East Asian History

Number 34 · December 2007

Institute of Advanced Studies
The Australian National University

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Design and Production Oanh Collins
Printed by Goanna Print, Fyshwick, ACT

This is the thirty-fourth issue of *East Asian History*, printed in July 2009, dated 2007. It continues the series previously entitled *Papers on Far Eastern History*. This externally refereed journal is published twice per year.

Contributions to The Editor, *East Asian History*
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Website http://rspas.anu.edu.au/eah/

Annual Subscription Australia A$50 (including GST) Overseas US$45 (GST free) (for two issues)
ISSN 1036–6008

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Cover calligraphy — Yan Zhenqing 顏真卿, Tang calligrapher and statesman

Cover image and facing page — Morrison aged nineteen

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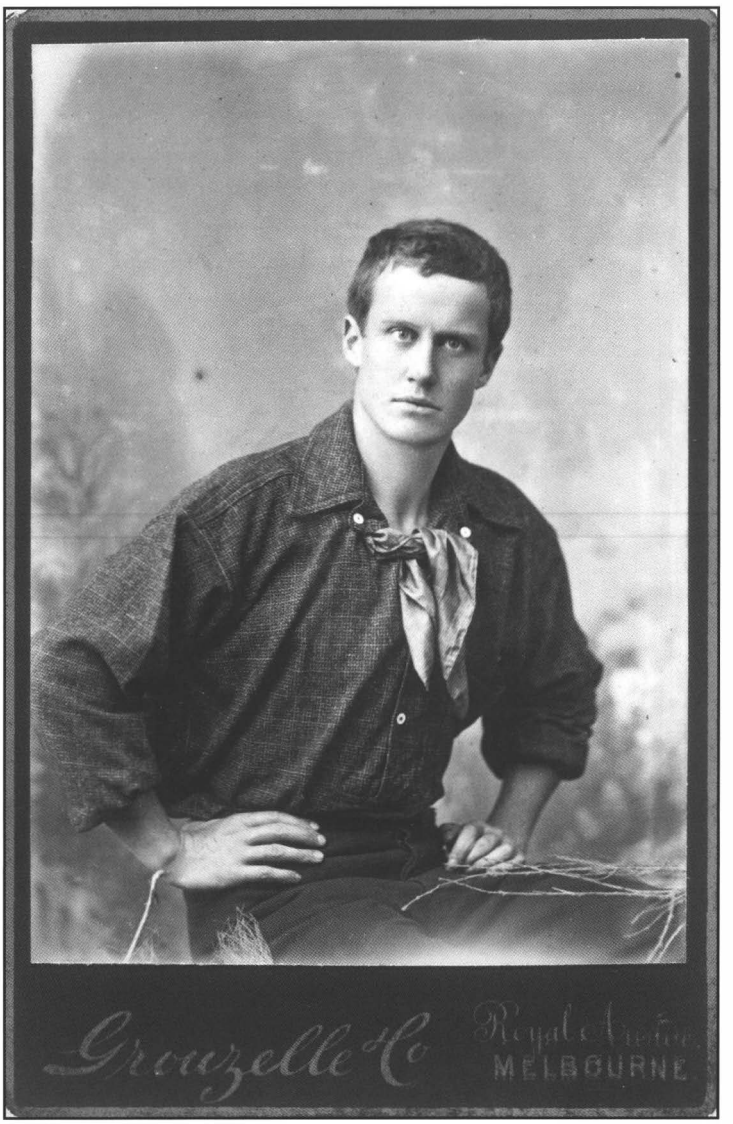
This issue of *East Asian History* has been produced with the support of "Beijing as Spectacle", an Australian Research Council-funded Federation Fellowship project under the direction of Geremie R. Barmé.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LECTURERS

Lindy Shultz

William Ah Ket, 1876–1936

William Ah Ket was the son of Chinese immigrants, his father becoming a respected member of the Wangaratta community and establishing one of the earliest tobacco farms in Victoria.

Being one of the few Australian-born Chinese proficient in both Chinese and English saw him acting as a court interpreter by his early teens. He went on to study law and win the Victorian Supreme Court Judges' Prize in 1902.

Ah Ket specialised in civil law at the Victorian Bar, building a reputation as a negotiator and cross-examiner, respected for his ability and integrity and known for his witticisms and recitations of Shakespeare. For three decades he was the only Chinese barrister and solicitor in Melbourne.

He was a member of the Chinese Empire Reform Association and the Anti-Opium League of Victoria, giving lectures and writing articles in support of anti-opium petitions. Ah Ket was co-founder and president of the Sino-Australian Association (the first Australian-Chinese club), co-founder and president of the Nam Pon Soon Society and a committee member of the Sze Yup Society. He was also a prominent Freemason—a founding member and Grand Master of the East Caulfied Masonic Lodge.

Ah Ket became a prominent and tireless campaigner against the Australian Government's White Australia Policy including the proposed immigration restriction bill, and specific attempts to discriminate against

William Ah Ket. Photographer unknown (from Morag Loh, Sojourners and Settlers: Chinese in Victoria 1848-1985 *p.13)*

Chinese, particularly legislation aiming to exclude Chinese from the furniture-making trade.

He was the Victorian Chinese Chamber of Commerce's delegate to China in 1912–13 for the election of overseas Chinese to the new parliament of the republic, and he was Acting Consul for China in 1913–14 and in 1917.

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Aldred Farrer Barker, 1868–1964

Born near Leeds in England, Aldred F. Barker graduated in science from the University of Leeds and became its Professor of Textiles after appointments as Headmaster of the Textile Department at Saltair Technical School and Professor of Textile Industries at Bradford Technical College.

Barker travelled widely and wrote many books on the design and technical aspects of textile production and on the wool industries of China, Japan, Canada, the United States, Kashmir, Kenya, Peru, Rhodesia and South Africa—some were translated into several languages. He also wrote a report in 1924 for the Australian Government on the wool manufacturing industry in Victoria, and later relocated there, where he established Barkers Textiles Pty Ltd. He registered patents in Australia for machines for wool processing and textile production and lectured on the opportunities for inventors of wool production devices. He was the first president of the Textile Society of Australia, a foundation member of the Thoresby Society, and he received the Textile Institute Medal in 1931.

In the 1930s Barker travelled to Shanghai to advise on the establishment of an educational institution dedicated to the study of textiles. It was during this time that he acquired a large number of Chinese textiles, which now forms the basis of the University of Leeds International Textiles Archive. The collection includes 200 exquisite Qing-dynasty embroideries and tapestries. In May 2004 new premises were opened to better display the Barker Collection of Chinese Textiles, and a companion book, *Dragons, Unicorns and Phoenixes*, was published.

A man of diverse interests, Barker wrote a hymn entitled *Morn Noon Eve* in 1958, as well as the Leeds University song and a book on camping.

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He also wrote and lectured on Asia–Australia relations, particularly China, and collections of his photographs of Asia and Australia are held at the University of Melbourne. At the time of delivering the seventh Morrison lecture he was Professor of Textile Industries at Chiao-Tung University, Shanghai, and Emeritus Professor at Leeds University. Barker was president of the British Universities Society of China, and president of the Australia–China Association.

W.P. Chen (Ch'en Wei-p'ing 陳維屏)

The George Ernest Morrison Lecture in Ethnology was founded with the official support of the Chinese Consulate-General. At the time of delivering the inaugural lecture and the fourth lecture, Wei Ping Chen was the Consul General for China in Australia. In the augural lecture Chen said "it is my earnest hope that the Australian people will extend to my countrymen sympathy and trust, and that the great nation of China may yet be united with the great Anglo-Saxon race to preserve the peace of the world".

Born in Peking in 1876, Chen graduated from Peking Methodist University then entered the Ministry. He served for fourteen years before proceeding to America with private support. He studied at Ohio Wesleyan University, the University of Michigan, and received a PhD from Boston University.

Returning to China in 1916 Chen became editor of the *Chinese Christian Advocate*. In 1920 he was the Chinese representative at the General Conference of the Methodist Church in Iowa and was elected secretary of the department of Evangelism of the Centenary Movement of the Methodist Episcopal Mission.

He was the author of the book *Manchuria or Manchukuo: The Effect of Three Years of Japanese Aggression* (in English), published in 1934. Chen became Professor at the University of Nanjing in 1924 and was appointed to the Opium Suppression Bureau in 1929. He joined the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 1930.

W.P. Chen. Photo: Who's Who in China, *1936*

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William George Goddard, 1887–1986

Photograph from the Canberra Times, *28 May 1953. The caption reads in part "The Chinese Minister to Australia, Dr Chen Tai Chu, reading the citation after presenting Dr W. G. Goddard of Brisbane, with the special rosette of the Order of the Brilliant Star in the Chinese Star in the Chinese Embassy last night"*

Goddard was born in Newcastle, New South Wales. He joined the Methodist clergy in his youth and preached in regional Queensland and New South Wales between 1908 and 1914 before leaving the employ of the church.

At the time of delivering the tenth Morrison Lecture Goddard was President of the China Society of Australia, which he had established. He introduced China's history, politics and culture to Australia through his broadcasts and writings.

Goddard obtained masters and doctoral degrees in the US, held positions at the the University of Chengdu, and wrote of his establishing a course relating to Australian history at the West China Union University in Sichuan.

He worked as a "free press agent" in China between 1933 and 1936 and had several of his books published there. In Australia he became an extremely popular presenter on radio station 4BC in Queensland in the nineteen thirties and forties. The large audience for his weekly programs on international affairs extended to the Pacific region. On air he encouraged listeners to form Round Table Clubs to discuss international affairs, modelled on the English Round Tables that saw influential citizens discussing and publishing their views. He wrote newspaper articles and *Goddard's Monthly*—his newsletter of world political affairs.

Goddard travelled extensively between Britain, Taiwan and Australasia on public speaking tours about Asia and, in particular, Taiwan. Five thousand people filled the Brisbane Town Hall on 24 October 1938 to hear one of his lectures. This popularity enabled him to raise around forty thousand pounds to purchase 26 training aircraft for the RAAF shortly after the outbreak of World War II.

A profound supporter of Chiang Kai-Shek and the Kuomintang, Goddard believed the Generalissimo to be misunderstood and misrepresented, and during the Japanese invasion of China he was instrumental in raising considerable funds for war relief. He writes that he also "translated the letters of Kao Chun Wu and T'ao Hsi Shang, which revealed the secret plans of Wang Ching-wei". He was against China becoming a member of the United Nations and felt Australia should have a greater role than the UK regarding alliance pacts, urging Australia to "wake up". In his lectures he said that "the centre of world activity and destiny had moved to Asia some years ago, and the future of Australia was wrapped up in what would happen in China".

Suspicious of Goddard's motivations for his writings and lectures, the Australian Security and Intelligence Organisation monitored him, despite his earlier employment by the Department of External Affairs and Australian Intelligence Service to provide reports about China. Intelligence

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files mark him as a propagandist and recent scholarship has revealed that Goddard's tours in the 1950s and early 1960s were funded by the Chinese Nationalist government in Taipei.

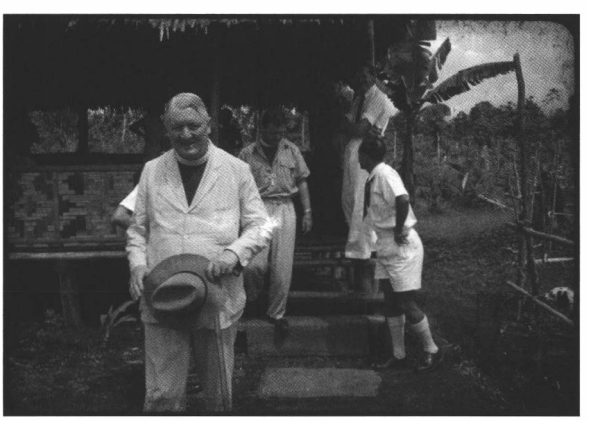
In 1947 the Nationalist Government, at the urging of Chun-Jien Pao, wished to award Goddard the Special Rosette of the Order of the Brilliant Star in recognition of his work in cultivating Sino–Australian friendship and understanding. However, the Chifley Government refused to allow him to accept the award despite his continual lobbying. The standoff continued until the Fadden government granted him "restricted permission". Goddard was finally presented with the award in a ceremony at the Chinese Embassy in Canberra in May 1953, when he became the first Australian to receive a civil decoration from China.

In the late 1960s Goddard began his Institute of Pacific Research at the China Academy in Taipei, however it ceased by the 1970s without being fully established.

New Zealand Journal of Asian Studies, Vol. 9, 2 (December 2007):126–46.

Howard West Kilvinton Mowll, 1890–1958

Howard Mowll was born near Dover in England. An industrious scholar, he was educated at King's School, Canterbury and studied history at King's College, Cambridge. His deep Anglican faith came from his parents and he undertook theological training at Ridley Hall, becoming deacon in 1913. He became a tutor on the theological staff of Wycliffe College, Toronto, Canada, then professor of history and its Dean of



Archbishop Mowll at the mess with Bishop David Hand, District Officer Fred Kaad and Roger Claridge, Saiho, Papua New Guinea, 1951. Photo: Albert Speer. National Library of Australia, nla.pic.vn3988526.

Residence. He was ordained priest in 1914, and from 1918–19 served as an army chaplain in France.

After gaining a Doctorate in Divinity Mowll became Bishop of West China in 1926, with his wife working as a missionary linguist. They travelled widely, lecturing on the Chinese mission for the Church Missionary Society (CMS). Mowll supported local Chinese church autonomy and appointed two Chinese assistant bishops. Working in western Sichuan province amongst civil unrest, he and his party were taken hostage by bandits near Mianzhu and eventually ransomed.

Mowll came to Australia in 1931 and was appointed Archbishop of Sydney in 1933. He established missions during the Depression, and was a keen evangelist and notable preacher. He travelled widely to India, Europe, North America and throughout Australasia. During World War II he set up the Church of England National Emergency Fund, which ran clubs for servicemen and, after the war, he instituted the Anglican Building Crusade to build new churches and parishes. He also developed services for Christian youth, and was well known for his public protests against the opening of Sydney's Royal Easter Show on Good Friday.

In 1948 Archbishop Mowll was elected Primate of the Church of England in Australia. He served three terms as president of the Australian Council of the World Council of Churches and was world president of the Scripture Union. After the expulsion of the CMS from China in 1949 Mowll encouraged the establishment of missions during his travels to New Guinea, Borneo, Sarawak and Malaya. He received the Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George in 1954. In 1957 he invited Billy Graham to undertake his famous crusade in Australia.

Archbishop Mowll was an advocate for Asian students in Australia and sought amendments to immigration regulations. Robert Menzies College, a home for overseas students on the campus of Macquarie University, Sydney, grew out Mowll's desire to establish a university hostel and international friendship centre.

One of his final achievements was the purchase of land outside Sydney to establish Australia's first retirement village for missionaries returning from China. The Mowll Memorial Village at Castle Hill is now vast and home to one of the biggest concentrations of aged persons in Australia.

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James Stuart MacDonald, 1878–1952

At the time of delivering the third Morrison lecture on 3 May 1934, James S. MacDonald was the Director of the National Art Gallery of New South Wales. His lecture was entitled "The History and Development of Chinese Art".

MacDonald was born and educated in Melbourne, and met many painters through his father, including Tom Roberts and Sir John Longstaff. This influenced him to study at the Melbourne National Gallery Art School under Frederick McCubbin. He later attended the Westminster School of Art in London, and the Académie Carmen, Académie Colarossi, and the Académie Julian in Paris.

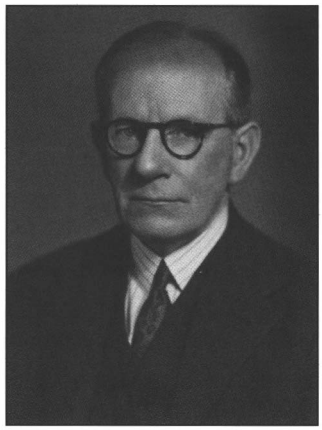
He became a painter and printmaker and drew in charcoal. He exhibited at the Old Salon in Paris, the Royal Academy in London, and the Academy of Arts in New York but, after not being accepted by the New Salon, he married an American art student and taught art history in a New York high school. They soon returned to Australia and MacDonald enlisted in the army. He served at Gallipoli and was seriously wounded, later becoming a war artist as well as a camouflage artist in France.

While at war, his work *The Art of Frederick McCubbin* was published, establishing the reputation of the Heidelberg School of painting and launching MacDonald's writing career. More books followed, and he wrote for the Melbourne *Herald* for six years and for *Art in Australia* magazine, one of the first works published locally on Australian art. He became a polarising and vitriolic art critic: profusely praising some with his nationalistic views while lambasting modernism and even Rembrandt. He also lectured widely and broadcast the series *Adventures in Art* in the early days of ABC radio.

MacDonald was involved in the notable Falcke libel case of 1924–25 which, on appeal, vindicated him for disputing in his newspaper column the authenticity of paintings presented for sale by Captain Shirley Falcke.

MacDonald was Director and Secretary of the Art Gallery of New South Wales from 1929 to 1936, where he oversaw remodelling, instituted temporary exhibitions of Australian art and introduced one of the first printed guides to a public gallery's collection. He then became Director of the National Gallery of Victoria from 1937 to 1941, despite some opposition to this appointment.

His was among the prominent voices in the controversy over the 1939 Herald Exhibition of French and British Contemporary Art which toured Australia. Including works by Matisse, Cezanne, Gaugin, Dali and Picasso, MacDonald refused to have the exhibition at the National Gallery of Victoria, describing the modernist movement as "filth" and "... the product of



James Stuart MacDonald, National Library of Australia, MS399/MS430

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degenerates and perverts ...". The exhibition is the subject of a recent book whose title, *Degenerates and Perverts*, echoes his fierce opposition to it.

MacDonald left the National Gallery of Victoria in 1941, returning to art criticism until his sudden death in 1952. Opinion of him has been influenced by his beligerence, strong opinions, and his reaction to the Herald Exhibition, however he is now considered to have been a pioneer in museological practice, with a wide knowledge, dedication and a vision for public galleries.

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Chun-Jien Pao 保君健

At the time of delivering the sixth Morrison Lecture Chun-Jien Pao was The Republic of China's Consul-General to Australia, a position he held from 1936–1940.

Born in Jiangsu, he attended Cornell and Harvard Universities and received a PhD from Columbia University and an honorary doctorate from San Marco University, Peru. After working as a Professor at Peking University and as a senior official in various government departments, Pao became a career diplomat. He was Consul-General or Ambassador to Calcutta, Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador and Jordan, and was a delegate to the UN General Assembly.

Pao was outspoken about Australia's White Australia policy, saying it should be abolished or modified.

The *Canberra Times* reported in 1940 that at the ninth Morrison Lecture a recording of the Chinese national anthem sung by Dr Pao's wife, Madam Pao, was played to the audience.

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Sir Stephen Henry Roberts, 1901–1971

Sir Stephen was born in Victoria and attended Melbourne Teachers' College. An exceptional student, he received several scholarships and doctorates from the University of Melbourne, the University of London and the London School of Economics. He wrote his thesis in record time and went on to publish six books in eight years on French, English, European and Australian history. He was seen as the most prolific historians of his generation in Australia, with one of his works becoming a core textbook.

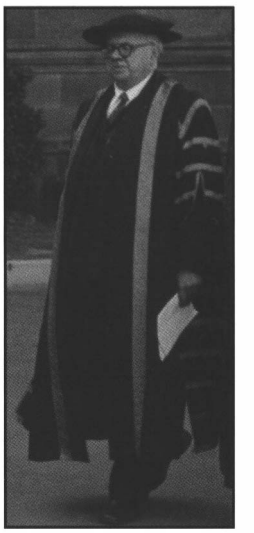
Roberts was appointed Chair of History at the University of Sydney in 1929, later becoming Dean of Arts, Vice-Chancellor in the late 1940s and Principal in 1955.

He formed an anti-English, anti-romantic view of history early favouring a broader international outlook. He brought a utilitarian intent and fresh perspective to the direction of the university, vigorously pursuing its expansion and development and encouraging financial support from leaders of industry and philanthropists. Roberts also introduced American studies to the university, supported the graduation of Aboriginal activist Charles Perkins and the medical training of Pacific Islanders and Papua New Guineans.

Sir Stephen's 1937 book, *The House that Hitler Built*, translated into many languages, famously exposed the Third Reich, warning of the looming German threat prior to World War II. He became a leading international analyst, presenting the program *Notes on the News* for the Australian Broadcasting Commission, and wrote regular pieces about the war for the *Sydney Morning Herald.*

He was a member of the Board of Secondary School Studies, chaired the Australian Vice-Chancellor's Committee and the NSW State Cancer Council. He was also trustee of the Public Library of New South Wales, a committee member of the Mitchell Library, and a member of the exclusive Australian Club.

Roberts was knighted in 1965, and among his numerous other honours were the Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George, the Danish Order of the Dannebrog, the Lebanese National Order of the Cedar, the Greek Order of the Phoenix, the Italian Order of Merit and the Legion of Honour. Sir Stephen also received several honorary doctorates from universities in Australia, England and Canada.



Sir Stephen Henry Roberts CMG. Photo: Detail from academic procession leaving the Great Hall, c. 1956. University of Sydney Archives

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Wu Lien-Teh 伍連德, *1879–1960*

Wu Lien-teh. Photo: Who's Who in China, *1936*

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Also known as Ng Leen-tuck, Gnoh Lean-tuck and, in the West, as G.L. Tuck, Wu Lien-Teh was born to Cantonese and Malayan parents and raised in Penang. He received scholarships to Cambridge and to St Mary's Hospital, London, where he was the first Chinese medical student. He went on to win its Kerslake Scholarship in pathology and the Cheadle gold medal for clinical medicine. Winning research scholarships he studied at the Tropical Diseases Institute, Liverpool; at Halle-an-der-Salle, Germany and at the Institut Pasteur, France. Returning to Malaya he worked at the Institute for Medical Research, in private practice, then as vice director of the Army Medical College at Tianjin.

Wu Lien-Teh's greatest achievement came during an epidemic of pneumonic plague in Manchuria in 1910 which claimed 60,000 lives. He discovered that the plague was not spread by rats, as commonly believed, but had originated in a species of marmot and spread via hunters and trappers. He also overcame cultural opposition and changed practices for disposing of diseased corpses. His efforts saw the plague eradicated in four months and brought him international recognition. After organising an international conference on plague control, becoming a major in the imperial army then a medical adviser to the ministry of foreign affairs, he established the Manchurian Plague Prevention Service, of which he was director from 1912 to 1930.

As an anti-opium advocate, Wu was one of the chief signatories to the First Convention for Control and Suppression of Narcotics. He was physician to successive presidents of the Chinese Republic and effected a presidential mandate for the legalising the dissection of corpses for teaching purposes. He helped establish around 20 hospitals and medical institutions, including the Peking General Hospital.

He received honorary degrees from Cambridge, Johns Hopkins, Peking, St Johns, Hong Kong and Tokyo universities and several honours from China, France, Britain and Russia. He was a member of Academia Sinica, the USSR's Society of Microbiology, the Royal Medical Society and the Anti-Opium Association, both in London. In 1915 he was elected honorary secretary of the newly formed National Medical Association and was its president from 1916 to 1920.

After fellowships with Johns Hopkins University and the League of Nations Wu Lien-Teh became director of the new National Quarantine Service in Shanghai until the Japanese invasion of 1937, when he returned to private practice in Malaya.

Wu edited the *National Medical Journal* of China for almost 20 years, wrote articles for the *British Medical Journal* and reports for the League of Nations. He also wrote books on the pneumonic plague and cholera

and co-authored the mammoth *History of Chinese Medicine*. His autobiography, *Plague Fighter*, was published in 1959.

Interest in and recognition of Wu Lien-Teh has recently been revived: *Memories of Dr Wu Lien-Teh, Plague Fighter*, by one of Wu's daughters, Yu-Lin (Yu Ling; Yoke Ling), was published in 1996 and contains more than 200 medically significant photographs from Dr Wu's private collection.

In 2007 a conference on Dr Wu was held in Singapore, and a research project about him is under way at the National University of Singapore. A three-part television documentary, *Plague Fighter*, about Dr Wu's outstanding medical work, was made in 2008. A street in Jalan Penang is named in honour of him and a museum dedicated to him opened in Harbin, China, in September 2008.

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