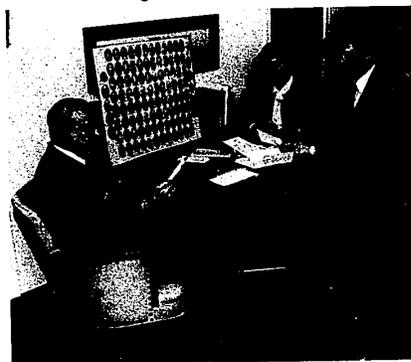


# Hospital built as 'hotel for sick people'

## Avery's donation adds to hospital's lore



Farmington's Dr. Conrad Lam, keeper of the Henry Ford Hospital Archives and consultant to the hospital's thoracic and cardiac surgery division, questions Farmington Hills' Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln Avery about their donation to the hospital's archives.

A recent contribution to Henry Ford Hospital's archives has filled a gap of the hospital's early history, according to Farmington's Dr. Conrad Lam.

The hospital's archivist, Lam announced the acquisition of documents, letters, photographs and other materials donated by the Lincoln Averages of Farmington Hills. The material pertains to the life of Dr. William Metcalf, a prominent physician in the area at the beginning of the century.

Although never having worked at Henry Ford Hospital, Metcalf was instrumental in acquiring land and raising funds for the then-proposed site. Originally, the hospital was to have been Detroit General. Metcalf was to have been chief of abdominal and pelvic surgery.

But he never was hired by Henry Ford I when, in 1914, Ford took over the ill-fated Detroit General project. Metcalf had resigned from Harper Hospital to assume the position with Detroit General.

The archival acquisition also includes a ledger of Metcalf's accounts. It includes an entry listing Mrs. Ford as one of his surgical patients.



In 1912, Dr. William Metcalf held the shovel as Farmington's Dr. Conrad Lam, keeper of the Henry Ford Hospital, then on the outskirts of Detroit. Henry Ford I is to Metcalf's immediate left.

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