

## **Swee-Hwa Quek**

Much has been written concerning Dr Allan A. MacRae's exemplary service to our Lord. It is now my happy and humble duty to add to the accolades.

I was Dr MacRae's "assistant" twenty-two years ago, helping him to mark the weekly church history quizzes for a class which comprised nearly the whole of the student body then at Faith Theological Seminary. That gave me good opportunities to get to know him better. Through this contact and through his lectures I found that in his treatment of important issues, whether from church history or from the Old Testament, he was firm and unyielding on a point of truth, yet charitable and tactful as regards views from which he clearly differed. His lectures were not entertaining, though as students we often found welcome relief to rest our tired fingers during those occasional moments when he would veer off into an amusing anecdote or two. Nevertheless his lectures were stimulating as we were presented not only with information but also with the value or non-value of each bit of information presented in his lectures. The meticulous care with which he painstakingly examined points of controversy was similar (as I found out later in a seminar under Professor F. F. Bruce at the University of Manchester) to the way Irenaeus of Lyons refuted the various Second Century A. D. gnostic heresies in his *magnum opus* entitled *Adversus Haereses*.

One quality of Dr MacRae which deserves to be highlighted is the fact that he is approachable and encouraging to his pupils, even long after their graduation. Those of us who took the trouble to write and consult him on some point of biblical interpretation were sure to receive a carefully-worded reply. To this would often be added his sincere interest in our life and ministry and especially close to his heart is our performance in the pastoral ministry and our concern for mission work.

Like the Old Testament prophets who exercised a proclamatory (as well as predictive) ministry and whom he loved so greatly, Dr MacRae continues in these last days to proclaim the truths of God's Word in a seemingly untiring ministry of teaching, preaching and writing. His distinguished teaching career of fifty-six years (since 1929) spans more than half a century. Far from retiring he keeps himself busily engaged in the Lord's work. We wish him many more years of fruitful service for our Lord.