

SPEECH BY THE DEPUTY MAYOR (COUNCILLOR P.R.B.LEWIS)  
WHEN REPLYING TO THE CHAIRMAN'S OPENING ADDRESS ON  
THE OCCASION OF THE CATHOLIC CHINESE ASSOCIATION'S  
DEBUTANTE'S DINNER AND BALL ON THE 30TH MAY, 1968,  
AT 8.15 P.M.

Francis Wu.  
Prep. Noeleen Fong  
Debbie Yen

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(Francis Wu)

Loming Yuan

Mr. Chairman, The Consul-General for the Republic of China,  
Monsignor Kelly, Distinguished Guests, Members of the  
Catholic Chinese Association, Ladies and Gentlemen:

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It is a great pleasure to me and my wife to be  
present here this evening, and in the true Chinese tradition  
of hospitality and friendliness you have made us feel honour-  
ed and welcome guests.

The Chinese community in Johannesburg, as else-  
where in the Republic, is a small one, but it is noted for  
its close family ties - and the support of this delightful  
function confirms family joy in these lovely young debutantes -  
and for the quiet dignity with which it pursues its daily  
tasks.

These daily tasks, however, do not concern self alone, for our Chinese citizens are very conscious of their responsibilities towards their fellow men. I think everyone knows of the deep feeling of responsibility they have for parents and elders, but not everyone knows of the like feeling they have for all their fellows. There are various associations and organisations throughout the country whose activities are directed towards the benefit of the community as a whole, and our Chinese citizens display a very fine public spirit in their efforts to help those in need, and many are the Charitable organizations in this city who have cause to be thankful for their support and assistance.

In educational matters there is a keen desire for higher education for the children, who are generally good scholars and good at sport, and I know that many

commercial firms are extremely anxious to engage your young ladies. Cultural activities include theatre and films, music and art, and one very well-known facet is the brilliant photography we are privileged to view from time to time, which gives immense and deep pleasure.

Over the years many restaurateurs have made their appearance in the city, and this has brought to Johannesburg the immeasurable pleasure of excellent food in an eastern setting. The romance and exotic atmosphere which one always associates with things Chinese is very much in evidence tonight, and I always think there is a wonderful attractiveness attaching to functions organised by our Chinese folk. This, of course, is true anywhere in the world where there are Chinese people, and I think we in Johannesburg are most fortunate in having such a community in our midst, adding grace to a cosmopolitan population.

Although the community is small in number, it has made itself felt by its efforts to bring culture to the city and assistance to those in need, and we are proud indeed of our Chinese citizens, and thankful for the opportunity we have been given of meeting them, members of an ancient race of graceful manners and infinite charm.

In the name of your guests, and on behalf of the Deputy Mayoress and myself, I thank you for your warm welcome this evening, and coupled with our thanks are our good wishes for the continued support and prosperity of your Association, and happiness and contentment for Miss Debutante 1968.

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**Collection Number: A1132**

**Collection Name: Patrick LEWIS Papers, 1949-1987**

***PUBLISHER:***

*Publisher:* Historical Papers Research Archive, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa

*Location:* Johannesburg

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