

Legislative Reports 1884 ✓

REPLY OF THE PRESIDENT
— OF —
THE BOARD OF HEALTH,
RELATIVE TO INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED
TO GOVERNMENT PHYSICIANS.

HONORABLE GODFREY RHODES,
President Legislative Assembly.

SIR:—In compliance with the suggestion made by your Sanitary Committee, that the President of the Board of Health be requested to lay before the House in a printed form the instructions given to Government Physicians; I have now the honor to submit to the consideration of the House a copy of the general instructions which were issued to one of the Government Physicians (Dr. Mathes,) as a sample of the instructions issued to all of the physicians on receiving a district appointment.

In addition to these general instructions, special instructions are also given to a Government Physician in any case where such may seem necessary.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER M. GIBSON,
President Board of Health.

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,
Honolulu, H. I., Feb. 7, 1883.

DR. GEORGE LEWIS MATHES,
Honolulu.

SIR:—I am directed by His Excellency the President of the Board of Health to inform you that you have been appointed Government Resident Physician for the District of Koolaupoko, Oahu, your appointment to date from this date, at a salary of 1,500 dollars per annum. You will be supplied with medicines to the value of two hundred dollars per annum for gratuitous distribution among the sick poor of your district.

The Board expect that you will reside in the most central portion of your district, and the duties of your office will require you to travel frequently throughout the district, visiting the houses of native Hawaiians and others, and assisting to the best of your ability, both with your professional skill, advice, and medicines, all the indigent sick whom you may discover in your rounds, or who may be reported to you as in need of medical aid.

You will also perform such other medical or special duties as the Board may, from time to time, require at your hands.

It will be your duty to examine into all nuisances injurious to health that come under your observation, or that may be reported to you; to at once order the party or parties responsible for nuisances to have them removed within a reasonable time. If not so removed, you will make complaint to the nearest sheriff, who will issue a warrant for such party or parties, and proceed against them for maintaining a nuisance injurious to the public health. You will make quarterly reports of your professional labors, commencing from date up to March 31st; from that date, every three months. Proper

blanks and forms are herewith furnished you for this purpose. You will draw your salary at the expiration of every quarter; blank drafts on the Board are herewith furnished for this purpose.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Yours very respectfully,

FRED. H. HAYSELDEN.

Sec'y Board of Health.

BOARD OF HEALTH REGULATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT DISTRICT PHYSICIANS.

1. For the better care of the public health, as well as to assist those who may not otherwise be able to obtain medical help in time of distress, the Board of Health has the power to appoint a suitable person for each gubernatorial district of this Kingdom, of whose diplomas, degrees or other testimonials the Board shall have first satisfied itself, the said person to be called "Government Resident Physician for——— District."—(Civil Code, Section 280.)

2. The said Resident Physician shall reside in his district in any place which may be most convenient for his work, and shall receive such salary or other compensation for his services as the Board shall judge suitable.

3. The said Resident Physician shall gratuitously care for and treat all poor native-born Hawaiians, as well as persons of any other nationality who may be too poor to pay for medical treatment. For this purpose the Board of Health shall allow the said physician medicines, apparatus, or instruments to the value of fifty dollars per quarter, or two hundred dollars per annum.

4. To all persons except the aforesaid poor, and to employers on behalf of services rendered to their employees, the

said physician is free to make such charges for his services, medicines, and care as he may judge fit, or as are customary or reasonable.

5. The said Resident Physician shall make a professional tour of his district, if possible, twice a month, and shall send to the Board of Health at the end of every quarter a full report of the sanitary condition of his district. He shall also promptly and energetically examine and treat all cases of contagious, infectious, or epidemic diseases occurring within his district, and shall make immediate and full report of the same to the Board of Health, who will give him further instructions if necessary.

6. With respect to any leprous persons found in his district, the Resident Physician should examine and treat them in the ordinary course of his work, and when satisfied that such persons really are lepers, he should send notice of the same to the sheriff of his district, who will then order the said lepers to be forwarded to Honolulu for further examination as may be directed by the Board.

7. The Resident Physician for any district is also *ex-officio* vaccinating officer for the same district, and shall assist in carrying out the law regarding vaccination, making report of the work in this respect at such times and in such manner as the Board shall direct. The said Board will supply him with lymph as he shall require for that purpose.

8. In any case where the exigencies of the public health may require, the Board will grant such special powers to any Resident Physician as circumstances may demand.

9. If any Resident Physician shall desire leave of absence from his district for a time, he shall supply a suitable substitute, after having obtained the sanction of the Board of Health to his absence and its approval of said substitute.

10. The said Resident Physician shall perform such other medical or special duties as the care of the public health may require from time to time, and shall examine into all nuisances injurious to health which come to his knowledge, requiring the responsible parties to abate the same within a reasonable time; and on their refusal or neglect to do so, he shall make complaint thereof to any sheriff of the same district, who shall then take the necessary steps required by law to abate said nuisance.

11. The Resident Physician of any district which comprises a harbor or port is also authorized and empowered by the Board of Health to act as Port Physician for said harbors or ports.