

Experience of Clerkship in Chiang-Hwa Christian Hospital

By Senior Clerk
David Y. Liang

I am deeply obliged to Dr. David Landsborough, Superintendent of the Chiang-Hwa Christian Hospital, who gave his assent as to allow me the precious opportunity of doing my senior clerkship in that Hospital immediately after I had finished the strict military training last summer. I can still remember my head was shiny in the first few days and it grew hairy later. Now I found it worthwhile to share some of my experiences in that hospital with my dear schoolmates.

It goes without saying that this Christian Hospital is distinguished for its religious background. It is this everlasting impetus that makes this hospital become possible and still work with great zeal. I have been familiar with this hospital since my childhood because it is located in my home town. Yet, I detected something new both to the hospital and to me in my first arrival. I was the first student there from Taipei Medical College. All Internes came from Takao Medical College. Men would evaluate our College from what I had done.

During my clerkship there, I joined the morning service every day. Services were presided over alternately by Doctors. We began our daily work after that service. While in the wards I had to check up and observe the condition of the patients, do I.V. injections. In the surgical department I spent most of my time in doing C. D. (changing dressings).

Emergency Service was particular exciting. It always demands special emergency management of the patient as well as sometimes, judgement. I met several cases of Parathion intoxication, some suicidals took too much barbiturates, one case of complication due to artificial abortion. They were all interesting to me, a medical student with medical point of view.

Besides nice relationship among staffs, I felt there was a good patient-doctor relationship which I had never recognized elsewhere. The patients held Doctors proper esteem and reliance and vice versa. It made you feel sure a nice hospital to work in.

This hospital offers a lot of work of mercy which benefits many poor people. There was once a poor school girl, 9 years of age, who had a severe burn. The burn area covered more than 50% of her body surface ranked to second to third degree. She was given a bed free of charge. Thus she was saved both from death and dire distress. This affords an example in point.

I chanced to meet some rare and significant cases in that hospital, such as Hemochromatosis, Friedreich's ataxia, Chordoma, demyelination due to radiotherapy, porphyria. Some of them were reported in our Medical Students Association last December.

When I called on Dr. Landsborough and said Good-bye before I left there, he asked me whether I had gained any more clinical experience? My answer was "Yes!" I might well tell him that I didn't kill time in vain in that hospital.

It is said that the Authority of our College is planning to send some Internes to that Hospital. I do hope that through this short information I can do something for those who are interested in going there.