THE LIFE OF A GREAT MAN

By Chang Kok Foo, Sandakan

The lives of great men are of great value to those who live after them. Example is better than precept. Their abilities, principles and their brave deeds will impress and encourage their posterity; and provide the main gate of life. Among the outstanding great men and women I prefer Dr. Sun Yat-Sen.

Dr. Sun, Yat-Sen, or Sun Wen as his formal name is, is known as the National Father of China. He was born of a Christian family in the year 1866 at Chei Meng Village in Kwantung Province. His parents were diligent farmers besides faithful guardians. So Dr. Sun was brought up healthy, strong, intelligent, and resourceful.

Dr. Sun did believe in superstition of any kind as most of his contemporaries did. He, however, breakdown an arm of an idol in a temple, was a heretical person killed by the villages. As that time, the young girls bound up their feet according to the custom, so that their feet would not develop naturally but remain small. Seeing his sister suffer great pain from this and recognizing the harm of the old custom, he gave objection to this practice and stoutly insisted that her feet be lot free.

While Dr. Sun was about fourteen, he followed his mother to Hongkong to study there. He attended an English school. There he was often bullied by the older classmates who frequently pulled his long pigtail but his wisdom, his words, and his courtesy defeated them all.

After five years' study in Hongkong, Dr. Sun left for Hong Kong, where he studied Chinese and Western literature as well as politics for many years. In 1911, he received a medical diploma and became the first graduate of medicine in Hong Kong University. Thereafter his name became familiar. His activities were devoted to overthrowing the Qing Dynasty to save China from the rule of the ruler and establish a Chinese Republic.

He loved the world several times to enlist the financial aid of Overseas Chinese. He was once kidnapped by the ambassador of Ching in London. At length he was saved by Dr. Cudjoe and the Scotland Yard.

He organized Kuomintang, whose chief purpose was to urge the patriots to overthrow the Ching Dynasty. In 1911, the revolution was succeeded and established the Republic of China.

On December 28, 1911, Dr. Sun was elected the first President of the Chinese Republic. Four months later he resigned in favour of Yuen Shih Kai. Dr. Sun spent the rest of his life in struggle for political progress. He wrote San Min Chu-I, The Three People's Principles, in which he clearly advocated a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

Dr. Sun's success was the fruit of his tremendous hard and steady labour. It is a pity that the founder and the First President of the Chinese Republic died in 1925, when he had just finished writing "Outline for National Reconstruction." Although Dr. Sun is dead, his spirit, his devotion, his great deed and his last words "Peace..... Struggle..... Save China" are deeply ingrained in every Chinese heart.

GROSSWORD

DOWN:
1. A domestic animal used to catch mice.
2. Sick.
3. The product of hens and birds.
4. Evening before festival.
5. A foolish animal.
6. Of or relating to the outside.
7. Blue.
8. Narrow.
9. A place for growing flowers.
11. A proposition.
12. Since.
15. Look.
17. Ability.
18. An useful animal.
19. Boy or girl that studies in school.
20. (By Johnson (King's College))

ACROSS:
1. Which is the smallest continent in the world, and its area?
2. Which is the smallest country in the world, and its area?
3. Which is the largest ocean in the world, and its area?
4. Which is the smallest ocean in the world, and its area?
5. Which is the longest river in the world, and its length?
6. Which is the longest canal in the world, and its length?
7. Which is the largest island in the world, and its area?
8. Which is the highest peak in the world, and its height?
9. Which is the largest country in the world, and its area?