

China

Medical Education/Facilities and Equipment

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HISTORICAL: - Modern medicine was introduced into China in the period 1860-70 by the Christian missions. Government activities in the medical field date from 1911.

Political organization consisted of the Executive, Legislative, and Judicial Yuan. The governmental health organization was known as the Ministry of Health from 1927-30; the National Health Administration from 1930-46 and again as the Ministry of Health from 1946. Its concern is with public health activities. The present Minister of Health in Communist China is Mrs. (fnu) Feng whose background is that of a social welfare worker.

Public Health Personnel Training Unit was instituted in 1935 to train health offices, public health nurses, midwives, sanitary engineers, sanitary inspectors.

Also in 1935 the Central Field Health Station was instituted with the help of the Health Section, League of Nations. This was a governmental establishment providing training in Public Health Administration, Epidemiology, and Biostatistics. This institution was combined with the National Institute of Health in Chungking. The NIH moved to Nanking in 1946. In 1949, one third of the personnel of the NIH moved to Formosa; the other two thirds remained on the mainland. Nutrition and Entomology were the main interests at NIH.

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The Academia Sinica was a semiautonomous scientific research organization which received its finances from the government. It was strongest prior to 1937 and recovered little post war primarily as a result of insufficient funds.

EDUCATION

Between 1942-47 there were 27 medical schools in China. PUMC was outstanding. Four or five, listed below, were fair to good - comparable to a low A U.S. rating. These were:

National Central - Nanking
Changsha - Yale in China
Cheeloo - Tsinan
West China - Chungtu
St. John's University - Shanghai

INCOME - Medical Schools operated on a budget of \$30,000 - 50,000 US per year. PUMC, by exception, operated on \$600,000 - 800,000 US per year.

The 1945 expansion of medical schools to 45 was an over-extension since there were never enough qualified teachers to staff the 27 schools previously existent.

Peking Union Medical College (PUMC) was established in 1920 as a completely modern school by Western standards. The first graduates were in 1924-5 and about 25-30 graduates per year were produced by this school.

PUMC reopened in 1947. Its records and library were intact and this contributed to its capability for speedy recovery.

PUMC course consisted of 3 years pre medical and 4 years of medical classes.

C. M. Li is the present head of PUMC with title of director. He

He was dean of Kweiyang Medical School until 1946; is a general medical man, and a graduate of the University of Edinburgh.

PUMC had qualified men in following departments:

Biochemistry - Wu Hsien
Physiology - K. S. Lin
Pharmacology
Bacteriology - F. F. Tang
Immunology
Virusology - C. H. Yen

Yen went to Formosa with the Nationalist government in late 1949.

INDUSTRY AND EQUIPMENT.

A pyrogen free water plant was established in Chungking prior to World War II. It came under jurisdiction of the Army Medical Service during the War, then was moved to the National Defense Medical Center in Shanghai post war, and eventually to Formosa.

Source doubts ability of Chinese to produce optical goods. They are able to produce ordinary chymographs and orthopedic prosthesis, and have a particular knack of glass blowing which gives them the capability of producing research apparatus amenable to this method.

Dr. John Scudder of Columbia's Presbyterian Hospital in New York City endeavored to set up a blood bank in China, but the Oriental mind rebels at this concept of transfusion.

PHARMACEUTICALS

Bulk of medicine used in China is imported from French, American, German, and English sources. There is little of value in indigenous drugs. Herbs have historically been widely used in the interior of China.

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The Chinese are capable of producing drugs when raw materials are available. They are particularly adept in production of antipyretics, ^{AR}carthotics, and opium derivatives. Sulfas have been readily available on an import basis. They have been used as an anti-inflationary hedge. There was no governmental stockpile program.

HONG KONG

The Hong Kong University Medical School accomplishes research in its departments. Most prominent are the studies on beri beri. H. K. Univ. notably produces physicians interested in lucrative practice rather than in research per se.

MACAO

There is no research nor research facilities in Macao.

FORMOSA

3-4000 physicians were trained by the Japanese at Taiwan University in Taipeh between 1890-1905. The quality of this education was inferior by Western standards.

SUMMARY

The general impression of source is that the Chinese are innately unable to achieve prominence in medical research because of lack of sufficiently high level of education and training in the country.