

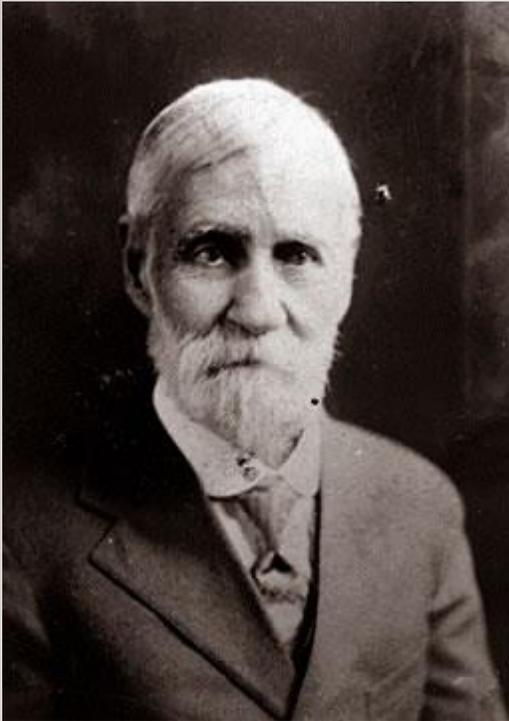
# THE DOCTOR IS IN: EARLY MEDICINE IN FRESNO COUNTY

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SANITARIUMS TO HOSPITALS

# THE FRESNO SANITARIUM AND DR. MERRITT G. KELLOGG

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When surgical cases were needed, the early physicians in Fresno County did what they could in their medical offices or in the homes of patients. It was in 1888 that Moses J. Church, an early Fresno pioneer known as “Fresno’s Father of Irrigation” for his development of irrigation canals and water systems, established the first private sanitarium in Fresno. Church opened the Fresno Sanitarium on M Street with the assistance of Dr. Merritt G. Kellogg, a prominent Seventh Day Adventist who was known for his hydrotherapy and nutrition treatment methods for smallpox. When an epidemic of smallpox broke out in 1870, Dr. Kellogg used this sanitarium to treat patients afflicted by the virus using water treatments and diet. Dr. Kellogg lost only one patient, an infant, out of 11 cases. Another doctor using drugs lost four out of five. Dr. Kellogg moved on to do missionary and medical work in the South Pacific and Australia before moving back to California to open another sanitarium in Healdsburg.

# FRESNO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL BEGAN AS BURNETT SANITARIUM

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Fresno Community Hospital Fresno physicians J. D. Davidson, J. L. Maupin, W. T. Maupin, George Aiken, and Dwight H. Trowbridge, Sr. joined forces with boarding house proprietor Celia Burnett to form a private hospital at the corner of Fulton and Calaveras streets in 1897. The 30-room hospital was called the Burnett Sanitarium, the name that it retained until it was sold to a non-profit corporation in 1945 when the directors changed the name to the Fresno Community Hospital.





**1897:** Burnett Sanitarium is established.

**1905:** Three-story building at corner of Fresno and S streets opens.

**1916:** Five-story Burnett Annex is built.

**1945:** Burnett Sanitarium is sold to nonprofit corporation, named Fresno Community Hospital.

**1959:** Fresno Community Hospital opens 204-bed, five-story building.

**1963:** Fifth floor of Fresno Community Hospital is completed; adds 69 beds for total 299 beds.

**1965:** Dedication ceremonies for new Clovis Memorial Hospital.

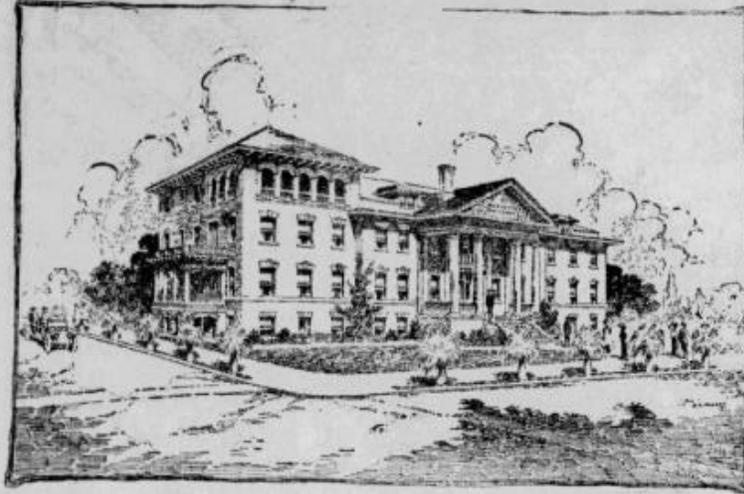
**1972:** Fresno Community Hospital's 10-story tower is added.

**1979:** Fresno Community Hospital becomes Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center, merges with Clovis Memorial Hospital, renamed Clovis Community Hospital.

**1982:** Fresno Community Hospital and Medical Center and Sierra Hospital Foundation incorporate; form Community Hospitals of Central California.

**1988:** Clovis Community Hospital opens with 120 beds.

# Burnett Sanitarium Makes Remarkable Record for Year



BURNETT SANITARIUM, FRESNO

Of 990 Patients, Only 25  
Deaths Result — \$20,000  
Addition to Main Building  
Now Completed

A record, unequalled perhaps by any other hospital or sanitarium in the state, has been made for the past year by the Burnett Sanitarium of this city. During the period of one year there have been nine hundred and ninety patients at the Burnett for

treatment, operation, etc. The diseases and troubles of these patients have been of many natures and of these nine hundred and ninety, there have been seven hundred and twenty-five operations, resulting in a total of only twenty-five deaths, making a percentage of less than two and one-half per cent.

This is a record of which any sanitarium should be proud, and no doubt the directors of the Burnett Sanitarium look with great pride upon the year's remarkable showing.

Not satisfied with this fine showing, however, the Burnett is constantly improving its superior methods of taking care of the sick. A twenty-thousand

dollar addition to the main building has just been completed. A departure in the remodeling has been the installing of a silent light enunciator system, such that all calls for nurses, etc., can be made by light flashes instead of bells, thus reducing all noises to a minimum within the confines of the sanitarium. A complete telephone system has also been installed throughout the entire building, as well as an indirect method of lighting the different rooms, so that there is no strong light to affect the patients' eyes.

Under these conditions "The Burnett" is classed as one of the finest and most modern of any sanitarium in California.

LARGE MAPS WILL

one corner will be a white space reserved for each county and the public

BI-COUNTY W. C. T. U.

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In 1903 the institution had grown to the extent that the doctors felt justified in buying land at the corner of S and Fresno streets. A new three-story building was erected facing Fresno Street. In 1916 the institution spent \$100,000 to erect an additional five-story structure on S Street, accommodating 120 patients, which became the main part of the hospital. Year after year, expansion occurred to better meet the needs of patients and physicians.



Burnett Sanitarium, Fresno, Cal

# FRESNO COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

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- Major growth occurred in 1959 with the opening of a new 204-bed, five-story hospital at the corner of Fresno and R streets. The original five-story addition (1916) became the "Burnett Annex " at the east wing of the new building. In 1972 a new ten-story tower was built, increasing the capacity of Fresno Community Hospital to 464 beds. This new tower became known as the hospital's West wing. Also, in 1972, the hospital opened Fresno's third full-scale emergency room for around-the-clock coverage. By the early 1980s, Fresno Community Hospital also housed a critical care center, large hemodialysis unit, a fifty one-bed mental health unit, large laboratory facilities, and the Leon S. Peters Rehabilitation Center, which opened an outpatient component on Fresno and Bullard streets in 1989.



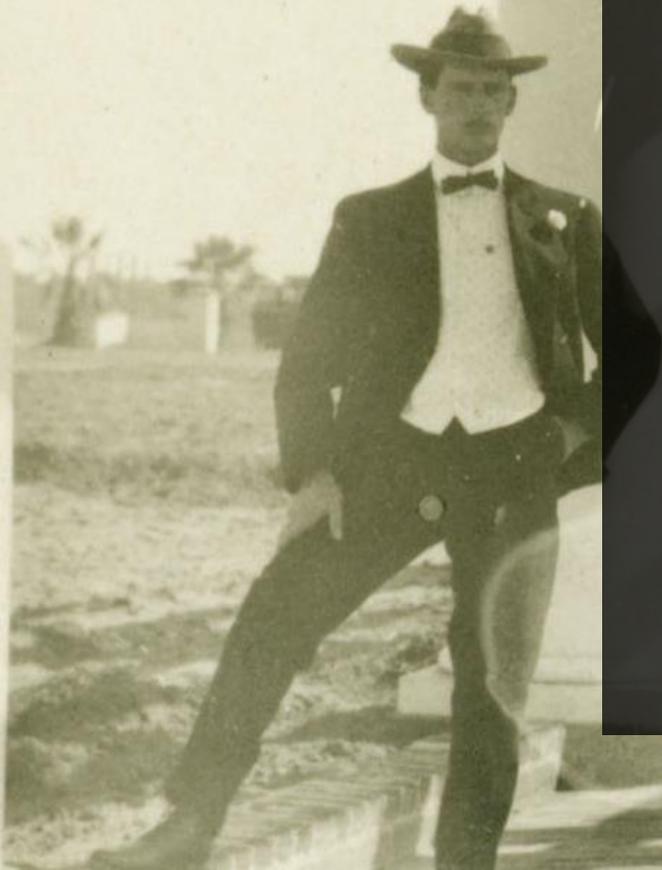


Fresno County Hospital  
~1910

Nurses

Fresno County Hospital

~1910





GATHERING AT FRESNO COUNTY HOSPITAL IN THE EARLY 1900s

Sitting in front, left to right, Dr. Fred H. Byers, Dr. J. D. Davidson, County Physician; in rear, 3rd from left, Roy Pugh, County Farm Superintendent, 6th is a Mr. Bowen, 7th is George Hamilton.

## Fresno County Hospital

# WISH-I-AH SANITARIUM



- In 1927, Dr. Walter Trudeau had designed a healing process for tuberculosis patients, which involved TB sanitariums in mountainous regions where the air was clean and fresh, extended bed rest, sunbathing, and a gradual return to taking meals and walking. Many counties in the U.S. followed the Trudeau method and built special sanitariums in the mountains. In Fresno County, this was the Wish-I-Ah Sanitarium in the foothills of the Sierra. The sanitarium held less than 100 patients, including both adults and children.
- Dr. Morris was the chief physician in charge of tuberculosis patients who came to the Fresno County Clinic for care. He made the decision as to which patients had the will to live under his rigid routine. Dr. Morris and his wife had a house on the grounds of Wish-I-Ah and he was involved in the progress of each patient. If one did not live up to the rules of care Dr. Morris set, it was goodbye to Wish-I-Ah Sanitarium and hello Fresno County Hospital. The WPA got involved in February 1936 by hiring a “graduate nurse from relief roll to assist Supt. and Medical Director of Wish-i-ah Sanitorium, to assemble data and keep records pertaining to tuberculin as a diagnostic measure.” The facility closed in 1955 and later reopened privately as a nursing and rest home.

## Wish-I-Ah Tuberculosis Sanitarium

### HOSPITAL SITES TO BE VIEWED BY ENGINEER

#### Water Supply, Sunshine Chief Requisites Of Sanitarium

The prospective site of the Fresno county tubercular sanitarium will shortly be inspected by the state sanitary engineer, the Fresno board of supervisors was informed yesterday by Mrs. Edyth Tate-Thompson, director of tuberculosis for the state board of health.

The engineer will look over the various Auberry sites, particularly the George Smith site, which is favored.

In her communication she also stated that the water supply should be sufficient for 100 gallons of water a day per patient. Investigations at the Ahwahnee, Madera county, and Stonybrook, Kern county, sanitarium have shown need of this much water, she stated.

The water supply will have to be developed, whatever the site eventually chosen for the tubercular sanitarium. This will be done by boring wells or more probably by piping water from some distance. The cardinal requisites are plenty of sunshine, good air at the right altitude and dry land. Pure water can be secured, though at some cost, in many places in Fresno county foothills.

### New Wish-I-Ah Sanitarium At Auberry Wins Public Praise

Something had to be done to relieve congestion in the tubercular department at the county hospital, so the board of supervisors built the Wish-I-Ah sanitarium at Auberry.

It was completed at a cost of \$200,000 last year and was one of the outstanding pieces of work consummated by the supervisors during 1929.

Those who have visited the sanitarium agree that it was money well spent. Patients are sent there who have only a light touch of tuberculosis and who should not be confined in the general hospital in the same room with chronic and advanced cases.

The name preventorium has been properly applied to the institution. It is intended to prevent tuberculosis rather than to cure it. High altitude and the clean atmosphere of the mountains have led some authorities to say that Wish-I-Ah is one of the most desirable sanitariums of its kind in the state.

The sanitarium is not overcrowded at the present time, but the number of patients is rapidly increasing. Last month the average number of patients were day was 44. The average per capita daily cost was \$3.25.

Dr. Everett Morris is head of the institution. A staff of six nurses and about 18 miscellaneous employees, such as cooks, mechanics and waitresses, represent the service the sanitarium is offering.



# FRESNO COUNTY HOSPITAL Doing Double Duty



CONVULSIONS



ACCIDENT RAGE



FREE CLINIC



ZONITICULUS



HOSPITAL STAFF

## New Wish-I-Ah Sanitarium At Auberry Wins Public Praise

The new Wish-I-Ah sanitarium at Auberry, Fresno County, is being widely praised for its modern equipment and excellent location. The building is a fine example of modern architecture and is well equipped with all the latest medical apparatus. The location is ideal, being situated in a beautiful, healthy environment with plenty of sunshine and fresh air. The sanitarium is expected to be a great benefit to the community, providing a place where patients can receive the best possible care.

## Three Counties To Honor Three Appellate Judges

Three counties in California are planning to honor three prominent appellate judges. The judges are well-known for their contributions to the legal system and their dedication to justice. The honor will be bestowed upon them for their long and distinguished careers. The ceremony is expected to be a significant event in the legal community.

## Auto Kills 100 Sheep

An automobile accident has resulted in the death of 100 sheep. The car, driven by a local farmer, lost control and plowed into a flock of sheep in a field. The driver was not injured, but the loss of the sheep is a significant financial blow to the farmer. The incident has raised concerns about road safety in rural areas.



REV'S SURGICAL

## By SALVO MEDICIAN

It is a common sight to see a patient in a hospital bed, looking pale and weak. The patient is often unable to move or even to get up. This is a sign of a serious condition, and the patient needs immediate medical attention. The doctor will examine the patient and determine the cause of the problem. Treatment may include medication, surgery, or other medical procedures. The patient's recovery will depend on the severity of the condition and the effectiveness of the treatment.

## OVERCROWDING

The overcrowding of hospitals is a serious problem that needs to be addressed. Many hospitals are operating at full capacity, and patients are often waiting for weeks to get into a hospital. This is a major barrier to receiving medical care, and it can lead to worse health outcomes. There are several reasons for the overcrowding, including an aging population, an increase in chronic diseases, and a shortage of hospital beds. Solutions include building new hospitals, expanding existing ones, and improving the efficiency of the healthcare system.

## Legislators, 200 Strong, Will Meet At Yosemite Today

The 200 members of the California State Legislature will convene at Yosemite National Park today. The location is chosen for its scenic beauty and its symbolic significance as a natural resource. The legislators will discuss various bills and issues, including environmental protection, education, and healthcare. Yosemite is a popular destination for tourists, and the legislators' presence is expected to boost the local economy.

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# Where Mountain Air Will Help County Fight Disease

Mountain air and unlimited sunshine will abet medical science in fighting disease at the new Fresno County Tuberculosis sanitarium north of Auberry. This is an airy pavilion for patients, one of six buildings included in the "Wish-I-Ah" sanitarium. County officials and civic organizations will join in dedication ceremonies of the sanitarium on the afternoon of June 1.—Photo by Lloyd Craig, The Republican cameraman.



PHOTO BY LLOYD CRAIG

# A NEED FOR JAPANESE SANITARIUMS

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The Japanese immigrants, and native-born in California, faced a campaign of discrimination. Many Japanese immigrants had difficulty obtaining medical care because of high levels of discrimination against Asian immigrants. The American-born Nisei medical school graduates were often excluded from internships at hospitals. Fresno had two Japanese-American hospitals soon after the end of the Spanish Influenza epidemic. The first was called the Okonogi Sanitarium after its physician, Dr. B. Okonogi, and was reportedly the first Japanese hospital in the State of California. Dr. Hashiba started a second sanitarium in 1922.

Dr. Hashiba in Fresno ran his first facility with eight beds in his converted residence from 1922-25, then rented an 18-bed capacity building (in his son's name to circumvent the alien land law then in effect) from 1925-37. In 1937 he closed down his facility for financial reasons, although he continued to practice until his death in 1976.

# A NEED FOR JAPANESE SANITARIUMS

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Dr. Bunkuro Okonogi, a native of Japan, came to Fresno in the 1890s to serve the Japanese community. Dr. Okonogi moved his facility to different sites in Fresno's Japantown. Starting with a small room in the basement, he eventually ran a 20-bed hospital. He started his first hospital in 1901 in a frame building at 736 E. Street. Twenty-five years later he built a thirty-eight room, full service brick hospital at 708 E. Street on the corner of Mono Street that was known as the Okonogi Sanitarium and operated until the onset of World War II. Once WWII began, Dr. Okonogi was sent to Pinedale Assembly Center, a detention center for the Japanese population, with his daughter Ena and son Dr. Hugo Okonogi where he served as a doctor. Hei was then sent to an internment camp with his daughter in Poston, Arizona where he was the camp physician. Once the war ended, he returned to Fresno and began practicing medicine again. It was then operated as a convalescent home for a short time. Finally, the Danish creamery bought the property and converted the site into a parking lot.

# THE STORY OF ST. AGNES MEDICAL CENTER AND THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS

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On August 5, 1929, at the request of the local bishop, the Rt. Rev. John B. McGinley, of the Catholic Diocese of Monterey-Fresno, nine Sisters of the Holy Cross established the original, 75-bed Saint Agnes Hospital in downtown Fresno at Roeding and Floradora avenues as a Catholic hospital.

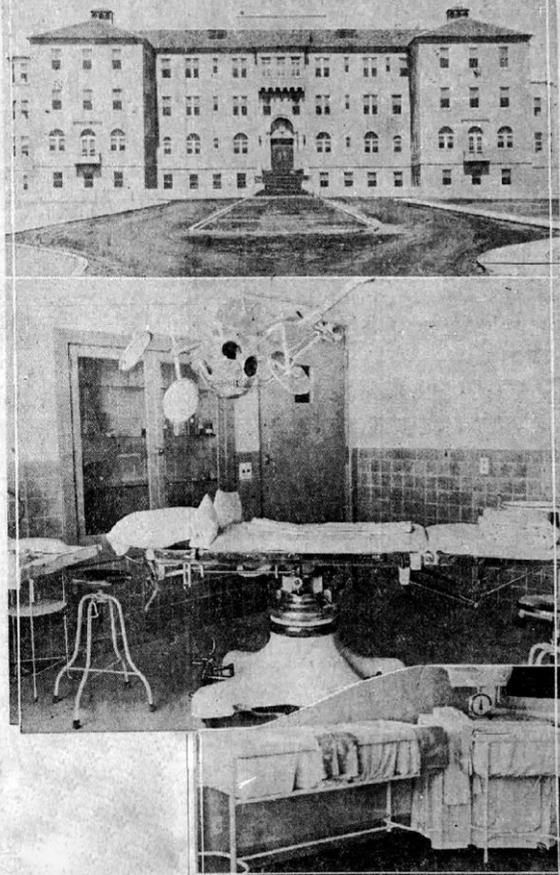




THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY CROSS BEGAN WORK IN FRESNO IN 1894, WITH THE OPENING OF A BOARDING AND DAY SCHOOL FOR GIRLS. THE ORDER THEN CONDUCTED HOSPITALS IN VARIOUS PARTS OF THE UNITED STATES. THE SUPERIOR OF THE FRESNO HOSPITAL, SISTER MARY VIRGINIA, CAME DIRECTLY FROM THE HOLY CROSS HOSPITAL IN SALT LAKE CITY, WHERE SHE HAD SERVED AS SUPERIOR FOR SIX YEARS. THE STAFF OF SISTERS WAS TO BE ASSISTED BY A CORPS OF GRADUATE NURSES.



## Ready To Aid Sufferers



Here are three scenes of the new \$350,000 St. Agnes Hospital on Roseling Avenue, operated by Sister of the Holy Cross, which will be opened to-morrow. The upper picture is a front view of the hospital. The center picture shows the operating room, with its modern equipment, and the lower picture shows a corner of the babies' ward.—Photos by The Bee Cameraman.

St. Agnes was open for practice to “all physicians and surgeons who were full graduates of medicine, in good standing, legally licensed to practice and worthy in character and in matters of professional ethics.”

