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OREGON STATE HOSPITAL

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS AND MONIES TO
J. C. EVANS, M. D., SUPERINTENDENT
SALEM, OREGON

June 9, 1942

Mr. Roy H. Mills, Secretary
Oregon State Board of Control
Salem, Oregon

Re A. W. Steele, deceased

Dear Sir:

Your letter of recent date regarding the complaint to our Board of Control by James R. Steele concerning the lack of care, etc., of his father who died here on May the 18th, is acknowledged, and in reply will say that I have requested the patient's physician, Dr. R. N. Smith, who was the attending physician to submit to me a letter of facts concerning the patient's illness and the general management of the case which I enclose for your information.

It appears to me there is no particular reason why I should make any further comment and I feel that the hospital does not owe Mr. Steele an apology for the way the father was treated and cared for prior to and including the day of his death. The son was notified by Dr. Bates February the 26th that his father was seriously ill and invited James R. Steele to visit the father. Therefore he had every opportunity to visit the patient as often as he would like, or to make any arrangements satisfactory to him which the State could not do.

Apparently the son is suffering from a condition of remorse in that he did not give his father more personal attention before he passed on. As you well know, certain people die unexpectedly in this hospital as well as elsewhere and it has always been our policy when death can be anticipated or in a serious illness to notify the relatives so they shall be fully informed. This was done in the case of Mr. Steele and no further comment appears to me to be necessary.

Yours very truly,



J. C. Evans, M. D.
Superintendent.