

HOSPITAL SECRETARY

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. S.A. HALL

Mr. Sydney Albert HALL of Woodlands, 21 Church Road, Binstead, secretary of the Royal I.W. County Hospital since 1953, died suddenly on Saturday, his 59th birthday, at the hospital, to which he had been admitted that day as a patient during a fortnight's leave. He leaves a widow.

Born in London, Mr. HALL began his hospital career at Connaught Hospital, Walthamstow, Essex, and during the last war served as a supply officer in the Portsmouth Command, Royal Navy. He was assistant secretary at Harrow Hospital before coming to the Island more than 20 years ago as secretary of Shanklin Cottage Hospital. He had been with the I.W. County Hospital Management Committee since the inception of the National Health Service in July, 1948, and, as one of the officers taken over, continued as secretary of the Shanklin hospital until March, 1950, when he became an administrative assistant with the central administration of the group, and as such had particular responsibility for Longford, Fairlee and Ashey hospitals. In May, 1953, he was promoted hospital secretary to the Royal I.W. County Hospital, a position he held at the time of his death. Mr. HALL was at all times courteous, efficient and helpful, and will be greatly missed. He was a former member of Shanklin Conservative Club.

At a meeting of the I.W. Group Hospital Management Committee on Monday, Major F.M. HEXT, C.B.E., O.B.E. (chairman), paid a tribute to Mr. HALL's outstanding services, and the meeting stood in silent respect to his memory.

Many people representing Island hospital life and administration attended the funeral at the Church of the Holy Cross, Binstead, on Thursday. Canon R.H. GRANGER, R.D. (vicar of Ryde), who officiated, paid tribute to Mr. HALL's life and work. Mr. W.L. REED, at the organ, accompanied the singing of "Rock of ages" and "Put thou thy trust in God."

The mourners were Mrs. HALL (widow), Mr. and Mrs. F. HALL and Mr. L. HALL (brothers and sisters-in-law), Messrs. R. NEWING and E. DICKENS (brothers-in-law), Mrs. F. DICKENS (mother-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. L. WELLS, Mr. and Mrs. S. THOMAS and Mr. and Mrs. L. MONK (brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law), and Mr. and Mrs. J. ARMAN (cousins). Mrs. R. NEWING (sister) was unable to be present owing to illness.

Major-General HEXT represented the Group Hospital Management Committee, Mr. J.C.M. ELDRIDGE (chairman) the Royal I.W. County Hospital House Committee, and Mrs. T.R. MARGHAM (chairman) St. Mary's Hospital, Newport, House Committee. The Royal I.W. County Hospital was represented by Miss I.G.E. MARTIN (matron) and Mr. A.C.H. ASPINALL (acting hospital secretary). The senior nursing staff and consultant medical staff and all departments of the hospital were represented. Group headquarters were represented by Messrs. F.L.W. EADE (secretary), J. HARDY (treasurer), M.J. TOOMBS (deputy secretary) and A. STRATULIS (district superintendent), and the group works department by Mr. R. WHITE. Mr. J. KEECH (hospital secretary) and Miss V. WILSON (senior nursing officer) represented St. Mary's Hospital staffs, Mr. B. CHARMAN (hospital secretary) represented Whitecroft Hospital staffs, and Miss E. WALL represented the Frank James and Shanklin hospitals. The Island Health Service branch of the National Association of Local Government Officers was also represented. Other members of the medical and nursing professions and ancillary services were present, including a strong representation from the Royal I.W. County Hospital. The hospital Sports Club and Guild of Past Patients and the Portsmouth and I.W. Pathology Board were represented.

The interment was at Binstead Cemetery. The floral tributes included those from the chairman and members of the Hospital Management Committee, colleagues at the hospitals and at group headquarters, chairman and members of the Portsmouth and I.W. Pathology Board, Royal I.W. County Hospital Sports Club, chairman and members of the Royal I.W. County Hospital House Committee, all members of the Royal I.W. County Hospital staff, chairman and Guild of Past Patients, and all members of the I.W. Health Service branch of N.A.L.G.O.

Messrs. C. LANGDON made the arrangements.

Researched & typed by
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