

HELP THE NEGRO HELP HIMSELF

GREAT NEED OF SPECIALLY EDUCATED NEGRO CHILD DOCTORS

to

Tell you of the Mercy-Wheatley Ward for Colored Children at Wheatley Hospital, 1826 Forest Avenue, and to ask you to help in its work.

Address: Director of Colored Work Mercy Hospital, Kansas City, Mo,

THE COLORED PEOPLE

May be we gave them suffrage before they were ready for it, and then, again, may be we didn't—but anyhow, we've carried them along with sometimes grudging, sometimes over-zealous charity, and tried our best to make them beggars just as we did the Indians. The two have responded as differently as might have been expected from their natures. The Indians fought and fought and died. The Negroes laughed and laughed and multiplied—and in spite of every handicap, continued to advance. In Greater Kansas City there are fifty thousand of them, and they want to take care of their own. Their leading men and women see the utter unwisdom in the talk of the "Social Equality of the Races." They neither seek nor desire it. The shades on the faces of the children in their schools is not of their choosing. The little faces grow whiter instead of blacker. Then, whose is the fault?

The Negroes, under great disadvantages, are doing good work at Wheatley Hospital. Left entirely to themselves, they will, in time, have an "A" grade institution, though in all the United States there is no place where they can study the diseases of children. It is not fair that it should be so. Most white doctors will not care for colored children. Most white clinics don't want them. White hospitals exclude them or force upon them the charity service which has been their curse. They have physicians as well educated as are many members of the Jackson County Medical Society, and they got their education under difficulties which few white men would have faced. These colored physicians want to care for their own sick. In time they will do it, but why make them wait? Why let them spread Tuberculosis, when alone they can not avoid doing so? Why not put the Wheatley Hospital on its feet, establish a number of colored clinics run by colored men, with such white assistance as is needed, give them such a proportion of Budget money as their work warrants, and then hold the Negroes to take care of their own and observe the laws of sanitation, as in their enforced crowding they are now unable to do? Humanity as well as self-interest, demands it. A needlessly crippled little Negro child is a charge upon the community, exactly as is a white one. Let's make the number less. Mr. F. C. Niles started the work with a \$5,000 gift, and Mercy has established at Wheatley Hospital a CHILD'S WARD. Object: The Furnishing to Colored Physicians and Nurses Post Graduate Instruction in the Care of Sick and Crippled Children. Mercy hopes to keep open this ward for one or two years, and then, unless still needed, withdraw from Wheatley Hospital. White doctors and white supervisors are in charge of the Model Ward. Colored Nurses are under instruction; colored doctors are given proper advantages. There are seven beds, and the service to the children in these beds is as good as can possibly be maintained. Children under ten years are received, such children being selected by the Entrance Committee of Wheatley Hospital. "God grant that I may live upon this earth and face the tasks which every morning brings. And never lose the glory and the worth of humble service and the simple things." —Eddie Guest.

The Anti-Tuberculosis Society can not kill out white Tuberculosis until it can control black

Tuberculosis, and the Negroes can not co-operate unless they have a proper place in which to build their homes.

“The Negro race in the United States in order to properly care for the health of its own members, needs an annual increase of 450 in the number of colored physicians. The actual increase is 63. The average number of colored dentists graduating each year is also 63. In order to take care of the needs of the race, there should be 500 graduates each year. Ninety Negro trained nurses are graduated each year, while a yearly addition of 600 is needed to minister to the sick among the colored people.” (The Outlook, July 18, 1923)

“I would not care to climb so high that I could never hear the children at their play—
Could only see the people passing by, yet never hear the cheering words they say.” —

Eddie Guest.

THE MERCY-WHEATLEY WARD

A Post Graduate School for Colored doctors and nurses, a place where these may become proficient in the medical and surgical care of sick children. The Ward is under the direction of Mercy

Hospital, which institution assumes responsibility for its proper management. All ethical Colored physicians and nurses are invited to take advantage of the instruction offered.

THE STAFF

The Staff of white doctors at the Mercy-Wheatley Child Ward is chosen from among the best known physicians of Kansas City. These doctors are connected with the various large hospitals, are thoroughly in sympathy with the work being carried on at Wheatley and give voluntary services for its accomplishment.

SELECTION OF PATIENTS

Children will be so chosen as to give the best possible range of subjects for the study of child diseases.

ATTENDING PHYSICIANS

Each child will be attended by a physician or surgeon who is a recognized authority on the subject illustrated by the patient. Each of these doctors will give all possible instruction on the case under treatment and will furnish a given number of questions covering the scope of his or her demonstrations, which questions will be offered as a part of the final examination tests.

How is a child admitted to the Mercy- Wheatley Ward? Apply directly at the desk at Wheatley Hospital for information.

CERTIFICATES OF ATTAINMENT

Post Graduate students having made satisfactory grades in all examinations and having shown a commendable zeal in the study of ward cases and having been faithful in attendance at lectures and demonstrations, will at the end of the second year of the Mercy-Wheatley work be given a certificate signed by leading physicians of Kansas City, which certificate shall declare the holder worthy of the respected title of Pediatrician and prepared to give medical attention to all sick children committed to his care.

TREATMENT OF CHILDREN

No Doctors' Fees

No experimentation of any kind will be practiced. Each child will receive absolutely free of physician's or surgeon's fees, the very best scientific care, and ward work at all proper hours is

open for the inspection of nonprofessional as well as professional visitors. Expenses to children will be entirely covered by a very reasonable charge for hospital service, which charge goes, not to Mercy Hospital, but directly to Wheatley Hospital, as an indispensable part of the Hospital's running expense.

POST GRADUATE STUDENTS

A Post Graduate student should make a daily study of ward cases, should be faithful in attendance at lectures and demonstrations, must be unchangeably courteous, and must provide for his own use two ward aprons of correct pattern and material. These aprons must be left in the hands of the Ward Superintendent, and must be laundered at the expense of the owner. Students, also, must make themselves ready to take such examinations as will from time to time be given. These examinations will cover subject matter presented by ward cases, lectures and demonstrations, will be posted one week in advance and will be considered in the decision as to the final standing of the applicant and his consequent worthiness as Pediatrician.

NURSES

The nurses in training are members of the regular class of the Hospital. Primarily, under the direction and control of the Superintendent of Nurses, they receive their special instruction in Child Work through a two months course in the Children's Ward. The Superintendent of the Ward and the Superintendent of Nurses cooperate in everything looking to the good of the entire course of Nurse development. Post Graduate students received on approval.

WARD HISTORY AND PLACE

The Ward was started by the gift of Mr. F. C. Niles. Much had to be done in the way of extensive alteration of the building and the purchase of equipment. Colored clubs and individuals added their help, and with much wanted additional assistance from the friends of the colored people it is hoped to be able to keep open the Mercy- Wheatley Ward for at least two years. At the end of two years, if desired, the Mercy workers will withdraw from Wheatley Hospital, hoping to leave behind a group of specially educated, thoroughly approved Pediatricians for the children of their race, as well, also, as a large number of high grade colored nurses, prepared to be a credit to Wheatley Hospital and to the profession into which they have graduated.

WHAT WE ASK YOU TO DO

If you don't believe that Negro physicians and nurses should be prepared to take care of sick and crippled Negro children and if you don't believe that it is our duty to share with them the results of our experience and education, then, do, please give us the benefit of your silence.

If you are still estimating the colored people by the measurement of slavery times, come over to Wheatley and get acquainted. If you really want to help, do it in this way:

(1) Give us money for the general work.

(2) Form a Mercy-Wheatley Club.

(3) Try to really understand the needs and problems of the colored people and encourage us by your good words.

I wonder how it would seem
If I were black, or red, or brown,
Instead of white man:—Would I
dream Of handicaps that held me down,
Of social rights and racial creeds?
In doing fine and worthy deeds,

Which might have seemed perhaps denied?
Would just the color of my skin Deprive me of life's higher things,
And make me hopeless e'er to win The joy that good performance brings? Not so, indeed! For
worthwhile men Are not confined to some one race,
Or any color, creed or ken:—
It's brains that count, not form or face.
—LeRoy Huron Kelsey.