

Chief Marshall Hsieh: "Please be seated. I have the honor to present Donald A. Henderson, Dean of the School of Hygiene and Public Health, who will preside over these ceremonies.

Dr. Henderson: Distinguished guests; graduates, family and friends; faculty and staff of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health - It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Convocation Exercises of the 72nd class to graduate from this School.

It was on October 1, 1918 that instruction commenced at this School, the first of its kind. The architects and first Directors were the creative and visionary Drs. William Welch and William Howell.

Significantly, the School was designated as a School of Hygiene and Public Health. Conceptually, this was intended to give equal weight to the science of public health - drawing inspiration from the research institutes of hygiene in Germany - and the application of these findings in the interests of public health. The charter document for the School - the Welch-Rose report - states:

"A main function of this institute should be the development of the spirit of investigation and the advancement of knowledge, upon which intelligent public health administration and individual hygiene are absolutely dependent. It is especially from this class of advanced workers and investigators ... that the teachers and authorities and experts in hygiene will be recruited for service in different

fields of activity and the standards of the profession of hygiene and public health will be elevated."

Nineteen students were enrolled that first year and in June, 1919, 70 years ago, the first degree was conferred.

Since that date, degrees have been conferred upon more than 8,000 persons from all parts of the world. The School has grown from 25 to more than 300 full-time faculty and from 19 to 1,000 students. Numbered among those who have taught and studied here are internationally distinguished administrators, scientists and teachers, who on the world, national and local levels have vastly expanded our horizons of understanding of health and prevention and are now applying a myriad of new techniques and approaches undreamed of only seven decades ago.

The province of public health in 1918 was more circumscribed than it is today. It is far broader now than when I attended this School 30 years ago and it is inevitable that its scope will broaden further over the coming decades. Increasingly, it is apparent to legislators and scientists alike that new directions and future progress must emanate from the stimulating conglomerate of disciplines intrinsic to public health and to the mission of this School. How do we assure an adequate level of health care and prevention to all in the population both in this and in other countries? How do we sustain simultaneously a liveable environment and a viable economy in a world increasingly populated and polluted by man? The answers to these and other formidable problems will not stem from a few brilliant discoveries in

the laboratory, nor in some new management system for the health services nor in creative comprehensive legislation but rather in a complex interaction of all of these. We are evolving in an era in which development and application in regard to health must be weighed increasingly in terms of population, of socioeconomic factors, of personal life styles, of social responsibility. Such progress requires intelligent application of many different measures, balancing risk and benefit in an increasingly complex equation which is today but scarcely perceived. At the nexus of this ferment of concern and decision making must be those with the multidisciplinary understanding intrinsic to public health.

In America today, indeed throughout the world, the belief is shared that greater responsibility for developing and implementing effective programs must rest with initiatives taken by state and local jurisdictions, by local communities and by the individual himself. To permit this to be done well will require a far greater sophistication of understanding and of competence, and a larger, more skilled base of public health manpower than we now possess. More effective bridges are needed between those working to solve community problems and those in academic institutions, both scientists and policy makers. As a School, we regard the fostering of these bridges to be of the highest priority. We ask your continuing help as you now join with all of us in charting directions in areas still unknown. Never has the opportunity been greater for individual contributions to expand the horizons of science and their application to public health problems - to undertake challenges yet undreamed.

It is a pleasure today to extend special greetings to today's group of 303 graduates, including 66 who will receive the degrees - Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Science and Doctor of Public Health. You represent one in five of all doctoral graduates receiving degrees this year from all schools of public health combined. Seventy-six of this year's graduates are from 38 other countries, and most of you will soon be returning to your home countries and to health services staffed by many distinguished graduates of the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.

To all of you, I would at this time like to welcome you not as alumni but as full members of the Johns Hopkins family. Indicative of that close relationship between alumni, faculty and students is the fact that our Grand Marshall this year, Dr. Richard Hsieh, is an esteemed alumnus and president-elect of the Society of Alumni.

It is my pleasure at this time to acknowledge formally, a number of participants in these convocation exercises. First, a distinguished group of faculty who I know take as much pleasure as I in being here with you tonight, sharing with you this rite of passage and looking forward to collaborating with you as colleagues in the future. I should like to ask them to stand and be acknowledged. Second, we salute the parents, spouses, children and friends, each of whom has served a supportive role - both moral and financial. Would you please stand and be acknowledged.

...I would now like to introduce Ms. Andrea Gerstenberger, President of the Student Assembly.

Ms. Gerstenberger: (4-5 minutes suggested) Comments as class President, concluded by Golden Apple Awards and Student Assembly Recognition Award.

Dean Henderson: It is now my pleasure to award the Ernest Lyman Stebbins Medal. This medal was established by an act of the Advisory Board to recognize a faculty member for continuing exceptional contributions to the development of educational programs throughout the School, for exemplary contributions as a teacher.

The Medal is given in honor of one of the School's most eminent public health leaders - Ernest Lyman Stebbins - Dean of this School for 21 years - a scholar, an educator, an administrator, wise counselor and friend to a generation of faculty and students. Under his leadership, a school in precarious straits following World War II, grew and matured. Conferring of the Stebbins Medal is, appropriately, the highest tribute the School can pay to a member of the faculty.

A committee of emeritus faculty and alumni have selected as the recipient of the Stebbins Medal for 1990 one of the University's most beloved and esteemed faculty, Dr. Paul Lemkau, first chairman of the first Department of Mental Hygiene in a School of Public Health. Dr. Lemkau is a graduate of Baldwin Wallace College and the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. After residency at the Phipps Psychiatric Clinic with the renowned Dr. Adolph Meyer, Dr. Lemkau joined the faculty

of the School in 1941 as Chairman of the Department of Mental Hygiene, a position which he served with distinction over the succeeding 24 years. Dr. Lemkau brought the concerns of mental health into the mainstream of public health - from substance abuse to psychiatric disorders to the patterns of child rearing. His commitment to measurement and to epidemiology in relation to psychiatric disorders have proven to be a model to scientists in this and other countries. He bridged the world of academia and professional practice, serving for four years as the Chief of the Division of Mental Hygiene of the Maryland State Department of Health and as the first director of the New York City Community Health Board. He worked closely with colleagues in the World Health Organization in fostering mental health programs and undertook surveys and missions to Yugoslavia, Italy, Japan, Venezuela and Surinam(?).

Paul has been and is a giant on the world stage; more significant for us, he has been a wise counselor, scholar, and mentor for a generation of students, later leaders in mental health at Johns Hopkins, the nation and the world.

For me it is a personal honor and pleasure to confer on your behalf the Stebbins Medal to one of Hopkins most distinguished citizens.

Last Monday, at a special recognition dinner, awards were given to a number of students, some of whom will be continuing their studies next year. I would like now to acknowledge those who are graduating tonight and who received awards either in this or previous years. Would those so recognized please stand when your name is read:

Alumni Association Scholarship Award

Ruth Kettler Finkelstein

Frederik B. Bang Award

Show-Li Chen

Thomas Alan Neubert

Erwin Shayne Benjamin Award

Ping Yang

The Ruth Freeman Award

Lisa L. Paine

Paul A. Harper Award

Ruth Ellen Levine

John C. Hume Doctoral Award

Jack Ellsworth Scott

John C. Hume Master of Public Health Award

Joel Emanuel Gallant

Jacqueline Au McPherson

The Cornelius W. Kruse Award

K. Gregory Moore

Harry D. Kruse Award

Katharine Schuyler Gupstill

Mary B. Meyer Memorial Award

Catherine Bishop Johannes

Ping Yang

Those elected to the Delta Omega Honor Society were inducted into that Society at a special ceremony last Thursday. Their names are listed in your program. I would like them all to stand and to be recognized.

It is a privilege and an honor to introduce as our Convocation Speaker this year, Dr. Samuel Their, President of the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences, and one of the nation's leading and most articulate voices in health policy. Dr. Their is a graduate of Cornell University and the State University of New York at Syracuse. After

postgraduate training at the Massachusetts General Hospital, he joined the Harvard faculty and subsequently the faculty at the University of Pennsylvania before becoming Chairman of the Department of Medicine at Yale and Sterling Professor. Five years ago, he was named President of the Institute of Medicine. Under Dr. Their's leadership, the Institute has acquired a new measure of respect and stature as the independent, responsible and authoritative body which can be relied upon to address almost any of the vexing health policy issues on the national and international agenda. Dr. Their has lectured widely in this and other countries and has received awards and recognition from a score of universities and learned societies. It is a pleasure to have him with us tonight.