

The Hospitals in Honolulu.

Mrs. George W. Townsend sends some interesting information to *Hospital Topics* on the hospitals in Honolulu. She writes: "It has been my pleasure to visit the hospitals in Honolulu, and to be able to give your readers some information of kindred work in this far-off island city.

The Queen's Hospital was established in the year 1859, during the reign of Kamehameha the Fourth, its object, 'the relief of the indigent sick and disabled people of the Hawaiian Kingdom as well as for the use of such foreigners who may need to avail themselves of its privileges.' There had been agitation in behalf of a public hospital in the reigns of two preceding monarchs, but no action had been taken until the beloved Queen Emma, becoming fully aroused to the necessity of the humane work, took the matter in hand and personally canvassed the city for subscriptions. To that brave woman may be given the laurel for what is called the crowning act of the reign of Kamehameha the Fourth.

It is interesting to read from an old book ('The Island World of the Pacific') a description of the methods used to realise the hospital. 'It certainly was a novel sight to see a king and queen going about to gather names on a subscription list; but so it was, and day after day, and for this end, their majesties' carriages stopped the way.' Fairs were held, the Legislature helped, the ladies of Honolulu hemmed the sheets, and their daughters made the pillow cases; the King laid the corner stone, and in the year 1860 the hospital was completed and appropriately named for Queen Emma, to commemorate her great part in the work.

The hospital is located at the base of 'Punchbowl,' one of the picturesque hills which form a background to the city of Honolulu, and are a never-failing vision of beauty for the eye to rest upon. The hospital grounds contain 40 acres, highly cultivated, and the approach is through a magnificent avenue of royal palms, leading from Punchbowl Street to the main entrance. The building material is of white coral, cut in solid blocks, beautiful and enduring. The architecture is fine; there are new wings on either side, and spacious lower and upper verandas give enchanting views of tropical scenery. The buildings are lighted by electricity; an artesian well furnishes pure water, and no heating apparatus is required in this land of perpetual sunshine.

There are eleven wards and thirteen private rooms; there are also eight endowed beds and

an average of four hundred patients a year receive free treatment; including the pay patients, at rate of from one to three dollars a day, the annual average is about eight hundred. In 1902 thirty-three different nationalities were registered. The surgical equipment, and indeed that of every department, is entirely up to date, and will bear fair comparison with any modern hospital. There are two resident physicians (the superintendent and his assistant) and ten trained nurses. The Superintendent has a comfortable cottage, and a private dining-room in the main building. The nurses' cottage is in a charming location, has two stories with wide upper and lower lanais (verandas), and is surrounded with rare trees, ferns and flowers. A home more restful could not be imagined. There is no training school on these islands; all trained nurses at work here are graduates from hospitals in the States.

The question as to whether physicians of the homœopathic school are represented on the staff revealed the fact that only one disciple of the immortal Hahnemann resides in Honolulu. Should his services be desired by any patient, he may be called.

The hospital receives a subsidy from the government, and in addition to the endowment fund given by Queen Emma, has had liberal bequests and donations from the public. Its affairs are controlled by a board of trustees, nineteen in number, of which Governor Carter is the president. Women have no voice in the management of this great hospital, founded by a woman. No associate board or junior board helps to its maintenance or prosperity. I believe, however, that gifts or bequests from women are always welcome.

To the invalid who desires more privacy than a public hospital affords, a private sanitarium in the residential part of the city is available, with rates at fifty dollars per week.

The Oriental hospitals are very interesting. The Japanese Charity Hospital is located on Liliha Street, in the suburbs, and it commands a close view of the Tantalus Range, Pacific Heights, and Nuuanu Valley. It is easily reached by electric car. Dr. Kobayashi, a very distinguished physician, is in charge. One of the women missionaries of the Hawaiian Board, who speaks the Japanese language fluently, was my guide. We were cordially received by the housekeeper (a young Japanese woman), and, with her, visited all the wards and other parts of the hospital. The grounds cover about two acres; the building is of frame, two stories, and with the usual lanais.

There are three trained nurses from Japan; there are seven physicians on the staff, all

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