

of the transports; but one doctor was "a very nice little man," and she would not give him away, but Lord Lansdowne knew all about them, and had dealt with the matter, and this manner of disposing of intemperate "medicos" had been stopped.

WOODSTOCK HOSPITAL.

This notorious institution was disposed of in two words—"indescribably filthy"—to the Commission, and a telling aside to the press, "Built on the main sewer of Cape Town"!!

NO. 3 GENERAL HOSPITAL, RONDEBOSCH.

This was stated to be as good as it was possible for a military hospital organized on a *bad system* to be, and this was owing to the great ability and earnest endeavour of the *real* presiding officer, Lieut.-Col. Keogh, and there was no reason why every base hospital at Cape Town should not have been as good in every respect.

MAFEKING HOSPITAL.

The hospital at Mafeking was quoted as an object lesson, showing side by side the difference in the military and civil systems of management under which the hospital was worked. On the military side the wards were over-crowded, the army doctors objecting to the patients being sent to the civil side, the wards and operating-room were dirty and disordered, and everything in a muddle. A patient had been given badly mixed *condensed* milk, which he could not take, and was, therefore, in need of nourishment; and just across the corridor, on the civil side, order and comfort were in force, and in the convalescent ward the men were partaking of bowls of *fresh* milk, it being tea time, a practical lesson—in fact, "a fact."

This concluded the evidence of the witness, and the Chairman, with evident relief, then announced that no more evidence would be taken, and the Commissioners would proceed to prepare their report.

EDITOR'S REMARKS.

"Honour to whom honour is due."

I desire to express my warm admiration of the patriotism which inspired Mrs. Richard Chamberlain in her work for our sick soldiers for ten months in South Africa; of her moral courage in facing a powerful and hostile majority in England, in giving publicity to the evils resulting from an absolutely rotten system of Military Hospital management which came under her keen observation at the Cape; and of the masterly manner in which, as a non-professional person, she has grasped the whole Military Nursing Question. E. G. F.

Legal Matters.

A PLEA FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

MADE IN GERMANY.

An inquiry took place last week, says the *Morning Leader*, into the death of Kate Kennedy, a cook, who, it is alleged, died after an operation, said to have been performed by a German woman called Ernestine Katz, known as "Mrs. Evans."

"Evans," who is at present awaiting trial on a similar charge, declined to appear and give evidence.

A clerk in the advertising department of the *People* said an advertisement had been received containing the words "Midwifery. Mrs. Evans, German and American trained nurse. Terms moderate," the address following.

The Coroner: Don't you make inquiries into these cases?—No.

A Juror: Is it not a fact that you get as much as 15s. an inch for these advertisements?—Not that I know of.

The coroner remarked that the newspapers, which made such large profits out of advertisements, owed a duty to the public in the selection of the advertisements they inserted.

A verdict was returned of wilful murder against the accused.

DRINK, DRUGS AND DEATH.

Nurse Jennie Binks, aged twenty, was reported to the Luton Guardians for drunkenness, and the medical officer recommended her dismissal. After an interview, at which she told the Board that she could not resist the craving for drink, the Guardians decided to give her a month's notice. Nurse Binks, who had threatened to commit suicide if dismissed, left the work-house in the afternoon, unobserved, and returned in an intoxicated condition. She was told to go to her room, and an hour later was found unconscious from the effects of laudanum. Despite the efforts of two doctors she died. At the inquest it transpired that up to six months ago, Nurse Jennie Binks was employed in the Peterborough Infirmary. Evidence was given showing that on several occasions when in drink she threatened to end her life. It was stated that her intemperance dated from the age of sixteen. A verdict of suicide during temporary insanity was returned.

Who recommended this poor creature to the Guardians of the Poor at Luton as a suitable person to have care of the sick?

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