. Now you know our strength, don't you? Your activities have deprived the Japanese of any standing here in recent years. You have helped the wicked to do greater evil. Now we have got you. We have a chance to have injustice done to us avenged. We shall have to kill you all. What have you to say to me now?"

In great trepidation, Lu Tien Poh, the spokesman of the Chinese delegation, said "We come here, Sir, to pledge our support to the J.M.A."

Takasei: "What support do you mean?"

Lu: "We mean that those of us who have money, give money. Those who have strength, give strength."

"Bakayaro!" Takasei stormed. "All your money and even your lives are at our disposal. What do you mean by those having money give money? Get you gone! Get out! Go home and think over how you are going to redeem the crimes of the Chinese community."

The delegation retired sheepishly.

#### (10) The 2nd interview at the J.M.A.:

Through the good office of Wee Twee Kim the delegation paid another respectful call on the J.M.A. the next day. They were received by Takasei again.

Takasei: "What do you come here for again?"

Spokesman of the Chinese: "We beg most respectfully to inform your honour that we place all our wealth and lives at the disposal of the J.M.A. We await your orders."

Takasei: "Good, that's better answer than you gave. I will inform the higher authorities. Go back now and think over how you are going to do that."

The Chinese delegation were sent away like school boys!

#### (11) The 3rd interview at the J.M.A.:

The insults administered to the Chinese delegation were all prearranged by Takasei and Wee Twee Kim. The latter, directed by the former, played his game slowly and deliberately. For the 3rd time he arranged for the Chinese delegation to call at the HQ.

Takasei: "Now then, what have you got to say to-day?"

Chinese spokesman: "We come to get your orders."

Takasei: "I have no orders. We don't want to confiscate your property. But, I want you to tell me how you are going to offer your wealth as you said you would." (Takasei spoke like a gentleman.)

Chinese spokesman: "We propose to offer half of our wealth to the J.M.A. and keep in custody the other half on behalf of the J.M.A."

Takasei: "Very well. I will let the higher authorities know about this, and let you have the instructions later."

The Japs were probably thinking that the Chinese were biding time or playing the fool. Takasei began to scheme some retaliation.

The Chinese delegation returned and innocently waited for instructions. Days passed but no instructions came. During this time, frightful news came one after another. The Chinese were told that all leaders in Muar were slaughtered, that several towns in Johore were deserted by mass executions. At the same time, detectives and M.Ps. came to Goh Loo Club to take away wealthy merchants. On top of this, came news that many Chinese rich men had disappeared and others tortured. The cries, shrieks and screaming of the tortured Chinese could be heard outside the Y.M.C.A. and the Central Police Station.

While the entire Chinese community was in a state of great nervousness, Wee Twee Kim suddenly administered a warning in the following strain. "Events have proved that the local Chinese leaders have shown no signs of penitence. I cannot keep on helping you. Takasei is ill and can not now see the delegation. He can no longer do anything for you. The future is fraught with dangerous possibilities."

Tension increased. It was a bolt from the blue. The Chinese did not know that Wee was telling a lie in regard to the health of Takasei. An atmosphere of extreme pessimism and helplessness pervaded everywhere.

#### **(12) The turning point:**

Three days passed by. Then four days. They looked like 4 years. One day in early March at 3 p.m. Wee Twee Kim announced that the Chief Military Administrator was ready to see all Chinese Liaison officers at his residence at Nassim Road. About fifty of them went there. They were kept waiting for more than one hour, no seat being provided for. At last Watanabe and Takasei made their appearance. There were only two chairs in the room. Watanabe sat down and said nothing. Takasei alone spoke to the Chinese delegation which is reported here verbatim.

"I am a Confucianist. My family has worshipped Confucius for 6 generations, I pay the utmost attention to benevolence, justice and moral virtues. I have your welfare at heart. I know that you would be severely punished for your crimes by the Imperial forces so I rushed here from Tokyo to save you. I had been to Malaya 3 times before and I had seen many of you at dinner table. I know many of you but you had not paid any notice to me then. I am an authority on Southsea Chinese and the part they play in the development of Malaya. Now that you are willing to offer your lives and property, it shows that you now appreciate our kindness and respect our regime. But remember, our Imperial forces do not want your money. And here I can only make you a suggestion, a purely personal one. I think that if you will offer a sum of, say 50 or 60 million dollars in cash, I will do my best to prevail upon the military commander to accept the gift. At the same time I will urge him to give you protection, and to release your property now held by the military. In this connection, you must remember that you have offered several billion dollars to

Chiang Kai Shek, you have allowed yourselves to be made use of by the British, and you have threatened the safety of the Japanese nationals living here. You have not fully repented and you deserved severe punishment. But now I am going to help you and you must appreciate my attitude."

The above speech was translated into Hokkien by Wee Twee Kim. When this was done, the entire delegation bowed deeply before Watanabe and Takasei and thanked them from the bottom of their heart for their "salvation". But nobody dared say a word!

#### (13) The \$50,000,000 military contribution:

On their return from Nassim Road the Chinese delegation immediately held a meeting to discuss how this *life-redeeming* money could be raised. Tan Ean Khiam, a banker who was regarded a financial expert, said that it would be extremely difficult for the Chinese to collect such a big sum of money as the British had issued only 220,000,000 dollar notes in Malaya. However, the following allocations were decided for the various states to collect.

Singapore	\$10,000,000
Selangor	10,000,000
Perak	8,000,000
Penang	7,000,000
Malacca	5,500,000
Johore	5,000,000
Negri Sembilan	1,500,000
Kedah	1,100,000
Pahang	900,000
Kelantan	500,000
Trengganu	300,000
Perlis	200,000

#### (14) How Oversea Chinese Association came into being:

At this time when confusion reigned and streets littered with dead, it was almost impossible to raise this huge amount of money. But in order to keep their heads on their shoulders (as the Chinese say) the Chinese had to endure the pain. And now it became obvious that a committee must be formed. The name "Peace Maintenance Committee" as suggested by the Japs and adopted by Chinese organisations in up-countries (this name was used by Japanese puppet governments in China during the early stage of Sino-Japanese war) was not considered appropriate for they did not like to take part in politics and eventually it was named "Oversea Chinese Association."

#### (15) How Singapore collected \$10,000,000:



When the O.C.A called a meeting to discuss the collection of the above sum, the Straits Chinese suggested a sliding scale similar to the payment of the income tax. The China-born Chinese opposed this. They proposed that those whose property was under \$3,000 need not be taxed but those whose property was above \$3,000 should be taxed 8% of their gross assets. This proposal was accepted and the machinery for operation was as follows:

Executive Committee (21 members including 2 chairmen)

Chief of Executive Committee

Asst. to the Chief of Executive Committee

Under the direct control of the Chief Executive Committee were the following sections:

(1) General Affairs; (2) Promotion; (3) Clerical; (4) Investigation; (5) Financial; (6) Examination.

Also under the control of the executive committee were the following sub-committees:

(1) Straits Borns; (2) Hokkien; (3) Cantonese; (4) Hakka; (5) Hylam; (6) North China; (7) Teochiu and (8) Secretaries.

The branch offices of various sub-committees undertook to send out investigation forms to various business people of their own district to fill up. The forms were then sent to the Investigation Section. This section was composed of men from various districts. The properties of the Teochiu people, for instance, were examined by the Hylam examiners. Those of the Hylam were examined by the Hokkien examiners and so on and so forth. To facilitate the work of examination, the J.M.A. sent over documents containing particulars of individual properties from the Land Office, Registrar of Companies, Income Tax Office etc. Because of this, nobody was brave enough to make a false report. After due investigation and examination, a notice would then be sent out informing the addressee what amount of money he had to pay and the name of the bank to which he should pay the prescribed sum. After this has been done, a receipt would then be issued by the Financial Section. Every day 2 M.Ps. would be sent to the O.C.A. from the kempetai to check over the accounts and to report amount received to their superiors.

#### **(16) O.C.A. President unable to pay up his share:**

The anxiety and pain that the Chinese endured in connection with the payment of the military contribution were no less unbearable than those suffered during the "wholesale examination" at the concentration camps. The small traders had to sell all their goods at cheap prices to pay up the necessary amount while big landowners had to dispose of most of their immovable property at an extremely low price. Banks were all frozen. Few people had much ready cash to loan out. Informers and M.Ps. were everywhere watching and investigating.