

**CENTENNIAL OF MEDICAL EDUCATION:  
JOTTINGS ON THE HISTORY OF DENTISTRY IN SINGAPORE**

Dear Sir,

I read with much interest the excellent article by Professor Lee Yong Kiat<sup>(1)</sup>. In my inaugural Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) Oration<sup>(2)</sup>, mention was made that TTSH, or Hakuai Byoin as it was known during the Japanese Occupation, was also a general hospital. It had a dental department with Dr Lim Eng Bee (who later became Chairman, Public Service Commission) as Head and Dr Bong Lip Look, his Assistant. The dental mechanic was Mr Malwee.

According to the Roll of Dental Graduates of the National University of Singapore, the first two graduates to obtain the Licentiate in Dental Surgery in 1933 were Dr Philip Khoo Lip Chuan and Dr Teo Lam Chye. Sadly, the first Graduate, Dr Philip Khoo, I remember, was one of the first war casualties, mortally wounded just outside his clinic in Orchard Road (now the Heeren).

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**REFERENCES:**

1. Lee YK. Jottings on the history of dentistry in Singapore. Singapore Med J 2006; 47:346-55.
2. Chew CH. Tan Tock Seng Hospital: some recollections from 1942 to 1997. Ann Acad Med Singapore 1998; 27:131-9.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**

We thank Dr Chew Chin Hin for contributing additional information on the history of dentistry in Singapore. This issue's article on the early history of pharmacy in Singapore concludes the year-long history series commemorating the Centennial of Medical Education in Singapore. We are grateful to Professor Lee Yong Kiat for authoring this important scholarly series.