

# Wee Hap Lang (1860-1938)

## Dirujuk oleh

- [Perlombongan di Sungai Ramal \(1893-1903\)](#)

## Perihal

*"Mr. Wee Hap Lang, of 19, Rodger Street, Kuala Lumpor, is vice-president of the Selangor Anti-Opium Society, and was a delegate to the first Anti-Opium Conference at Ipoh. He is the son of Mr. Wee Liang Hin, and was born in Malacca. His father and grandfather were merchants at Malacca. The latter was a financier and established an extensive business with the Malays and the Chinese miners. In the course of business Mr. Wee Hap Lang's father made many trips up country, and on one of these, about thirty-five years ago, he became sick and dies at Ro[e]ko Hill, Kajang. Another member of the family was murdered by the Malays in Perak. The subject of this sketch entered the Government service after obtaining a training in different mercantile houses. Resigning in 1894, he started in business on his own account at Kuala Lumpor. Coming under the notice of Captain China Yap Kwan Seng, he acted as his assistant and English secretary until the time of the captain's death in 1902. On two occasions during Captain China's absence in China he managed his affairs. He is the founder of the British Malayan Mining Company, Ltd., just floated privately, and is developing several other mining properties. He possesses mines of his own at Serdang, Sungei Besi, Damansara, and Kajang. Mr. Wee Hap Lang is vice-president of the Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce, a committee member of the Mandarin School, a trustee of the Anglo-Chinese School, a member of the Turf Club, the Weld Hill Club, and many other similar institutions. He is also one of the originators of the Chinese Christian Association of Singapore. Nine sons and four daughters were born to him, all of whom are living. Of the former, one is being educated in England and another in America. The whole family are being thoroughly trained in English and Chinese. Mr. and Mrs. Wee Hap Lang celebrated their silver wedding on October 10, 1907."* (Arnold Wright, H.A. Cartwright (Ed.), 1908: ["Twentieth century impressions of British Malaya: its history, people, commerce, industries, and resources"](#), hlm.160-161).

*"Another member of the anti-opium movement, who was also a miner, Wee Hap Lang once voiced in his interview session; 'Opium smokers have only one goal and that is the goal of a wreck. They will begin to smoke, and then they will smoke, smoke, smoke; it depends on the constitution of an individual or other circumstances, but in the end, they are sure to become a wreck.'" (Jayakumary Marimuthu, Mohd Firdaus Abdullah, 2020:*

*"Opium smoking suppression campaigns and the role of anti-opium movements in the Federated Malay States, 1906-1910".* Jebat: Malaysian Journal of History, Politics and Strategic Studies, 47 (3). pp. 31-57. ISSN 2180-0251, hlm.44).

## 1904-07-03: Dilantik AJK Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce

*"In the early history of Chinese mercantile and mining activities in the State of Selangor, business questions were generally discussed at meetings held in Chop Tong Him Loong, owned by the esteemed and wealthy Towkay Loke Yew. This primitive arrangement, however, was not allowed to continue long. Mr. San Ah Wing, a public-spirited gentleman of Kuala Lumpor, began an active agitation in favour of the establishment of a properly constituted Chamber of Commerce, and as the result of a series of lucid and forcible articles written by him and published in the Malay Mail, a largely attended meeting of merchants and miners was held at the General Farm in Kuala Lumpor, and it was unanimously decided to form the Selangor Chamber of Commerce. An inaugural meeting was held at the Selangor Miners' Association on March 27, 1904, and the following officebearers were appointed : Chairman, Towkay Loke Yew ; vice-chairmen, Towkays Chan Sow Lin and Loke Chow Kit ; committee, Towkays Chin Choon, Low Luan Gan, Lee Kong Lam, Kan Choon, San Kee, Chia Boon Teat, Yap Long Hin, Wee Hap Lang, Khoo Hock Chong, Ong Chee Slew, Wong Wan Fan, Wong Tau San, Fong Swee Chee, Mak Chak Sang, San Ah Wing, Sin Chew Kee, Hoi Guan, Eng Hoh Seong, Seng Soon, Fong On, Chin Sin Hee and Mah Hoi Chee ; and hon. secretary, Mr. San Ah Wing."* (Arnold Wright, H.A. Cartwright (Ed.), 1908: ["Twentieth century impressions of British Malaya: its history, people, commerce, industries, and resources"](#), hlm.855).

## **1907: Dilantik Naib Pengerusi Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce**

*"For the year 1907 Towkay Chan Sow Lin was chairman, and Messrs. San Ah Wing and Wee Hap Lang were the vice-chairmen. Mr. Choo Cheong Khay, the hon. secretary, went to Manchuria in May, and in his absence the duties of the office were undertaken by Mr. Loon Lenn Yew, a well-known member of the local community."* (Arnold Wright, H.A. Cartwright (Ed.), 1908: ["Twentieth century impressions of British Malaya: its history, people, commerce, industries, and resources"](#), hlm.855).

## **1907: Pendanaan Gimnasium Methodist Boys School KL**

*"From an enrolment of 125 boys in July, 1905, the attendance had risen in April of the following year to nearly 400 — a record of which the managers might well be proud. Additional classrooms were required, and in July, 1907, the foundations of eight new classrooms were laid, thus giving accommodation for 250 more boys. Mr. Loke Chow Thye generously bore most of the cost of one wing. Many generous friends have contributed funds for free scholarships, and one of the Principal's old pupils, Towkay Eu Tong Sen, has given the institution a fine library, while Mr. K. Dorasamy Pillai defrayed the cost of building the central hall. Other improvements are being made, including the erection of a gymnasium by Mr. Wee Hap Lang, and the levelling of the cricket and football ground for the use of the boys by Mr. Loke Yew. Some idea of the cosmopolitan character of this excellent school may be gathered from the fact that the pupils are representative of nine races and five religions. In February, 1907, Mr. R. McCoy, B.Sc, was appointed to the Vice-Principalship of the school, in which there is now a staff of 14 teachers."* (Arnold Wright, H.A. Cartwright (Ed.), 1908: ["Twentieth century impressions of British Malaya: its history, people, commerce, industries, and resources"](#), hlm. 280).

*"A library was added in 1906 financed by a Chinese philanthropist, later known as the "Lum Mun Yoke Memorial Library", and in 1907, when the number of teachers had risen to fourteen, eight new classrooms were added. The sports field was built from a large donation by Loke Yew, Chinese business magnate, and a gymnasium was erected with the assistance of Mr. Wee Hap Lang."* (Malaysia 1786 - 1957:

"Methodist Boys' School, Kuala Lumpur (1897)").

## 1918-06-06: Perkahwinan Anak Ketiganya

*"The engagement is announced of Mr Lee Ah Soo, miner and planter, the younger brother of Mr Lee Kong Lam, M C, J P., and Miss Wee Cheng Neo, third daughter of Mr Wee Hap Lang, J P. The marriage is fixed to take place in Kuala Lumpur on June 6, says the Malay Mail."* (Malaya Tribune, 30 April 1918, Page 5:

"Untitled").

## 1925-05-01: Ahli Asiatic Rubber Producers' Association of Malaya

*"The Stevenson Scheme created as much division among the Asian rubber planting community as it did their European counterparts. The scheme was complex and, therefore, could not be easily understood by the large number of Asian planters, many of whom had no English education. Its enforcement was open to criticism as it could not always guarantee that all producers would be fairly treated. One major grievance among Asian planters, in the course of the operation of the scheme, was that whereas, owing to cleaner and more scientific methods of tapping and planting, European estates had their productions either augmented or at least not reduced, Asian estates had their quotas drastically cut down much below their actual capacities based on returns for the year 1919-20. Discontent among the Asian planters was so pervasive that Choo Kia Peng, then one of the two Chinese Unofficial Members of the Federal Council, took the initiative, after consultation with the relevant authorities, to send out invitations, on 4 April 1925, calling for a meeting to consider the formation of, as it was originally proposed, an Asiatic Rubber Producers' Association of Malaya'.<sup>61</sup> On 1 May 1925, there was a large gathering of over 80 interested persons at the hall of the Selangor Chamber of Mines in Kuala Lumpur. The representatives came from various parts of the country. The Malays, however, were not represented. There was also no representation from Penang and Kedah, although Kia Peng had written to invite representatives from the Penang Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the Kedah Chinese Planters' Association, the only one of its kind in Malaya. .... Selangor had the greatest number of representatives, among them, apart from Choo Kia Peng (born in Kamunting, near Taiping, who later sought his fortune in Selangor, initially as an employee of Loke Yew), Khoo Boo Gong, Teh Seow Teng, Goh Hock Huat (of Penang origin but who had settled down at Klang where he had become a successful planter and was known as the 'Pineapple King'), Wee Hap Lang and Chan Wing<sup>63</sup> (better known in tin mining circles)." (KHOO KAY KIM, Journal of the Malaysian Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Vol. 72, No. 2 (277), JOHN M. GULLICK FESTSCHRIFT (1999), pp. 17-47 (31 pages):*

"DEVELOPMENTS RELEVANT TO MALAYAN AGRICULTURE IN THE POST-RUBBER CRISIS ERA (1920-1921)", hlm.36).

## 1929-01-13: Perletakan Jawatan di Kuala Lumpur Sanitary

## Board

*"The resignation of Mr. Wee Hap Lang from the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary Board has been accepted with much regret by the British Resident of Selangor, who in a letter expresses to Mr. Wee Hap Lang his thanks 'for the great assistance you have afforded to the Government and me as a member of the Board.'" (The Straits Times, 14 January 1929, Page 8:*

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"Untitled").

## 1938-10-05: Kematian

*"A link with the old Selangor of the Capitans China and quickly-made fortunes, was severed yesterday with the death of 78-year-old Mr. Wee Hap Lang, at his residence in Ampang Road, Kuala Lumpur. Proprietor of Chop Wong Woh Long, which owns large rubber plantations and tin mines, Mr. Wee came of a well-known Malacca Chinese family. It was after coming to Kuala Lumpur that he started mining and planting on a scale which almost emulated that of the famous Towkay Loke Yew with whom he was at one time associated. He was attorney of Selangor's Capitan China, Yap Kwan Seng. During the War he raised funds to help Britain's cause and sat on the Rice Committee. With Towkay Loke Yew he was instrumental in the foundation of the Kuala Lumpur Chinese Assembly Hall, now the centre of Chinese community life. Mr. Wee was in the first batch of J.P.s nominated in the state. He served on the Kuala Lumpur Sanitary and Licensing Boards and the Selangor Chinese Advisory Board, and was a visiting justice to the Kuala Lumpur hospitals and gaol. He leaves six sons and six daughters, several grandchildren and great grandchildren." (The Straits Budget, 6 October 1938, Page 13:*

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"Link With Old Selangor").

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