



SINGAPORE GOVERNMENT PRESS STATEMENT

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SPEECH BY H.E. THE GOVERNOR, SIR ROBERT BLACK,
WHEN HE OPENED A NEW BUILDING
OF THE CHINESE YMCA AT SHENTON WAY AT 5 P.M. ON
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1957.

It gives me great pleasure to be present on this memorable occasion and to declare the opening of this splendid new building. It stands as a symbol of the spirit of enterprise and self-sacrifice of all those who have devoted themselves to the object of providing a building worthy of the ideals of the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association.

Although in terms of years the history of the Chinese Young Men's Christian Assoc. in Singapore has been brief, it has already made its mark on our social life. It began in the early days of the Liberation when your President, Dr. Chen Su-lan, foresaw the urgent need for providing for the youth of Singapore which suffered so much during the war years. Since its inception the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association has grown from strength to strength; it is playing an important part in this community of ours and I hope that its role will be of increasing value to us all.

The need today for spreading the work and the ideals of the Young Men's Christian Association is still as great as ever. In this island where half the population consists of young people, moral and cultural development and training in the social obligations of citizens are of paramount importance. They are necessary to equip young people to face with confidence and hope the tasks which lie before them in the future. To achieve this end they may well be inspired by the motto of the Young Men's Christian Association -- "Not to be ministered unto, but to minister."

I am confident that this building will play its part nobly in influencing the lives of many of our young people and in providing cultural, vocational and recreational opportunities which they might otherwise not have obtained.

I now declare the building open and wish it every success.

NOVEMBER 25, 1957.

(Time issued 1200 hours)