

SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AT THE
ROTARY INSTALLATION DINNER, IPOH ON SATUR-
DAY, 26TH JUNE, 1965

Your Highnesses, Mr. President, Ladies and Gentlemen:—

I am very glad to have the pleasure of dining with the Rotary Club of Ipoh once again and of being invited to reply on behalf of all your guests, for we have enjoyed this evening very much indeed. When I was here last some five or six years ago my old friend Fred Arulanandom, proposed the toast of "Our Guests", and I was called upon to respond. In the true spirit of Rotary I am happy to be of service in expressing the appreciation we all feel for your cordial hospitality tonight.

I have listened with considerable interest to the wide range of activities undertaken by your Club during the past year as recounted by your retiring President. The Rotary Club of Ipoh must surely be one of the liveliest civic organisations in the country.

I would like to congratulate the Club on its pioneering efforts in the field of vocational service by giving talks and guidance to young men and women on their future careers. After leaving school boys and girls are faced with the problem of finding their own place in the wider world, and naturally they are most willing to receive any advice and information or active help from men of experience. By providing this service your Club filled an important gap in social needs, because it is only in the last year or two that the Ministry of Education has been able to make special appointments of career guidance officers in various States.

Service clubs like Rotary can often undertake projects of great value to the community which Government Departments are unable to do as yet owing to prior commitments. I was particularly pleased to hear of your enterprise in supplying piped water to the Old Folks Home at Kampung Tawas as well as sending rice and other necessities each month. This is most commendable expression of practical help in social welfare.

The scope of your Club's interests is very wide. The Perak Youth Club, the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Homes, the Perak Chinese Maternity Hospital, the Ipoh Public Library and under-privileged children have all benefited from your fund-raising activities and your

personal interest in their general welfare. In fact, Ipoh has become famous in Malaysia for the particular attention you pay to complicated medical cases, especially those known as "hole in the heart". You have already sent one girl to Australia for an operation and are arranging to send her back again for further surgical treatment. I was interested to read recently of the substantial donation your Club gave towards the expenses of a young Malay to go to Australia for cardiac surgery. It is most gratifying to me to know that this Rotary Club set such a splendid example in social service.

I can assure you that the Central Government most warmly appreciates not only your dedication to the local community but also your efforts to promote international understanding and goodwill in various ways. I congratulate you on your achievements and successes during the past year, and knowing the lively spirit which animates your affairs and interests, I have no doubt at all that in this coming year you will try to surpass all your previous efforts.

On behalf of all your guests, and on my own behalf, I wish to express our warm thanks for being present at this Installation Dinner, and to wish the Rotary Club of Ipoh a bright and fruitful future in service to the community. I would like to ask all guests to rise now and to drink with me a toast to our hosts, "The Rotary Club of Ipoh".