

LEGAL MATTERS.

AN APPALLING CHARGE.

On July 22nd, Annie Robson, an unregistered nurse, was at Leicester County Police Court committed for trial at Leicester Assizes on the appalling charge of murdering Mrs. Kate Mildred Alice Pochin, of Barkby Hall, Leicestershire, on July 8th.

Superintendent Hall said that in January of this year Mrs. Pochin underwent an operation for appendicitis, and after her return home in March Nurse Robson was engaged to look after her. In July, Mrs. Pochin had so far recovered that her services could be dispensed with, and the engagement was to terminate on July 9th. On the morning of July 8th warm water was taken to Mrs. Pochin's bedroom by a maid. Shortly afterwards Miss Robson was seen to enter Mrs. Pochin's bedroom with a large enamelled jug containing boiling water. Immediately afterwards screams were heard coming from the bedroom, and Mrs. Pochin rushed out wearing only slippers. She was taken to a room adjoining, and a doctor found that she was severely scalded on the back, chest, head and face, and there was a wound which was bleeding on the left side of her forehead. She was immediately removed to hospital at Leicester and died on Tuesday morning.

At the subsequent inquest, the City Coroner (Mr. Edward Fowler), said it was alleged that Nurse Robson poured boiling water over Mrs. Pochin and hit her on the head with a water jug.

Miss Robson reserved her defence.

APPOINTMENTS.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Bethlem Royal Hospital, Monk's Orchard, Eden Park, Beckenham.—Miss C. A. Miller, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the City of London Mental Hospital, and at King's College Hospital, London. Miss Miller has been Assistant Matron at Craig House, Edinburgh, Surgical Sister at Sussex House, W., Assistant Matron at West Green, Dundee, and has been engaged in Private Nursing in Edinburgh.

Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool.—Miss M. Stephens, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Royal Salop Infirmary, Shrewsbury, and has been Massage Sister and Night Sister at the General Infirmary, Nottingham, where she gained her Housekeeping Certificate, and Housekeeping Sister and Home Sister at the Royal Southern Hospital, Liverpool, and Assistant Matron at the Royal Infirmary, Doncaster.

Mayday Road Hospital, Thornton Heath.—Miss E. S. Laing, S.R.N., F.B.C.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at St. Stephen's Hospital, Fulham Road, S.W., and has been Ward Sister at St. Pancras Hospital, London, and has been engaged in Private Nursing in Southport, and has been Tutor Sister at Withington Hospital, Manchester, and at Mayday Road Hospital, Thornton Heath.

NIGHT SUPERINTENDENT.

West Ham Mental Hospital, Goodmayes.—Miss L. Colomb, S.R.N., has been appointed Night Superintendent. She was trained at the Hackney Hospital, London, and is a Certified Midwife.

SISTER-HOUSEKEEPER.

Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, City Road, E.C.—Miss R. Gaunt, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister-Housekeeper. She was trained at the Dewsbury Hospital, where she was later Sister-in-Charge of the Maternity Block. Miss Gaunt is a Certified Midwife, and holds the Housekeeping Certificate of the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital.

HOME AND HOUSEKEEPING SISTER.

Royal United Hospital, Bath.—Miss G. Shanks, S.R.N., has been appointed Home and Housekeeping Sister. She was trained at the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital, Euston Road, London, and at the Dreadnought Hospital, Greenwich,

and took the Housekeeping and Administrative Course at the London Temperance Hospital. Miss Shanks has been Night Sister at the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital, Bournemouth, and Out-Patient Sister at the General Infirmary, Salisbury, and is a Certified Midwife.

THEATRE SISTER.

Royal United Hospital, Bath.—Miss W. Atkins has been appointed Theatre Sister. She was trained at the University College Hospital, London, where she was later Holiday Sister. Miss Atkins has also been Labour Ward Sister at the City Maternity Home, Bath, and is a Certified Midwife.

SISTER.

Lewisham Hospital, S.E.13.—Miss J. O. Morris, S.R.N., has been appointed Ward Sister. She was trained at the St. Giles' Infirmary, Camberwell, and has since been Ward Sister at Black Notley Sanatorium, Braintree, Essex. Miss Morris is a Certified Midwife.

Birmingham and Midland Hospital for Women, Sparkhill, near Birmingham.—Miss E. Wilding, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, where she has since been Holiday Sister. Miss Wilding has also been Staff Nurse attached to the Royal Gwent Hospital, Sister at the County and War Memorial Hospital, Brecon, Senior Staff Nurse at the Royal Infirmary, Halifax, and is a Certified Midwife.

Manchester Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.—Miss D. Lloyd Davies, S.R.N., has been appointed Medical Ward Sister. She was trained at the Ancoats Hospital, Manchester, and the Royal Eye Hospital, Manchester.

John Coupland Hospital, Gainsborough.—Miss F. J. Blaylock, S.R.N., has been appointed Sister. She was trained at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, and has since been Ward Sister at the General Hospital, Walsall, and Night Sister at North Ormesby Hospital, Middlesbrough. Miss Blaylock is a Certified Midwife.

SCHOOL NURSE AND HEALTH VISITOR.

Middlesex County Council.—Miss E. M. Slade, S.R.N., has been appointed School Nurse and Health Visitor. She was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and at the Children's Hospital, Birmingham. Miss Slade has had experience of Health Visiting, Ante-Natal and Infant Welfare Clinics, under voluntary organisations at the Moffat Institute Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and the University Women's Settlement Baby Centre. She has also had experience in Light Clinic treatment, Dental Clinic treatment, Cookery and Dietetics.

City of Wakefield.—Miss E. W. Farrar, S.R.N., has been appointed Health Visitor. She was trained at the Infirmary, Leeds; is a Certified Midwife; and holds the Health Visitors' Certificate.

Breconshire County Council.—Miss G. Rees, S.R.N., has been appointed School Nurse and Health Visitor. She was trained at King's College, London; holds the Invalid Cookery Certificate; and is a Certified Midwife.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

Mr. Thomas Hodgson, of Nottingham left £1,000 to his "faithful nurse and attendant," Elizabeth Matthews, "and I desire to record my indebtedness to her and to thank her for all her kindness and attention to me"; and £100 to Nurse Mary Holuland, "who is now in my service."

Mrs. Georgiana Frederica Austen, of Horsmonden, Kent, left £200 and certain personal effects to her nurse, Jane Baxter.

Mr. Ernest Noel of Patching, Sussex, left £50 to his nurse Edith Maude Bloomfield.

THE PASSING BELL.

We regret to record the death at the Middlesex Hospital on July 17th, after a short illness, of Miss Georgina Emma Morgan, R.R.C., late Matron of the Middlesex Hospital Convalescent Home, Clacton-on-Sea, daughter of the late General Osborne Morgan. The funeral took place at Llandilo Church, Abergavenny, Monmouth, on Thursday July 23rd, and a Memorial Service was held in the Hospital Chapel at 12 noon on that day.

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