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SPEECH BY AUGUSTINE H.H. TAN (陳惠興)
POLITICAL SECRETARY, PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
AT THE 13TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE
SINGAPORE SCHOOL CANTEEN VENDORS' ASSOCIATION
AT 32 WHAMPOA DRIVE, SINGAPORE, 12, ON
SATURDAY, 18TH NOVEMBER 1972 AT 7.30 P.M.

This evening I am pleased to be able to attend the 13th Anniversary Celebration of your Association. I take this opportunity to welcome you to Whampoa Constituency - as you know, in December last year the Whampoa Drive area was transferred from Kallang Constituency to Whampoa Constituency.

Associations such as yours exist primarily to look after the interests of members. In the case of your Association, you seek to look after the livelihood of your members. This is fair enough. However, no Association should promote its members' interests at the expense of society's interests.

Your members render a very important service - catering to schools where over 500,000 children are enrolled. You have the responsibility of maintaining high standards of hygiene so as to protect the health of a quarter of our population. Moreover, your members should provide a fair deal for school-children by giving them value for their money. This should be possible because Government has kept the rentals on stalls low so as to protect your livelihood.

I believe that Singapore will have a bright future if we can learn to avoid the selfish attitudes and divisiveness that are to be found in more advanced countries. We must maintained a fair balance between the legitimate interests of groups and those of society as a whole. In this way our country can have both progress and stability.

Date: 18 November 1972

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