Lei Ilima

LEI ILIMA

Leisurely

CHARLES E. KING

F  C7  C7  F  C7

O ka i-

'Tis the i-

(Tenor or soprano obligato to be sung the second time.)

F  F  C  C

li - ma no ku - 'u lei

li - ma my heart doth long for;

Ka li - a

It is the

O ka i - li - ma no ku - 'u lei-

'Tis the i - li - ma my heart doth long for:
It is the lei so rare and love-ly.

Ku li-o ia nei pu-u wa-i.

He we-hi i-a

I know for me it's

G7

no ku-u ki-no,

Lei ho-o hi hi

the only gar-land,

The wreath of beau-ty.

G7

i-a no ku-u ki-no,

Lei ho-o me it's the only gar-land,

The wreath of

G7

a ka ma-na-o.

I-i-ni au la

my heart adores.

Whe-re'er I roam and

C7

hi-hi a ka ma na-o.

I-i-ni

beau-ty my heart adores.

Whe-re'er I
Ilīma: official flower of Oahu. The flower may be either yellow, orange, greenish, or dull red and grows on small or larger bushes. The caplike calyx is often used for leis.

Best known for his dramatic and romantic “Wedding Song” (Ke Kali Nei Au), Charles E. King was the most prolific composer that the Islands have known. Born in Honolulu in 1874, he received most of his education there. Although he served as senator in the Hawaiian legislature, it was as a leader in music education circles, as conductor of the Royal Hawaiian Band, as an acknowledged authority on Hawaiian music, and as teacher and composer, that his influence lives on even after his death in 1950.

Lei Ilīma is just one of the many singable and swingable songs written by this composer.