

Surely provision should be made, by legislation if necessary, that Homes in which orphan children are received by a public authority should be in charge of State Registered Nurses.

We can think of no case which has shocked and pained us more deeply than that above related.

A FATAL OVERDOSE.

In a case recently heard before Mr. Justice Horridge in the King's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice, Mr. Norman Fawcett Strangways-Lesmere of Weymouth, claimed damages for the death of his wife, in the Weymouth and District Hospital, which he alleged was caused by the negligence of the defendants, the authorities of the hospital, and Miss Olive Gwendoline Chapman, and Miss Ada Margaret Miles, nurses at the hospital.

The complaint was that instead of administering to the patient six drachms of paraldehyde in water as ordered on the bed card by the house surgeon to be given before an operation, six ounces were administered to her by Nurse Miles after being checked by Nurse Chapman, the senior nurse on duty. The nurses stated that they acted on written instructions from the acting Night Sister, who they alleged wrote that the amount ordered was six ounces. Neither of the nurses compared the written instructions with the bed card.

The Judge held that the nurses were responsible in the action and gave judgment for the plaintiff *against* the nurses for the agreed damages of £100 and costs. He accepted the evidence of the acting Night Sister and the Day Sister that the amount on the written paper was six drachms, and said that even if the acting Night Sister had written six ounces the nurses would still have been negligent. They ought to have looked at the bed card. Further on the bottle containing the paraldehyde the ordinary dose by mouth was stated to be one-half to two fluid drachms. Nurse Miles was also negligent because she admitted that she knew that when administered by rectum the quantity administered would be at least three times that when administered by mouth, whereas the dose which she actually administered was considerably more than that.

Judgment was given *for* the other defendants (the hospital authorities), with costs.

THE PASSING BELL.

MRS. LANCELOT ANDREWS.

It is with deep regret that we record the death on February 10th of Mrs. Lancelot Andrews, which occurred at Exeter after a short illness, following an operation.

Mrs. Andrews who was well known throughout the National and International Nursing Worlds was the daughter of the late Lieut.-Col. T. F. Wisden of Broadwater, Sussex. After receiving a year's training in Children's Nursing at the Victoria Hospital for Children, Chelsea, she entered the Nursing School of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, and passed through the period of three years' training there with distinction, being awarded the Gold Medal in the Final Examination in May, 1888. She was subsequently appointed Night Superintendent and then Sister of John Ward, where she remained until her marriage with Dr. Lancelot Andrews.

A happy married life terminated after a few brief years with the early death of her husband, and after devoting herself to the care of her only child during his childhood, Mrs. Andrews again took up active nursing work.

In 1910 she was appointed by the President of the Local Government Board as a Woman Inspector under that Board, with two other experienced nurses, under a Chief Woman Inspector, the duties of this newly created position

being the inspection of maternity wards, nurseries, and nursing arrangements in Poor Law Institutions, as well as the supervision of the work of boarding out committees and the children under their care, and she continued in this position doing most useful work for many years.

Mrs. Andrews will long be remembered as a firm supporter of the societies working for the organisation of the Nursing Profession, and for the establishment of a standard of nursing education, through State Registration of Nurses, throughout the thirty years when these societies, their objects, and methods were subject to keen opposition. On gaining her certificate she became a member of the British Nurses' Association, and, on their formation, a member of the Matrons' Council of Great Britain, the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, and was a delegate on the Central Committee for State Registration of Nurses when that conjoint Committee was founded under the Chairmanship of the late Lord Amptill in 1910. Her allegiance was given whole-heartedly to the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses on its foundation in 1899, and until the day of her death she held it in deep affection. She was the most generous supporter of the Isla Stewart Memorial established in connection with the League, her donations amounting to £30.

When the British College of Nurses was founded in 1926 she was appointed by the Trustees a member of its first Council, in recognition of her valuable work for the Nursing Profession.

Her most conspicuous gift—always at the service of her profession—was that of public speaking, a gift of special value to a profession whose eloquent and forceful speakers are few. Lucid and logical, she marshalled her facts with precision, and presented them in a manner which commended them to the attention of her hearers.

A true and constant friend, she was always a much prized visitor when she was able to spare time from her busy life for social intercourse. In the last years of her life the children of her son, Mr. John Andrews, Headmaster and Proprietor of Exeter School, were a great joy to her, and she spent much time in that West Country city.

At the simple service which took place at Golders Green Crematorium on February 13th, in addition to her son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. John Andrews, there were present many of her nursing friends and colleagues. Miss Beatrice Cutler representing the Royal British Nurses Association, Miss S. A. Villiers representing the Matrons Council of Great Britain, Miss Irvin representing the League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses, Miss Margaret Breay representing the British College of Nurses, Mrs. Turnbull, Miss G. Le Geyt, Miss E. Waind, Miss Jefferies, Miss Elma Smith, Miss A. Schuller and others. A wealth of lovely flowers arranged along the chancel screen—tributes from friends, and societies, almost hid the coffin from view till it passed from sight to the crematorium—to be later placed where her ashes lay in the Garden of Repose.

Removed from our sight her memory will for long be cherished by those who loved and honoured her for her many noble qualities, and not least for her loyal service in the interests of the profession of her choice.

To her dearly loved son, Mr. John Andrews, we offer our heartfelt sympathy in his bereavement.

MISS ENID HUMPHREYS-ROBERTS.

We announce, with regret, the death of Miss Enid Humphreys-Roberts who, since 1922 has been a woman inspector on the staff of the Ministry of Health. She was trained and certificated at the Liverpool Royal Infirmary and served in France during the Great War as a member of Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service.

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