

Dr. ARTHUR WAITAK WOO

M.B., B.S. (LOND), M.R.C.S. (ENG), L.R.C.P. (LOND).

Doctor Woo was born in Hongkong in 1887, and received his early education at the Diocesan Boys' School where he had a brilliant scholastic career. In 1905 he went to finish his education in England. Following in the footsteps of his father, Dr. Woo Yoo Kai, he chose the medical profession. After passing the necessary French and Latin tests in record time, he matriculated into the London University and entered the London Hospital in 1907. In his first competitive class examination he was awarded the certificate for efficiency in Elementary Clinical Medicine.

In 1911 the Chinese Government granted Dr. Woo an honorary commission as Captain in the Chinese Army Medical Service, and from then to 1913 he was attached to the Third London Field Ambulance, First London Division (T), for training in Army medical work, which served him in good stead during the Great War.

In January 1913, Dr. Woo graduated and his first appointment was that of an Ophthalmic Clinical Assistant at the London Hospital, working under Sir William Liston. His next appointment was that of Resident Medical Officer at the Gravesend General Hospital, having charge of both departments of Medicine and Surgery, including X Cabinet. This hospital was one of the first to receive the wounded from France at the beginning of the War. When that commission was completed he became House Physician at the General Lying-in Hospital, York Road, London, and from there took up next the post of Assistant Resident Medical Officer at the London Fever Hospital under the eminent physician Sir John Broadbent. Subsequent to this, he was appointed House Physician at the well-known Brompton Hospital for Consumption and Diseases of the Chest.

Dr. Woo then decided to turn his attention to surgery, and in 1916, after the competitive examination, he became House Surgeon to Lieutenant Colonel Sir Alfred Pearce Gould and Mr. Sampson Handley, at the Middlesex Hospital. After that he became Gynaecological Obstetric House Surgeon under Sir Conyns Berkeley and Mr. Victor Bounney, world famous gynaecologists also at the Middlesex Hospital. Before very long he had the distinction of being asked to take the post of Gynaecological and Obstetric Tutor, Registrar, and Acting Lecturer on Practical Midwifery at the Middlesex Hospital, a post previously held only by a Britisher. At the same time he was in charge of the Gynaecological Out-patients and the Venereal Disease Clinic under the London County Council. In conjunction with this work, and for night duty only, he was performing the functions of Resident Medical Officer to the London General Post Office, thus relieving three men at one time for war service.

It was during this busy period that Dr. Woo invented the "Woo" needle and holder for abdominal surgery—a modification of Rovardin's in principle. Later, because of the further shortage of doctors as the War progressed, he was asked to take up the post of Senior Resident Medical Officer at the East Suffolk and Ipswich General Hospital, having charge of three hundred military and one hundred and fifty civilian beds.

After the Armistice Dr. Woo became a Rockefeller scholar and left England to take up post-graduate work, first at the New York Lying-in Hospital and Post-graduate Medical School, later at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital under Professor Howard Kelly and Dr. Thomas S. Cullen, and lastly at the unique Mayo Clinic in America. Dr. Charles Mayo paid him the compliment of requesting him to address one of the weekly staff meetings which are attended by visiting doctors from all over the world, on his observations of the treatment of wounds with aniline dyes during the War.

Upon his return to China, and for a period of two years, Dr. Woo was, first, Assistant Surgeon to Professor J. Preston Maxwell and later an Associate with him in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology at the Peiping Union Medical College, of the Rockefeller Foundation. At the same time he had full charge of the whole outpatient Gynaecological Clinic. During his stay in Peiping he was made Physician Extraordinary to the President of China, and Medical Advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Communications, and in 1923 he was asked to be President Li Yuan Hung's personal representative to convey his special message to the Biennial Conference of the China Medical Missionary Association held in Shanghai. Before leaving Peiping he was decorated by the President of China with the Order of the Chia Ho (Excellent Crop) Fifth Class.

Upon his return to Hongkong to take up medical practice, Dr. Woo was appointed lecturer on Gynaecology and Obstetrics at the Hongkong University as well as being Internal Examiner on the same subjects during the period of 1924-1925 prior to the arrival of the University Professor.

On four occasions Dr. Woo returned to Europe and America for post-graduate work, mainly in Radium Therapy and General Surgery. The cities where he made his special studies were London, Edinburgh, Berlin, Paris, Heidelberg, Vienna, New York and Rochester (Mayo Clinic).

Dr. Woo is now a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University of London, also a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, England, and a Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, London. He has also been a Fellow of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine. He is a life member of the Mayo Clinic Surgeons' Club, Rochester, and a life member of the American Medical Association, Vienna.

Dr. Woo is now Principal of the Woo Clinic, China Building Hongkong. He opened the Babington Hospital and Sanitarium in 1934 and is its medical director. The Home is fully equipped, even having radium for treatment of cancer cases and many from the poorer classes have been treated there free of charge.

Dr. Woo's medical writings are:—(Co-author, with Dr. Batty Shaw) "Six Cases of Oesophagectasia" (a paper read before the Section of Medicine of the Royal Society of Medicine on November 28, 1916). "Rovardin's Needle-Holder and Needles" (The Lancet, March 23, 1918). "Some Observations on the uses of Flaviac, Brilliant Green and Eosol in General Surgery and Gynaecology," 1922. "Ectopic Gestations in China," (Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, of the British Empire). "Study of three hundred Cases of Leucorrhoea," 1924, "Erypan Anaesthesia 100 Cases," 1935 Chinese Medical Journal, and "Auto-serum Treatment for Opium Addicts (Observation on 1000 cases) in January, 1937 Chinese Medical Journal.

As well as performing distinguished medical service and keeping himself abreast of the development of medical science, Dr. Woo has also taken a prominent part in matters of medical organization. He is a member of the Supervisory Committee of the Chinese Medical Association, of which he now is a life member. He has been President of the Hongkong Chinese Medical Association, and also Secretary and later President of the National Medical Association of China, (Hongkong Branch) and a Council Member of the British Medical Association, Hongkong and China Branch. He was twice Vice-president of the Hongkong University Medical Society.

In 1923, Dr. Woo received a high Chinese medical honour when he was elected to be the first Chinese President of the China Medical Association. The following year he presided, and delivered his presidential speech, at the 1929 Biennial Conference held in Shanghai. This association was an international medical organization of more than forty years' standing, which later became amalgamated with the National Medical Association of China to form one united organization known as the Chinese Medical Association. In the new organization Dr. Woo was elected to serve for two successive terms as its Vice-president.

Parallel with his medical work, Dr. Woo has taken an active interest in social and other public problems. He has contributed much time, thought and effort to Leprosy, Opium and other evils afflicting the Chinese population. He is a Committee Member of the Hongkong Auxiliary of the Chinese Mission to Lepers and a keen worker in the cause of charity.

He is the chief medical officer in charge of the Anti-opium, Ante and postnatal, Birth Control, Sterility, and Child welfare Clinics run under the auspices of the Chinese Benevolent Association, which he founded in 1933 and of which he is now an Executive Committee Member.

Realising the great need for medical service among the villagers in the New Territories, Dr. Woo organized in November 1930 the first medical clinics in ten different centres, where there were no Government doctors, and later founded the New Territories Medical Benevolent Society. Its total expenditure for doctors, nurses and drugs was over \$22,000. At the request of His Excellency the Governor, this society became amalgamated with that of the St. John Ambulance Association to form the New Territories Medical Benevolent Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association. A cheque for \$10,000 was handed over to the Director of

「一九三五年」分非級麻藥一百醫案。一九三七年「戒煙血清治療。附一千醫案」等書面世。他如醫學組織。無不熱烈參加。為中華醫學會永遠會員。現任該會監察委員。曾充香港中華醫學會會長。中華醫學會香港分會秘書。後又為會長。英國醫學會中華及香港分會理事。港大醫學會聯兩屆副會長。尤以一九二八年任上海博醫學會會長。為我國醫學界最光榮之事。誠以華人膺斯職。此為振舉。翌年，參與上海醫學會大會。被推為大會主席。致開華詞。博醫會在我國成立。年將半百。本由中外醫師共同組織。前歲與中華醫學會合併。又獲舉為副會長。連任兩屆。至於社會公益慈善商界各事業。贊助尤為熱中。不獨解囊。且肯出力。為中華癩瘋救濟會香港支會。值理。華人慈善會轄下戒烟兼母嬰指導所義務總醫師。倡設華人慈善會。現任執委。一九三〇年辦辦新界贈醫會。設立巡迴贈醫所十處。計用醫藥費式萬餘圓。復向港督之請。與聖約翰救傷隊合作。成立聖約翰新界贈醫會。乃將存款萬金。移交英理士軍長接收。復任該會副主席。最近改充執委會協辦。復被聘為聖約翰救傷隊隊水速會員。當義務醫官。及主考。與財委會委員。現更兼該會轄下之長洲虎豹醫院義務外科醫官。中江一二八之役。倡組港戰救護團。任主席。籌款逾四萬金。而紅十字者過半。除分批派送義務醫師藥料等往上海紅十字醫院外。並送兩救護車。一手提又光機。迨戰事停息。乃徵得全團同意。將餘款萬圓撥充中華醫學會建築會所用。一九〇八年，創留英基督教學生會。連任五屆主席。數任倫敦各校基督教聯合會值理。一九一三年，代表華人留學生出席紐約馬航湖召開之世界基督教學生大會。前任香港華人青年會副會長。歷參健康運動。担任演講及檢驗工作。現充校長。曾任衛生會值理。兼名譽校醫。聖保羅女書院校醫。聖女院。及露宿會幹事兼辦事顧問。鐘聲慈善社社員。聖保羅堂值理。中華聖公會華南財政委員。香港扶輪會發起人。現任值理。聯青社華南區區長。一九三六年召集首屆聯會。任該會主席。基特教服務團助員。英國海外傷民會永遠會員。皇立帝國會會員。華商總會會員。華商俱樂部會員。曾任幹事值理。上海大新公司董事。香港金龍酒家永遠董事。一九二五年，香港罷工時期。自告奮勇。肩任義務工作。後得輔政司親函中謝。一九三四年。本港舉行治癒運動。港府選其在播音台演講。極荷貝制軍嘉獎。及謝。一九三五年，獲英故皇佐治第五銀禧紀念勳章。先生資稔植。及游泳。尤為體育。早研劍術，拳術，網球，乘馬等有益運動。現為香港馬會會員。全港學界體育運動聯合會名譽會長。中華游樂會，國際高爾夫球會，及板球會會員。德配金女士。本港商泰興君之愛姬。曾修業於聖士提反女校。現育子女六人。

Ambulance, Mr. A. Morris, by Dr. Woo from his society. He was first made Vice-president of the Advisory committee, and later became Co-director on the Executive Committee of the new organization. Dr. Woo is a life member of the St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade and besides being a Divisional Surgeon and Examiner for first-aid certificates, he serves on the Finance Committee. His most recent appointment is Honorary Surgeon to the Association's Tlaw Par Hospital in Cheung Chau Island.

In 1932 during the Sino-Japanese trouble in Shanghai, when an urgent appeal for medical aid came to Hongkong, Dr. Woo was elected Chairman of the Hongkong Medical Relief Committee. The total subscription raised exceeded \$40,000, more than half of which was raised by Dr. Woo himself. Besides supplying money to the Red Cross Society in Shanghai, doctors and nurses, medical supplies, two ambulances and a set of portable X-ray were sent up as well. After the trouble was over, through Dr. Woo's influence, the sum of \$10,000 was sent to the Chinese Medical Association in aid of the Association Building Fund.

During his student days in England, besides taking part in many sports such as fencing, boxing, tennis and riding, Dr. Woo was also keenly interested in Christian work among Chinese students. In 1903 he founded the Chinese Students' Christian Union of Great Britain and Ireland, which continues its excellent work. He was its Chairman for the first five years of its existence and also served on the Executive Committee of the London Intercollegiate Christian Union. In 1913 he was elected to be one of the Chinese representatives to attend the World Students' Christian Federation Conference held at Lake Mahonk, New York. He was Vice-president of the Hongkong Chinese Y.M.C.A. and has given many Health Campaign lectures, as well as personal service examination and guidance for the general health of members. He is a Committee Member of the Diocesan Old Boys' Association and serves as Honorary Medical Advisor to the Diocesan Boys' School, and St. Paul's Girls' College in which connection, with the help of his colleagues, he gives free annual examination to the boarders as well as free vaccination to both schools. He gives also free treatment to the inmates of the Blind Girls' Home. He is a member of the Executive Committee and Hon. Medical Advisor of the Street Sweepers' Shelter Society.

In 1925 during the General Strike in Hongkong Dr. Woo was one of the first to volunteer for service, and later received a letter of appreciation and thanks from the Colonial Secretary.

In 1934 at the request of His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Peel, Dr. Woo broadcast in Chinese on behalf of the Cancer Campaign and received afterwards a personal letter of thanks from His Excellency.

In 1935, Dr. Woo was honoured by His Majesty, the late King (George V) with the Jubilee Medal.

Dr. Woo was a member of the Committee of St. Paul's Church and is a member of the Diocesan Board of Finance of the Chung Hwa Sheng Kung Hui (Church of China) for South China. He has also been a member of the Committee of the Mission to Chinese Seamen.

A charter member and Director of the Rotary Club, he is also South China District Governor of the International Association of Men's Clubs. He had the honour of calling and presiding over the First District Conference of Y's Men of South China, which was held at Kowloon. He is a bulkier member of Po H, a life member of the Overseas League and a Fellow of the Royal Empire Society.

A Member of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Chinese Merchants' Club, and past committee member of the latter, Dr. Woo is also a Director of the Sun Company, Shanghai, and a permanent Director of the Kam Loong Restaurant.

Attesting to his interest in and patronage of sport, he is a member of the Hongkong Jockey Club, Hon. President of Intercollegiate Athletic Union, and a member of the South China Athletic Association, the Y.M.C.A. and the Chung Sing Benevolent Association. He has been a supporter also of the Chinese Recreation Club, the International Golf Club and the Craigengowrie Cricket Club. His chief recreations now are gardening and swimming.