

Speech by Mr. Chan Chee Seng, Parliamentary Secretary (Social Affairs) and Deputy Chairman, Singapore Sports Council, on the occasion of the Presentation of a Gift of Sports Publications by the British Council to the Singapore Sports Council (Mr. Chan ~~receiving~~ on behalf of the Singapore Sports Council) at 11.30 a.m. on Monday, 10th October, 1966 at the National Library, Stamford Road, Singapore.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am happy to be here to receive these Sports Books presented by the British Council to the Singapore Sports Council. This is indeed a generous donation and I hope that it is a forerunner of many other donations so that in time to come the Singapore Sports Council will be able to build up a sizeable Library of Sports Publications.

2. We are all aware that there is a need today for a good amount of thinking and planning in the field of Sports Promotion. Although we learn faster from direct teaching and experience, nevertheless there is no denial of the fact that we can also benefit from the experience and knowledge of the many experts all over the world which are often found in books. This is true for every field of human activity including Sports. I would therefore encourage all those who are concerned with Sports, whether as officials or players to spend some time in reading and benefitting from Sports Publications.

3. Sports is now so highly developed that today it has become a subject of intensive scientific research. It is now generally accepted that strategy is just as important, if not more, than sheer strength in any field of Sports and good strategies which are the results of good training schemes can often be found in good Sports Publications.

4. We realise the value of Sports Publications. However, it is not enough that we should rely solely on the books written and published abroad. Singapore which is regarded as the most affluent nation in South-east Asia should not be found totally neglected in this respect. I am, however, hopeful and confident that in the near future publications by our local sportsmen and sportswomen will find their rightful places not only in local libraries but also in libraries all over the world.

5. The books presented on this occasion will be kept in the Ministry

of Social Affairs and will be available on loan to the various sports associations. Needless to say, this will become the nucleus of a Sports Library which will play its role in the diffusion of knowledge in the field of Sports.

Thank you.