

OBITUARY

THE DEATH OF MISS SUSAN ALICE VILLIERS,
S.R.N., R.F.N., F.B.C.N.

With sincere sorrow we record the death on Thursday, March 29th, of Miss Susan Alice Villiers, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., a member of the Nursing Profession who for upwards of half a century reflected honour upon it, and who as Superior of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses was known throughout the nursing world as a woman of the highest attainment, personally and professionally, whose sympathies touched and elevated all those who came into contact with her wonderful beneficence. Trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital from 1892-1895, she, after certification, became sincerely interested in the movement for the organisation of Nursing by Act of Parliament, and co-operated with the pioneers for legal status, until the Act for the State Registration of Nurses was won in 1919 when, as No. 7, her name was placed upon the list. Later she became a member of the General Nursing Council for England and Wales to represent the interests of Fever Hospitals and their nurses. Miss Villiers, with great charm of manner, inspired by generous feeling, promoted a strong professional policy with gentle persistence.

Fifty years ago the nursing of the Fever Hospitals was a vital and difficult matter; Miss Villiers elected to help in the organisation of this branch. She worked as Night Superintendent and Assistant Matron, was promoted to be Matron of leading Fever Hospitals, and ultimately as Matron of the South-Western Hospital, Stockwell, where her true qualities soon constituted her a leader of reform and efficiency in whom her medical and nursing colleagues had sincere confidence. It was not only in professional matters that her judgment was sound, upon retirement from active nursing service she soon realised her public duty. In 1926, when the British College of Nurses was founded, Miss Villiers was elected a member of the first Council, and took a sincere interest in all the work it has quietly accomplished in recent years. She was re-elected a member of the Council in 1942, and was thus a member to date, so that her death is deeply mourned by her colleagues who loved her and revered her opinion. Outside professional interests Miss Villiers was well known to the nursing world, both at home and abroad, and her

special association with the Bench as a J.P., and the honourable position she held as Superior of the Guild of St. Barnabas for Nurses founded by the late Father Russell in 1876, "to help nurses spiritually in their work and life," gave her wide experience in branches of work specially of value, added to her wide experience as Hon. Secretary, *pro tem.*, Hon. Treasurer of the National Council of Nurses of Great Britain, work in which she was deeply interested, and which she kept progressively affluent during years of war. As these great leaders pass on succeeding generations of nurses should not fail to study their life's work and realise its inspiration.

The funeral of Susan Alice Villiers took place on Tuesday, April 3rd, at St. Alban's, Hindhead, a beautiful spot overlooking heather clad hills. The flowers placed on her grave were grown in her own garden. The life-like portrait which appears on this page presents Miss Villiers in her robes as a Fellow and Councillor of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., which she wore with dignity and pleasure.

Thus has passed to her rest one of our sincerely loved leaders—

"My sister, } My sweet
sister,
If a name dearer and
purer were, it should
be thine." BYRON.

MRS. HENRIETTA
LAMBERT, S.R.N.,
F.B.C.N.

It is with sincere regret that we record the death on March 27th, of Mrs. Henrietta Lambert, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., after a long illness, widow of Lt.-Col. F. S. Lambert, J.P., of 45, Newland, Lincoln, who was cremated at Nottingham on April 3rd.

Mrs. Lambert, who was trained at the General Hospital, Nottingham, 1904 to 1907, was deeply interested in her profession and worked devotedly with her husband in the early days of the war; she was one of the

most earnest members of the British College of Nurses, Ltd., and deeply deplored the injurious Nurses Act, 1943.

MISS KATHLEEN MARY O'DONEL.

Many colleagues will regret to hear of the death of Miss Kathleen Mary O'Donel, S.R.N., M.B.C.N., which took place on January 16th, 1945. She was greatly loved, and the Vicar of St. Saviour's Church, Birkenhead, referring to the funeral, said of her: "She had more than most, the grace of humility."

Miss O'Donel was trained at Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital, Dublin. She was a valued member of the British College of Nurses, Ltd.



THE LATE MISS SUSAN A. VILLIERS, S.R.N.
In robes as Member of Council of the British College
of Nurses, Ltd.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)