

Hawaiian Gazette

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REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

In view of the ever present scourge of leprosy and the constant decrease of the Hawaiian population, in spite of our salubrious climate and favorable surroundings, the report of the Board of Health always has and must continue to have an absorbing interest.

After a few remarks regarding the composition of the Board, the only change being the resignation of Dr. Emerson and the appointment of Dr. Kimball in his place, the report proceeds to discuss the subject of leprosy.

The report of Dr. Swift, the resident physician at the Molokai settlement appears as Appendix C. Perhaps the most interesting thing it contains is the remark that the disease appears to be undergoing a rapid modification and assuming an entirely new type in the Islands.

Dr. Arning made a like remark before the Honolulu Social Science Association a few years ago; in which he also intimated that it was not unlikely to run itself out in a short course of time, using the simile of vegetable growths which have run a course of introduction, luxuriant growth and gradual deterioration with final extinction.

years. Of an average of 1,035 residents, 385 died, making a per cent. of 37.20. It is suggested that the "Kapiolani Home" be removed to the vicinity of the Kalihi Receiving station to secure the fullest usefulness of that noble institution and because of the insalubrity of its present location.

ited so that dependence had been placed upon surface wells unquestionably the mortality from zymotic diseases must have been very much greater. The water supply is, however, comparatively good and abundant excepting upon rare occasions, but it is shown that even the water supply is more or less contaminated.

This report naturally gives much space to the subject of leprosy, which is indeed the one supreme and paramount question in national sanitary matters. But it by no means leaves other subjects untouched nor are several matters slighted.

The removal of the Government Dispensary in Honolulu to King street seems to have resulted in great benefit. The physician in attendance is able to give more hours to the work and applications on the part of Hawaiians and the poor of other nationalities have largely increased.

The matter of district hospitals is again reviewed and the reports of the physicians show that much useful work has been done by the hospitals at Wailuku, Maui, and Koloa on the Island of Kauai.

The reports from various district physicians which appear in the several appendices have already been referred to and noticed in a former article, for all of them treat of the subject of leprosy, but most of them treat of other matters besides, apparently answering a general series of six or seven questions put by the Board of Health to the physicians to answer.

figure, to furnish the medical assistance required under the contract. These agreements, it must be remembered, are not only with the Japanese but with other nationalities, more particularly the Portuguese.

The report urges very strongly, as has been done in years past, that the Board of Health be given the entire control of all matter required under the "Act to Mitigate."

The matter of garbage is treated of to considerable extent. Prof. Lyons of Punahou, at the request of the Board of Health, furnished an analysis of material dredged from the harbor and used to make land below Alakea and Richards streets.

Coming to the matter of vital statistics, the report calls attention, as has many times been done in the past, to the deplorable condition of the law or the practice throughout the country in this regard.

It is really not so much the lack of law or statutory provisions, for our law books contain many directions on the subject. It is a requirement, for instance, with a penalty for non-observance, that all births shall be fully reported to the school agent and he in turn reports to the Board of Education (or is supposed to do so).

the two years past is very full and complete, and is extremely interesting, but it only covers the one matter of disease and death. In both years the death rate among the Hawaiians was by far the heaviest.

A full and minute statement is given of the expenditures of the Board of Health and the encouraging suggestion is made that the expenses in the future may probably be decreased.

The entire report adds another valuable addition to the literature already furnished by the Board of Health in years past upon vital questions.

WALBRIDGE-PARKE.

A Very Pretty Wedding Quietly Celebrated - Some Elegant Presents - Those Present, Etc.

Tuesday evening there was a quiet gathering at the residence of Mrs. Anna S. Parke, on the Hawaiian Hotel premises, when her youngest daughter, Bernice, was united in marriage to Hon. Russell D. Walbridge of Wailuku, Maui.

The bride is very well known and has for many years been a prominent figure in society and musical circles.

In an adjoining room was a most attractive and valuable collection of silver and other ware, of almost every variety that a young house-keeper could covet, and in number more than we could find space to enumerate.

MARRIED. WALBRIDGE - PARKE - In Honolulu, June 3d, by the Rev. E. G. Beckwith, D.D., the Hon. Russell D. Walbridge, of Wailuku, Maui, to Miss Bernice B. Parke, of Honolulu.

New Advertisements.

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