

The coroner pointed out that when persons were insane they should be treated by authorised persons, and not spirited away into an unauthorised place and attended by incompetent persons. As to the unauthorised home to which the deceased was taken, Dr. Needham had admitted that he did not know of the place until he was recommended to it, and there was no doubt that he was misled. This was not the kind of institution to which to entrust a person who was on the borderland of sanity; such a person required the utmost skill.

The jury had heard of the extraordinary treatment to which the deceased was subjected at the home. She was extremely violent at first, and sleeping draughts were poured down her throat nearly every night. This was the way in which she was kept quiet.

The jury returned a verdict of "Death from natural causes," and added that in their opinion there ought to be further inquiry into the case.

Registration of nurses and nursing homes would do much to prevent such scandals, now everyday occurrences.

The Medical Profession and the Teaching of Hygiene.

A large and influential deputation, mainly composed of members of the medical profession, waited on Monday on Lord Londonderry, President of the Board of Education, on the subject of the teaching of hygiene in elementary and secondary schools.

The petitioners urged the central educational authorities of the United Kingdom to consider "whether it would not be possible to include in the curricula of the public elementary schools, and to encourage in the secondary schools, such teaching as may, without developing any tendency to dwell on what is unwholesome, lead all the children to appreciate at their true value healthful bodily conditions as regards cleanliness, pure air, food, drink, &c. In making this request we are well aware that at the present time pupils may receive teaching on the laws of health by means of subjects almost invariably placed upon the Optional Code. By this method effective instruction is given to a small proportion of the pupils only. This does not appear to us to be adequate. We believe that it should be compulsory and be given at a much earlier age than at present." After calling attention to what is being achieved in this direction by English speaking nations, the petitioners stated that a widespread ignorance prevailed concerning not only the nature and properties of alcohol, but also its effects on the body and the mind. They therefore urged the central education authorities to include in the simple hygienic teaching elementary instruction at an early age on the nature and effects of alcohol.

Nursing Echoes.

**** All communications must be duly authenticated with name and address, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith, and should be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, W.*



The Queen paid a visit on Saturday afternoon to the British Home and Hospital for Incurables at Streatham Hill. The visit had been promised for some months, but was eventually arranged at short notice, the Chairman and other officials being hastily summoned by telegraph to welcome Her Majesty. The Queen, who was accompanied by Princess Victoria, was received on arrival at the hospital by the Chairman, who read an address of welcome, by representatives of the Governing Body, and the Secretary. The Queen was then conducted over the hospital by Dr. Scamm, the Medical Officer, and Miss Macdonald, Sister-in-Charge, and a bouquet was presented by Miss Carlile, who has been an inmate of the institution for thirty-six years.

An hour and a-half was spent in visiting the wards, and Her Majesty spoke to every one of the eighty patients, giving to each a bunch of flowers, which had been sent down from the gardens of Buckingham Palace, and also provided each patient with a box of chocolate. The Queen took the keenest interest in the records of the various cases and expressed her sincere sympathy with the sufferers, who were much touched by her kindness. One of the principal desires of the Governors was to offer to the Queen a memento of her Coronation. This took the form of bestowing upon Her Majesty a nomination for three beds in the hospital, and three annuities in connection with the home. The Royal visitors took tea at the institution before returning to London, where their visit had caused so much happiness to all concerned.

We would call the attention of our readers to the very important case tried by the Court of Appeal last week, and an abstract of which we reprint in another column. Briefly, it is of the utmost importance, both to the public and the nursing profession, because it defines the law as it stands at present as to the liability for nursing negligence on the part of associations or institutions which supply nurses to the public. It comes to this, that an association which supplies nurses must take all the means in its power to secure that those nurses are properly qualified and efficient. Having done so, they are not responsible for their work, because the nurses are under the control of the medical

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