

50 years

**community
welfare
service
1896-1946**

**P a l a m a
S e t t l e m e n t
H o n o l u l u
H a w a i i**

Golden Anniversary Report

Palama Settlement, Honolulu, Hawaii

FOREWORD

To appreciate Palama Settlement's origin and early development one must picture Honolulu of fifty years ago. At the turn of the century, Honolulu in some instances resembled any small American town; yet there were vast differences. The mixture of races, with their characteristic cultures and customs, their variety of dress, food and general living habits, all blended in the tropical setting, then, as now, gave Honolulu a character and personality all of its own and one which could not be duplicated anywhere under the American flag.

Picture, if you will, the business section, which was composed mainly of low framed buildings with corrugated iron roofs arranged in rather a haphazard fashion near the waterfront. Picture also the unpaved streets, the horse-drawn vehicles, with the ox-cart not an uncommon sight on the streets in those days. Taro patches, duck ponds, and even sugar cane fields scattered throughout the city gave an added rural flavor to the entire picture. It was in this general setting that Palama Settlement, first known as the Palama Chapel, came into being.

The first Chapel was sponsored by Central Union Church and was located on the makai side of King Street at the Liliha Street junction. This district at the time was settled partly with peoples still clinging to the customs of the Orient. Living in this vicinity, also, were some of the best Hawaiian and Chinese families,

many of whom later became prominent in the development of the social, political and economic life of the City of Honolulu and the Territory of Hawaii.

The good men who were founders of this mission were men of vision. These early social and religious activities laid the foundation for a truly great enterprise.

Through the years, Palama has played an increasingly important part in the lives of individuals and families of the Palama neighborhood. The early religious, social and recreational developments were followed by the development of medical and public health services, dental care and a vastly broadened program of community recreation and education. As a matter of fact, Palama Settlement has touched upon almost every basic human need during its fifty years of existence. Those who have labored long in the building of Palama Settlement have reason to be happy in the thought that thousands have been influenced and helped to a higher standard of living and given an opportunity to contribute to the advancement of our community.



Honorary President
Palama Settlement





P. C. Jones

THE RECORD

THE FOUNDERS. In the early summer of 1896 under the auspices of Central Union Church, P. C. Jones erected Palama Chapel at the junction of Liliha and King Streets. The first superintendent of the Chapel was the Rev. J. M. Lewis. From the very beginning these workers were concerned with the social welfare of the community. Boys' clubs, sewing circles, a kindergarten, athletics of all types and many other educational programs were soon developed.

One of the early directors of the Chapel was Mr. Hiram Bingham, Jr., who later became United States Senator from the State of Connecticut. The Rev. J. P. Erdman, the Rev. A. C. Logan and the Rev. Henry P. Judd were also identified with the Settlement in the early days.

In 1905 the operation of Palama Chapel was transferred from Central Union Church to the Hawaiian Evangelical Association and Mr. James A. Rath was brought from the mainland to direct the work.

FROM CHAPEL TO SETTLEMENT. In 1906 the name was changed from Palama Chapel to Palama Settlement and the control was shifted from the Hawaiian Evangelical Association to an independent board of trustees, composed of John R. Galt, chairman, A. Gartley, A. L. Castle, W. F. Dillingham, W. W. Hall, Dr. W. D. Baldwin and the Rev. D. Scudder. Services to the community were broadened and strengthened under this new management. A gymnasium and swimming pool were constructed, and other building facilities were made available to the Settlement.

During the next twenty years under the able leadership of Mr. Rath and Mr. Galt, Palama grew immeasurably in its effectiveness in the com-

munity. Valuable health services were added, a program for the prevention of tuberculosis was developed and the extremely valuable public health nursing program was started in Honolulu. Funds for this public health nursing service were supplied to Palama through the Shipper's Wharf Committee, which later became the Public Health Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu. Child health conferences, well baby clinics and prenatal clinics were also started. For many years Mabel Smyth was director of the nursing program. Scouting, camping and club activities of all types became an integral part of the Settlement program. Later, many of these services were developed on a citywide, rather than a strictly community basis.

THE NEW PLANT. By 1925 Palama had outgrown its buildings and grounds on King Street and it was necessary to seek a new location. A ten-acre site was purchased on Vineyard Street and large new buildings were constructed and occupied during the year 1925. The new buildings included a large double gymnasium, a swimming pool, locker rooms, an auditorium, recreation buildings, an administration building and a medical and dental building. There was also ample space for an athletic field, playground and tennis court. Many prominent kamaaina families participated in the building of the new Palama.

Incorporated in this new Palama was the Strong-Carter Dental Clinic which had been operating in a downtown section of Honolulu since 1920 as the Honolulu Dental Infirmary. This service was founded by Mrs. George R. Carter as a memorial to her father and mother, Henry A. and Helen P. Strong of Rochester, New York. This splendid clinic has provided continuous dental attention to the children in the first six grades of the public schools who could not afford to go to their own private dentists.



W. R. Castle



James A. Rath

One of the tragedies in the history of Palama Settlement was the untimely death of James A. Rath in May 1929. The new Palama which he did not have the time to enjoy stands as a monument to his great industry and vision.

Dr. Philip S. Platt was brought from the mainland in the fall of that same year as director of the Settlement. Shortly after his arrival at Palama, the Venereal Disease Clinic was taken over by Palama and the nursing work was affiliated with the Board of Health nursing service. During Dr. Platt's stay at Palama all aspects of the public health program were strengthened. Child health conferences and prenatal clinics were expanded and the medical and dental services were greatly enlarged.

THE WAR. The day of December 7, 1941 was certainly one to be remembered at Palama. Prior to this time an efficient first-aid unit had been developed under Dr. Joseph W. Lam, and very early on the day of the blitz Palama's medical and first-aid facilities were in action. Through the weeks and months following the attack on Pearl Harbor, Palama Settlement continued to be the first-aid and war service center for the neighborhood.

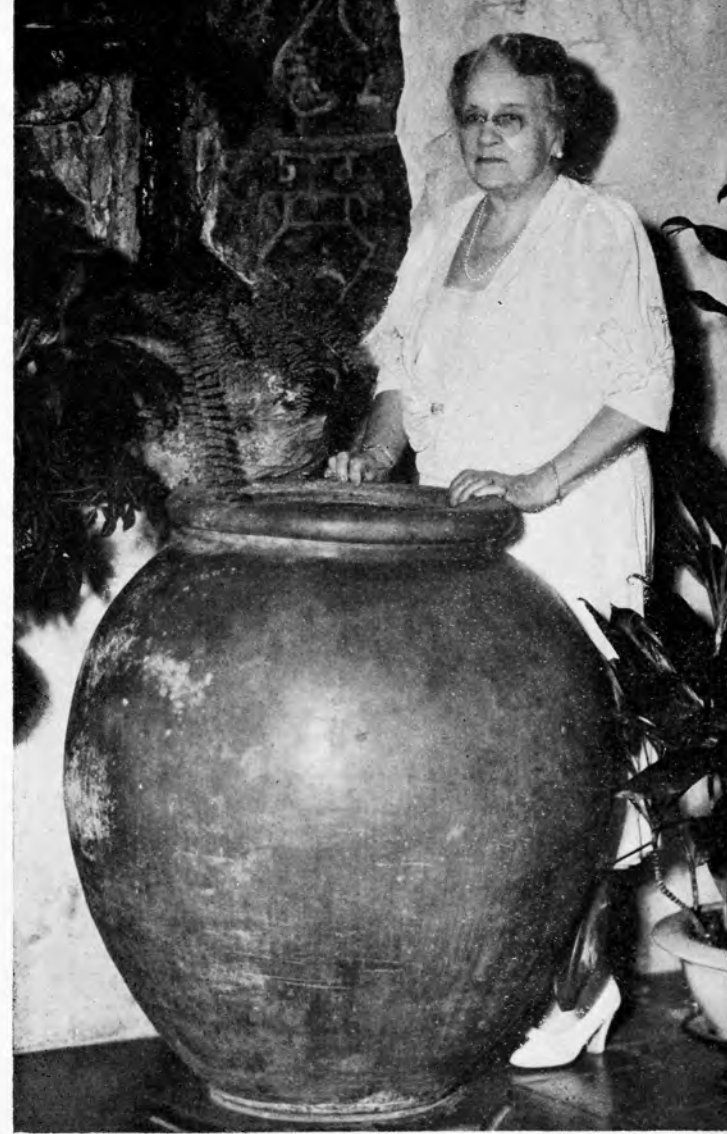
During the early months of the war the people of the Palama Neighborhood turned to the Settlement for protection and assistance with their war problems. They also looked to the Settlement for leadership in war-time work. For every civilian war service sponsored by Palama, there was always an abundance of willing hands.

In the summer of 1942 Dr. Platt left Palama to go to an important public health position on the mainland. Theodore R. Rhea was appointed to take his place.

During the long war years, besides continuing its program for the neighborhood, Palama did what it could to ease the loneliness of the service men who found themselves far from their families and friends. Thousands of service men used the athletic and recreational facilities, and many found Palama a friendly place in which to spend their off duty time. Diversional activities of all sorts were provided to the civilian community, and every effort was made to soften the impact of the war on the children and youth of the community.

Now in a world again at peace, Palama is dedicated to a program for

BETTER HEALTH,
for
BETTER CITIZENSHIP,
and for a
BETTER COMMUNITY



Mrs. George R. Carter





1946

FOR BETTER HEALTH

Palama Settlement provides out-patient medical service to all persons in the City of Honolulu who are unable to pay for private medical care.

In addition to the general medical clinic, Palama provides a number of special services.

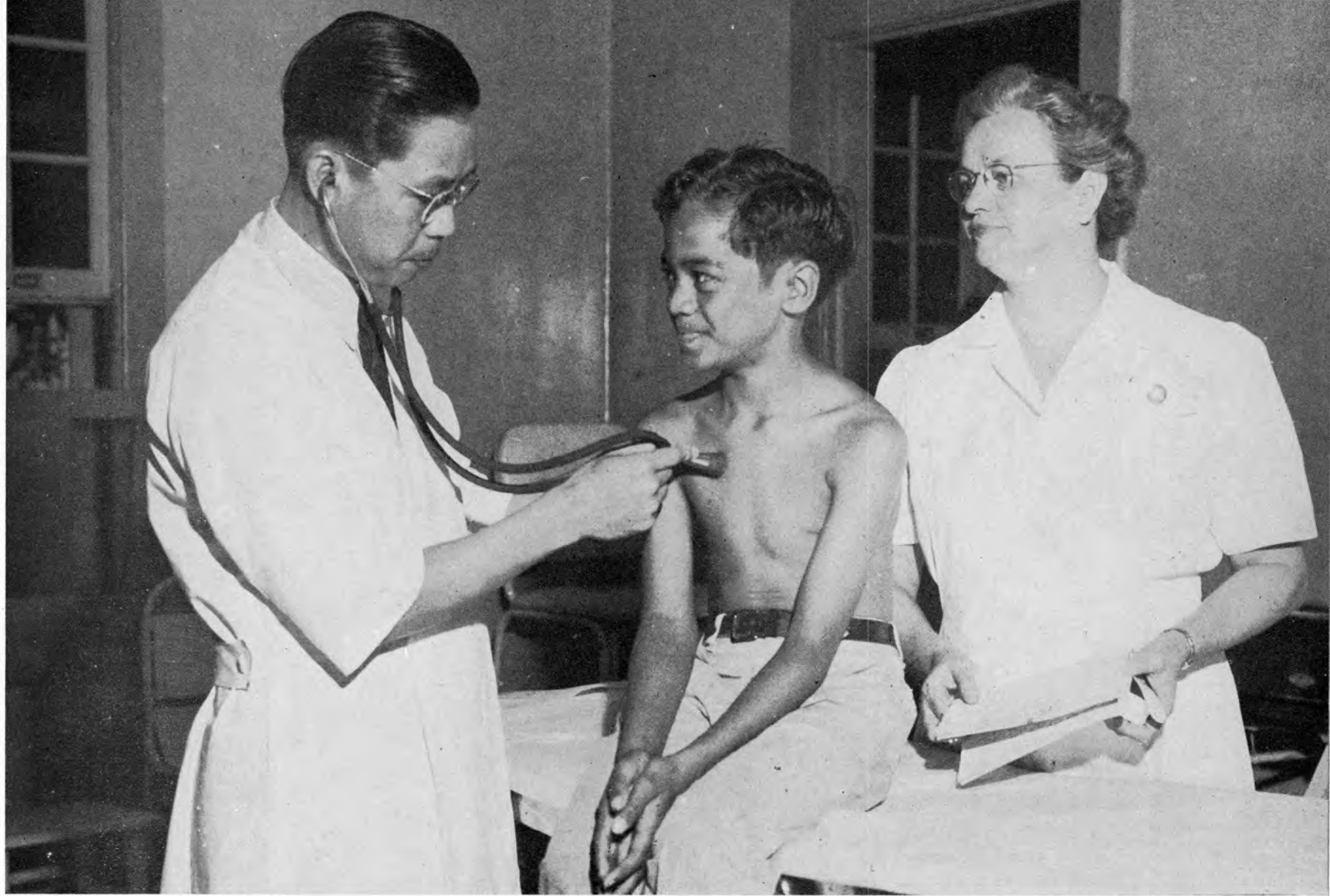


The heart clinic has been especially successful and a chest clinic for non-tuberculous patients has proven valuable. The eye, ear-nose-and-throat, neuro-psychiatric, child spacing and adult dental clinics have been operating successfully for many years.

Until recently Palama operated a venereal disease clinic and in cooperation with the Board of Health and other agencies pioneered the social hygiene program. Since July 1, 1945 the Board of Health has assumed complete financial responsibility for the venereal disease clinic although Palama continues to house the clinic and makes available to it other medical and social services.

The public health nursing program was another exceedingly valuable health service which was pioneered by Palama Settlement and the Public Health Committee of the Chamber of Commerce of Honolulu. The Chamber's Public Health Committee provided the finances and Palama administered the program. The Board of Health has recently assumed the entire responsibility for this program.

The health and social problems of each patient are examined by a medical social service worker. Palama either provides the needed service or sees that the patient is properly referred to another health or social welfare agency.





THE STRONG-CARTER DENTAL CLINIC

Children are not healthy if they have bad teeth. Like-wise, adults cannot enjoy full and abundant health if teeth have been lost or badly damaged in childhood. A dental hygiene program is therefore an exceedingly important part of a community health program.

Honolulu has one of the best children's dental hygiene programs in the world. The effectiveness of this program is based upon two separate but very closely coordinated services.

One of these services is provided in the school department whose corps of trained dental hygienists provide an excellent dental hygiene service to the children in the public schools of the city.

The other service is provided by the Strong-Carter Dental Clinic at Palama for all children who cannot afford private dental care.

The clinical and school services have developed side by side with common policies and objectives.

The private dentists have also contributed greatly to the development of this program. They have given unanimous endorsement to both of these services and have played an important part in the provision of dental care.

From the very beginning it was recognized that a community dental program must educate children and parents if it is to be effective. Emphasis has been placed upon prevention rather than remedial measures alone.

The Strong-Carter Dental Clinic at Palama was founded by Mrs. George R. Carter as a memorial to her father and mother, Henry A. and Helen P. Strong of Rochester, New York. It continues to receive its support from the Strong Foundation.



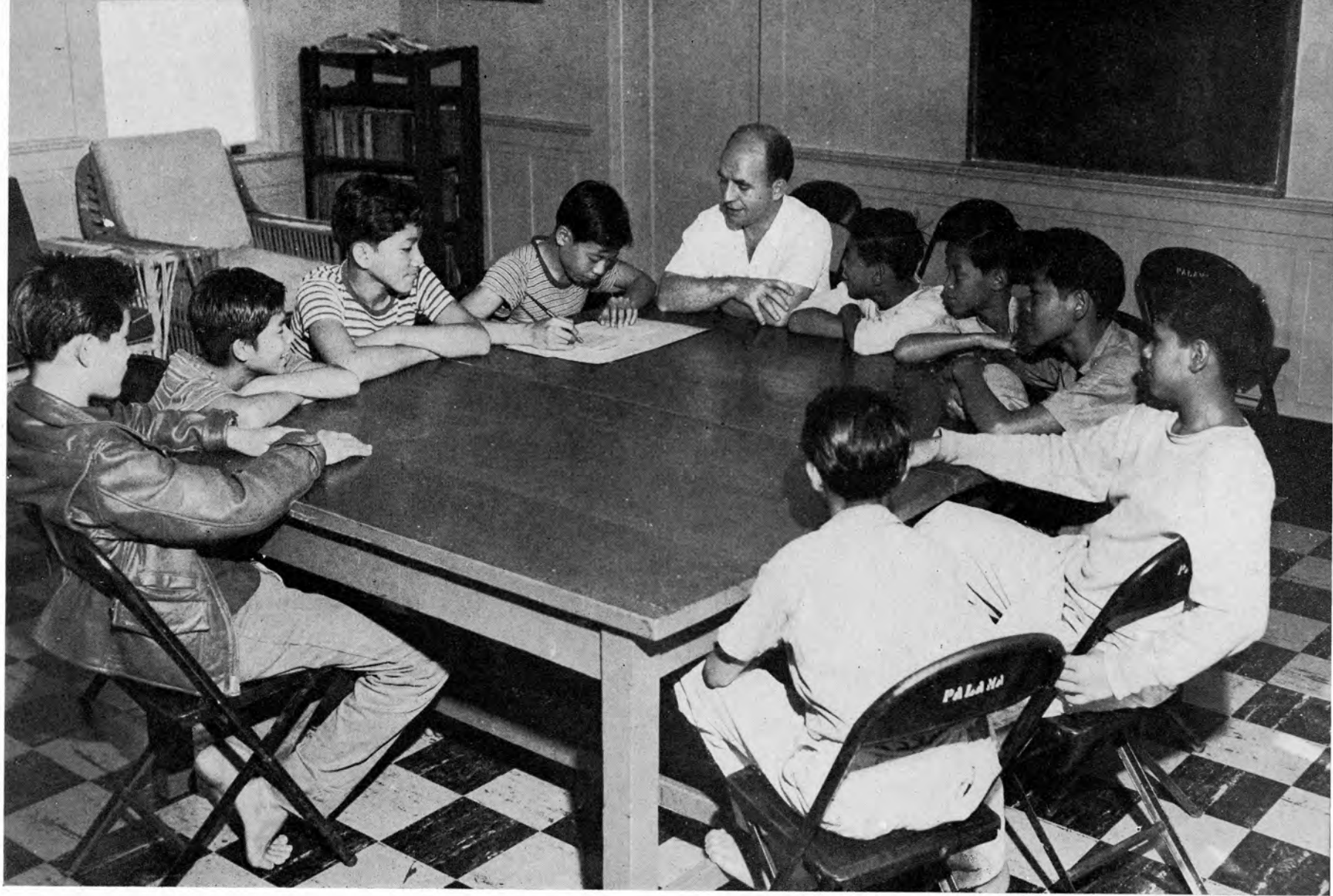
FOR BETTER CITIZENS

Much of the work in the neighborhood center department has to do with fun, good times, play and social events. It is only natural that this should be so—fun and play is the very atmosphere in which we function. The day by day business of the child is play—his attitudes are largely shaped by the type of play in which he is engaged.

The high school boy and girl find their richest and most cherished associations in parties, picnics, games and in the soft lights and sweet music of the dance. Youth and adults alike hold dear those moments of fun and happiness that have colored their lives with a richer hue. It is in these moments that the heart and the mind of man are most receptive and open to all things around him. This is the atmosphere wherein attitudes of cooperation, of goodwill, of decency and fair play, of usefulness and purpose, and the will to live a full life are most readily caught, provided there is *competent, trained leadership for all activities*. With good leadership, children, as well as adults, will grow and flourish to the limit of their capacities. This is the goal for which we work.



A friendly welcome is given all who come for membership in the neighborhood center.



SMALL CLUBS . . . THE CORE OF THE PROGRAM



AND FUN FOR ALL

PROGRAMS FOR LITTLE FOLKS

Play is the all important business of childhood. A child's whole outlook on life may be determined thru his play experiences. It is Palama's concern to give each child valuable play experience in the various children's activities in the Settlement. These include a tiny tots time twice weekly, many play clubs, crafts, music, a supervised playground that is attractive and informal, and a special game room for small children.

As a special emphasis in children's education Palama conducts an all-day preschool unit throughout the school year and for six weeks in the summer.



ADULTS TOO PARTICIPATE

Every nation of the Pacific, as well as many other parts of the world, is represented in the cosmopolitan Palama community. The blending of these races and their respective cultures into an American way of living is a great and important task.

Japanese, Filipinos, Chinese, Koreans, Portuguese, Hawaiians and people of other races participate in the adult program at the Settlement. Classes are offered in English, speech, cooking, sewing, music, art, social dancing and in other cultural and leisure-time activities.



A group of Japanese women learn to read and speak English. This group of women organized a club and during the war worked for the Red Cross and assisted in many other valuable war services.

FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY

Palama Settlement through the years has developed a community point of view. It has taken its place among the other organizations on a territory-wide basis in an effort to attain better health and welfare services throughout the Territory as a whole. Likewise, it has also worked in close cooperation with its neighbors in the Kalihi-Palama section of the city.

Palama Settlement has taken an active part in the development of a Kalihi-Palama Community Council,

which has been established recently for the purpose of drawing together representatives of organizations, as well as interested individuals, into a council for community improvement. This organization was responsible for obtaining an appropriation at the last meeting of the Territorial Legislature for a Public Library for the community, and has also taken the lead in a number of other attainments of considerable importance.



A meeting of the executive board of the Kalihi-Palama Community Council at Palama Settlement.

WHITHER BOUND

Through the years Palama has tried to provide services to meet the basic human needs arising in the community. Palama has been a pioneer in the development of many health and welfare services. There are still, however, vast unexplored areas. Group work, health education, child guidance, community organization and adult education are all fields which are still relatively undeveloped. Palama, in cooperation with other agencies, will undoubtedly have a hand in the exploration of these and other areas of human needs.

A greater effort will be made to develop the feeling in the community that Palama Settlement belongs to the people, that it is their clubhouse, their community center and their friendly neighbor. Loyalty to the institution and what it stands for will increase and the people of the community will learn to give to the Settlement as well as to receive its benefits.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT - 1945

PALAMA SETTLEMENT

INCOME

Balance on Hand January 1, 1945	\$ 8,104.40
Invested funds	1,946.67
Donations from other Islands	1,450.00
Institutional receipts	17,757.42
City & County Government	35,950.00
Territorial Government	1,250.00
Rentals	1,271.00
Honolulu Community Chest	81,915.00
Sundries	978.13

\$150,622.62

EXPENDITURES

Administration	\$ 20,111.77
Maintenance	14,819.63
Vacation Camp	863.06
Neighborhood Center	59,755.27
Medical	50,390.87
Other disbursements	4,758.56

Refund to Community Chest	\$3,711.44
Purchase of O. C. Buildings	400.00
Milk transfer to special account	608.13
Reserve fund transfer to bank	38.99

\$150,699.16

Deficit at end of year	\$ 76.54
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STRONG-CARTER DENTAL CLINIC

INCOME

Balance on Hand January 1, 1945	\$ 7,475.75
Strong Foundation	28,881.95
City & County Government	3,600.00
Fees from patients	1,868.20
Sale of scrap metal	41.91
Rental of clinic	75.00

\$ 41,942.81

EXPENDITURES

Balance on hand December 31, 1945	\$ 7,840.30
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34,102.51

PALAMA SETTLEMENT, HONOLULU, HAWAII

OFFICERS

W. F. Dillingham.....	<i>Honorary President</i>
A. L. Castle.....	<i>Honorary Vice-President</i>
C. Dudley Pratt.....	<i>President</i>
F. J. Pinkerton, M.D.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
John T. Waterhouse.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
George R. Carter.....	<i>Vice-President</i>
Dudley W. Smith.....	<i>Secretary</i>
Young, Lamberton & Pearson.....	<i>Auditor</i>

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

George H. Angus	W. F. Dillingham	*Herbert M. Richards
F. M. Branch, D.D.S.	Carter Galt	Shunzo Sakamaki, Ph.D.
George R. Carter	A. S. Hartwell, M.D.	A. E. Steadman
A. L. Castle	Rev. H. P. Judd	Dudley W. Smith
Mrs. Ines Cayaban	Mitsuyuki Kido	F. K. Sylva, D.D.S.
M. F. Chung, M.D.	Fred K. Lam, M.D.	H. H. Walker, M.D.
C. M. Cooke, Jr., Ph.D.	S. M. Lowrey	A. L. Y. Ward
Chas. M. Cooke, III	Charles A. Moore, Ph.D.	John T. Waterhouse
George P. Denison	F. J. Pinkerton, M.D.	*Chas. L. Wilbar, Jr., M.D.
Lowell S. Dillingham	C. Dudley Pratt	William Winter, M.D.
	* ex-officio	

DIRECTOR

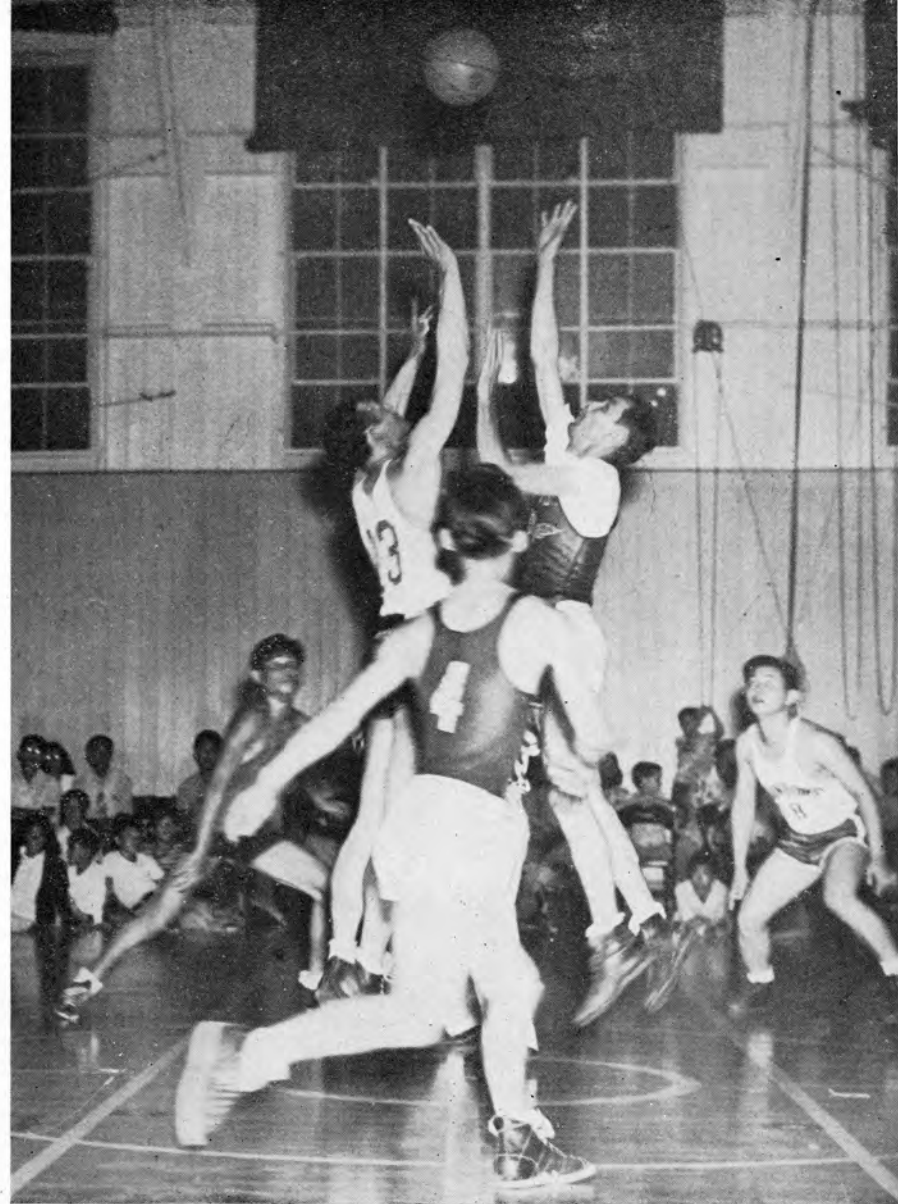
Theodore R. Rhea

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Medical Department.....	J. W. Lam, M.D., <i>Director</i>
Neighborhood Center Department.....	Paul B. Anderson, <i>Director</i>
Strong-Carter Dental Clinic.....	John H. Dawe, D.D.S., <i>Acting Director</i>

BETTER HEALTH,
for
BETTER CITIZENS,
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Palama is a Member of the Honolulu Community Chest



24. 10. 1954

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