

Dr. E. Gruening,
36 EAST 57TH ST.
Telephone 3411 Plaza.

Referred to Secretary

NEW YORK, January 25th 1909

Dear Dr. Jacobi:-

I send herewith my statement of the condition of the eye and ear department. It has been said that there have been irregularities in this department chiefly concerning the discipline of the service. This I grant, with the reservation that the service was at all times prompt and efficient.

The irregularities arose mainly from the fact that one of the adjuncts was recalcitrant, unwilling to do the work assigned to him at the time appointed, and unobservant of the usual forms of polite intercourse.

The said adjunct refused to perform operations on the days appointed, on cases admitted for him by the courtesy of the chief. He refused to be present on the Thursdays appointed for the operations of the chief. At one time he refused to perform mastoid operations because the request

Dr. E. Gruening,
36 EAST 57TH ST.
Telephone 3411 Plaza.

2

NEW YORK,

190

was made in the presence of a nurse. At another time the chief of the service met him at a medical meeting held in Heidelberg in August, and requested him to take charge of the service in October, and extend to his chief such courtesies as the chief customarily extends to his adjuncts. He replied that he would not take the service with a string attached to it, that he would however accept on condition that the chief should have no case in the ward during that time. When his attention was called to the fact that his position was untenable he replied that the demand should not have been made in Heidelberg.

Repeatedly, when he requested to have patients admitted when all the beds of the service were filled, and this was stated to him, he permitted himself to doubt the veracity of the statement.

The unconventionalities and discourtesies

Dr. E. Gruening,
36 EAST 57TH ST.
Telephone 3411 Plaza.

3
NEW YORK,

190

offered by this adjunct to his chief are too numerous to mention. The given instances suffice to show how thorny the path of the chief was made.

In spite of these repeated offenses the chief hoped that this man, who had rendered signal service to medicine, would ultimately fall in line, and for this reason he was not reported to the Board as he should have been.

With the assured support of the Board of Directors the chief of service can easily establish at any time such discipline as the rules and regulations of the Hospital require.

Yours truly

E. Gruening