

To avoid bombing by the Japanese, the main body of the central government had moved to outskirts of Chungking when we arrived there in 1942. The Department of Justice had moved to XieMaChang 歇马场 Xiaowan 小湾, about 60 kilometers from the city. It would take two hours for automobiles to go there from the city. A remodeled family temple of a landlord was used as office of the Department of Justice. We rented a section of the house of another landlord as our residence, about a half kilometer from the office. The house is at the foot of a high mountain. People had seen tigers not far away from the house. Although our house was quite close to office, the road was just a narrow path between rice fields by the hill. So a local simplified sedan-chair called HuaGan 滑竿 was employed for my father's means of transportation to and from the office.

The living condition in Xiaowan was even more backward than Shengxian. There was no electricity, no running water. Water was taken directly from the stream not far away from the house. There was not even a well nearby. You need to use charcoal, palm leaves, sand and alum as filter to make water clean enough for use in the kitchen. The water was quite muddy after a rain storm. It was also too luxurious to use kerosene lamps or candles for lighting. Vegetable oil lamp, practically just a dish of vegetable oil, was usually used for lighting. Naturally there was only makeshift toilet and no bath room. But communication is important, and we had a telephone extension connecting to the operator at the Department of Justice. That was one modern facility I had never seen and used back in Shengxian.

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我们 1942 年到的时候，为躲避日军轰炸，中央政府的主体部分已经转移到重庆外围。其中，司法行政部转移到歇马场的小湾，那儿离城区大约 60 公里，汽车到城里也要两个小时。一个地主的家庙改造后用作司法行政部的办公室。我们租了另一个地主宅子的一部分来往，距离办公室大约半公里。那个宅子在一座高山的脚下，有人在不远处见到过老虎。尽管我们住处离办公室很近，可那条路只是山边稻田间的一个窄窄的小径，所以我父亲往返办公室的交通工具就采用当地一种叫做滑竿的简单轿子。

小湾的生活条件比岷县更落后。没有电，没有自来水。水是从宅子不远处的一条小溪直接打来的，周围甚至连一口井都没有。你得用木炭、棕榈树叶、沙子和明矾来过滤得到厨房能用的干净水。雷雨之后的水很浑浊。照明不用煤油灯或者蜡烛，那太奢侈。照明通常用的是菜油灯，实际上就是一碟菜油。自然没有卫生间，只有临时马桶。但因为讯息十分重要，我们有一架电话通到司法行政部的总机，这是我在岷县所没有见到和用到的唯一的现代设备。