

動人的英語 重要的香港史





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序:整理碩果僅存的港督演説文本

朱福強

(前香港歷史檔案館 館長)

本書主要輯錄香港最後六任總督的就職、施政及離任的 演說文本。細閱演詞的內容,我們可以回顧英國政府在香港 殖民管治最後四十年的重要施政;是從另一角度去看香港的 歷史發展。不過,如果我們可以看到記錄各任港督演詞定稿 前的籌備、討論和編寫過程的官方檔案,相信會更有意思, 更能幫助我們深入窺見英國政府對香港管治的種種考慮,以 及理念和態度上的改變。前者是微觀的認知,後者則為宏觀 的探索,兩者同樣重要。

香港總督的演詞以及編寫過程的記錄都屬於重要的官方 檔案文獻。檔案本質上是文件或紀錄,由公職人員在公務過 程中產生,再經有系統地歸檔及保存,作為相關公務施行過 程的憑證。

檔案珍貴之處,誠如英國檔案管理巨擘贊健臣(Sir Hilary Jenkinson, 1882-1961)所指,是完整、無私、無訛、無誤地反映相關公務的過程;所以在相關的歷史課題研究時,檔案被認定為最可靠的憑證、是上佳的原始素材!

本書的編者深明這個道理,所以在搜集資料時,先敲我們位於觀塘的政府歷史檔案館大門,搜尋有關的檔案。因為 在正常情况下,這類具參考價值的檔案文獻,理應貯存在當 地的歷史檔案館。不幸的是,編者在歷史檔案館花的工夫, 注定徒勞。原因很簡單,因為到目前為止,香港是世界上極少數仍未定立檔案法(Archives Law)的地方,我們的政府仍沒有妥善及具法律效力的機制去收集、管理和保存公共檔案,使有歷史價值的檔案能有序和完整地移至歷史檔案館收藏,讓大家能適時查閱。

由於缺乏現成的官方檔案和資料,可以想像到編製這本 書是困難重重的,在有檔案法的地方是垂手可得的歷史材料, 但在香港卻是付諸闕如;可幸編者並未氣餒,鍥而不捨在不 同的民間渠道成功整理出這六任港督的演説文本,有系統地 重構了部分對香港有極重要影響的史實。

這六任港督正身處香港歷史發展的重要轉折期:香港由經歷社會動盪,然後經濟和民生進入"黄金十年"的光輝歲月,以至在1997年主權回歸中國;透過這些演說文本,我們可以從英國政府駐港最高領導人的角度,去理解當時香港的人和事,對有興趣了解和研究戰後香港歷史的人士而言,這無疑提供了一個重要的研究側面。

在香港 28 個港督中,雖然這本書只輯錄有最後六個港督的演說文本,可能有部分讀者會覺得數量較少,但觀乎缺乏檔案法的保護,編者從非官方渠道收集和保存這些資料,以及資料本身的重要性,能夠為香港保存這些碩果僅存的演說文本,誠屬難能可貴。

編製本書的過程凸顯了一個遺憾的事實:缺乏檔案法使 重要文獻如歷任港督就職的相關檔案散失四處,甚至無跡可 尋,如果這個問題不早日解決,香港的歷史會出現更多無可 補救的空白,我們的集體記憶恐怕有一天會變成集體失憶!

現時,民間已漸漸意識到檔案法的重要。政府近年一些 引人垢病的施政和管治失誤亦顯示公共檔案對了解和監察政 府的重要性,制定檔案法已是刻不容緩了。

第一章



柏立基爵士 Sir Robert Brown Black 1958/1 - 1964/4

水荒公告

演説背景

丘陵和山地佔了香港土地的四分之三,由於欠缺蓄水的湖泊、河流及充足的地下水源,香港長久以來面對缺水問題。1950年代以後,香港人口急劇增長、工商業發展迅速,原本就有的缺水問題變本加厲,水荒成了時任港督的柏立基最棘手問題之一。1963年香港陷入開埠以來最嚴重的水荒,全港水庫蓄水總量僅夠43天使用。柏立基於是推出制水措施(限制用水),限制每4天供水一次,每次4小時。

缺水問題給市民的生活帶來極大不便,港府憑一己之力已無法解決,於是求助於中國政府。中國政府隨即答應興建東江供水系統,並於1965年3月開始使用。從此,東江水成為香港的主要水源,解決了香港缺水問題。

Public announcement on water shortage @

7 October, 1963

Robert Black

You will no doubt have read in the newspapers this morning or heard on the radio today the harsh news that there is little or no hope of any relaxation in the present water supply hours between now and next spring. Because the prospect is a dismal one, I wish to speak about it to you myself this evening. I'd hoped that with the end of the rainy season, our reservoirs might be filled to a more encouraging level and that I would be able to bring you news of some relaxation in these rigorous restrictions which you have been enduring with such patience for so long. But this is not the case. The hard fact is that the rains this year have produced less than even the most pessimistic have forecast. You will recollect that approximately four months ago on the eve of the severest restrictions which Hong Kong has ever experienced, the Colonial Secretary broadcast to you and outlined the problem which faced us during the summer months. At that time the storage in the reservoirs was 1,600 million gallons and virtually no rain had fallen for seven months. The spring rains of April and May had also failed. But the four months in which normally the greatest amount of rain falls still lay ahead, and I had expectations that with normal rainfall during those months it would be possible for

香港水荒公告廣播

1963年10月7日

柏立基

毫無疑問各位今早已經從報章或電台新聞廣播中得知,直到明年春天,香港的制水情況無望改善的壞消息。正因為前景看來黯淡,我希望在今晚跟大家説明一下。我曾經指望在雨季結束之前,水塘的存量可以上升到一個令人較放心的水平,然後我可以向受長期忍耐着制水之苦的各位,公佈放寬用水的好消息。可惜事與願違。殘酷的現實是今年的降雨量比之前最悲觀的預測還要低。你應該還記得約在四個月前,香港實施有史以來最嚴厲制水措施的前夕,布政司向大家廣播,説明我們在夏季面對的水荒困難。當時,水塘的總存水量是十六億加侖,並且已經連續七個月無降雨。今年四、五月的春雨也沒來,但當時我仍期待在降雨量最多的四個月,有平常的降雨量的話就可以令我逐步宣佈放寬制

讀演詞學英語

But this is not the case: 事與願違;不符合事實

Middle-aged workers often believe that they are too old to work, even when this is not the case.

had expectations that: 本來寄望某事

Some parents have expectations that schools can teach their children to respect nature.

me to relax controls progressively. The longed-for rain did not fall. As you know only too well, freak weather prevailed throughout the summer and the five so-called wet months from May to September produced only 31 and a half inches of rain against an average of 67 and a half inches. We have therefore come to the end of the rainy season with only about half the storage in our reservoirs we had at the same time last year. Over the past twelve months there have been only 40.78 inches of rain compared with an average fall of 85.39 inches. So acute has this drought been that had it not been for the emergency measures which government has undertaken to exploit all possible alternative sources of supply, we could not have maintained the existing distribution period of 3 or 4 hours every fourth day.

I have **nothing but** praise for all concerned with these emergency projects, and notably in this connection the staffs of the Public Works Department and the Marine Department and the Chartering Committee with its adviser Mr. Treneri. The speed and ingenuity with which they went into action have been remarkable. I doubt whether any government has ever before had to become a tanker charterer on such a scale with such a cargo in such condition. So far the tanker fleet has delivered 850 million gallons of water – a not inconsiderable proportion of our present total storage. And while on this achievement, I would like to draw attention to the co-operation which we have received from

水措施。然而,渴望已久的雨沒有降下來。各位亦很清楚,今年整個夏季天氣反常,從五月至九月,這五個平常多雨的月份,竟只下了三十一吋半的雨水,比以往平均的六十七吋半雨量大為減少。因此直到雨季結束,水塘存量只及去年同期的一半。過去十二個月的總降水量只有四十點七八吋,而以往的平均全年降雨量是八十五點三九吋。總的來說,本地旱情的嚴重程度,如果政府沒有採取緊急措施去尋找任何可能的淡水供應,恐怕早就連目前每四日供水三或四小時的安排也無法維持。

對於所有負責緊急供水計劃的工作人員,我只有讚賞,當中最重要的人包括工務部門、海事處的員工及特許事務委員會和顧問 Treneri 先生。他們執行任務時的所表現的效率和才智均十分出色。我想,該沒有一個政府會比我們租賃委聘更大規模的運水船隊,特別是在這種情況下。到目前為止,船隊已經為我們運來八億五千萬加侖水——佔目前存水量一個不小的份額。在這個成績

讀演詞學英語

nothing but: 僅僅:不外乎

 \mathbb{N}^{2} The grandmother has nothing but love for her grandson.

the Kwangtung Authority. Their assistance throughout the operations has been **invaluable**.

Yet another striking example of ingenuity in placing to good account all possible resources has been the pumping operation in the Indus River. From this, we have drawn another 1,500 million gallons. Since the Colonial Secretary spoke to you four months ago, our reservoir storage has increased, and this in spite of the poor rain. It has increased from 1,600 million gallons to 4,750 millions. And when you reflect that our emergency measures have produced rather more than two thirds of this amount, you will realise how much more critical the present situation might have been. The emergency measures have been really significant in their impact on the situation and in the extent to which they have mitigated critical development. We have been able to avoid the individual rationing of water and I wish to affirm that we shall **persist in** our efforts to ensure that we are not forced to such drastic action at any stage in the future.

As you will have heard, the tanker fleet will probably have to operate throughout the winter despite the very heavy cost, and this, **coupled with** our hard won reserves, will do much to help us maintain the ration through the dry months which **lie ahead of** us. We have, however, our problems here since we are meeting with difficulties in the Pearl River which we believe will reduce the amount of water we can bring in.

方面,我特別要提及廣東政府和我們的合作,他們對整個行動的 幫助是無價的。

而工程人員另外一個奇謀妙計就是想到在梧桐河泵水,這項工程也帶來另外十五億加侖的水。由上次布政司在四個月前和大家交代至今,本地水塘的存水量在極少降雨的情況下反而增加,數量是由十六億加侖升至四十七億五千萬加侖。如果你細心想到當中超過三分二的存水是因為我們的緊急應變措施所帶來的,你便會了解現在的情況其實更加嚴峻。這些緊急工務措施不但意義重大,並且緩和了現時的惡劣情況。因此,我們可能避免實施個人用水配給,兼且,我希望向各位重申,政府會繼續努力,以確保將來無須被逼實行一些更嚴厲的制水措施。

你們也許聽到消息,即使運水船隊的費用高昂,但很可能在整個冬季都要運作;同時,繼續倚仗得來不易的存水儲備,我們可以維持目前給市民的供水,來渡過面前的幾個旱月。不過,我們仍有難題,因為來自珠江的淡水或許會減少。

讀演詞學英語

invaluable: 極有用

The Principal gave us invaluable advice at our graduation ceremony.

in spite of: 儘管

In spite of feeling tired, members of the bicycle team went on their journey.

significant: 重要的,意義重大:顯著的

persist in: 堅持

Thankfully she did not persist in pursuing her crazy idea.

coupled with: 結合·加上

A lack of funds, coupled with the departure of some vital players, makes it difficult for the team to win again in the next football season.

lie ahead of...: 將發生在 …… 身上

A bright future lies ahead of the young lawyer.

With the approach of dryer weather, salinity increases at the lower anchorages while at the higher anchorages, the number of berths is limited. But we are preparing ways to overcome these difficulties and to make effective use of our present tanker fleet should these natural obstacles prevent us deploying it to full advantage in the Pearl River. We also intend to maintain pumping operations at the Indus for as long as we can. Lastly there is the additional help from our neighbours in the form of water from Shenzhen. We have now entered on a new year of supply. In a normal year here, we are due to receive 5,000 million gallons. But **in the event of** unusually low rainfall, the exact amount is subject to special arrangement.

We hope to know soon how much this will be. But even if the quantity is something near the usual amount, we shall still need to import water by tanker to achieve our aim of maintaining the present period of distribution of one day in four, and at the same time preserve for the end of the dry months before us a margin of safety.

I am satisfied that we have turned to account every available means of increasing supplies for the short term. And you may rest assured that we shall sustain our efforts vigorously and with determination. Nevertheless, the essential element in our **dilemma** remains the quite unprecedentedly low rainfall this year. And **in consequence**, we have no alternative but to accept the present severe