

影化基督教醫院用箋

Christian Hospital,
Changhua, Taiwan.
10th Sept., 1953.

Capt. John R. Daniels, M.D.,
Medical Corps,
U.S. Army.

Dear Dr. Daniels,

I would like to place before you an urgent problem which our hospital is now facing. If there is any thing that you can do to make this problem known to the higher authorities in the Government of Taiwan I should be most grateful.

The above hospital was begun in 1896 by my father, Dr. Landsborough, Senr. of the English Presbyterian Mission and for many years was the only hospital practicing western medicine in central Formosa.. The people of this area will testify that in the 50 years of its history it has brought healing and relief from suffering to great numbers of people. The aim of the hospital has always been to treat people in need, regardless of race, religion, social status and financial means. It exists for the people of this area as an entirely non-profit institution.

In 1936 my father retired from the hospital and went home. In the following year the control of the hospital passed from the English Presbyterian Mission to the Southern Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Formosa () and it has continued to function as one of the charitable institutions of this Taiwanese church up to the present day.

The hospital now has 70 beds for in-patients but the accommodation generally is quite inadequate for modern needs.

For about 30 years the hospital has possessed two pieces of land within the area of Changhua city, together amounting to about 3 chia. Before the war plans were ready for the building of a new hospital on this land. Unfortunately the government of that time, faced with the proximity of war stopped the supply of building materials so that the building was never begun. During the war

彰化基督教醫院用箋

-2-

the original building fund depreciated and was used up. Since then the land has been let out to farmers to till, this arrangement lasting until now.

During the last three years the hospital has had a new lease of life, patients have increased in number, the standard of work has been raised and amongst the staff there is a will to improve in every direction. We now wish to build some new wards and staff residences on this land and in general to preserve the land as a basic investment for the future welfare of the hospital.

According to latest information, however, under the Government's Land Redistribution Programme the hospital is not allowed to own this land any longer. The Tainan City Government has allowed the Southern Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Formosa, whose head offices are in Tainan and who are the legal owners of our hospital property, to retain 6 chia of land out of 90 chia originally owned, but the 3 chia of hospital land have not been included by the Government's distributors in these 6 chia. The Southern Synod has passed a resolution that within these 6 chia of church-owned land some may be sacrificed so that the Changhua hospital land may be included. Petitions for such an adjustment made to the Tainan City Government and to the Provincial Land Department in Taipeh have so far not been granted.

As the retention of this land is vital to the future of our hospital, and so to the medical needs of the people of central Formosa, we still most devoutly hope that the Government can see its way to grant that:

- either: (1) the land is preserved for the use of the hospital in its own right as a charitable institution;
- or: (2) an adjustment is made so that this land is included in the 6 chia apportioned by the Government to the Southern Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Formosa.

A letter to this effect was handed in to the Governor of Taiwan, O. K. Yui, on or about July 20th, 1953.

Thank you so much for listening to me when you called at the hospital yesterday morning and I hope

影化基督教醫院用箋

-3-

what I have now written may make the position clearer to you.

With best wishes and thanks,

Yours sincerely,

D. Landsborough, M.D., M.R.C.P.
Acting Medical Superintendent.

P.S. As you know, our superintendent, Dr. Y. C. Yang left Taiwan two weeks ago to study abroad for one year. The board of managers of the hospital has asked me to act in his absence.