

Cambridge Evening News Tuesday 8 July 1980.

Leading education and health activist dies

A Cambridge woman who dedicated much of her life to health and education has died.

Mrs. Emily Winifred Parsons, aged 85, who died at a Littleport nursing home at the weekend, was awarded the CBE in 1974 for her public services in Cambridgeshire.

Mrs. Parsons, a widow who lived at 4 Clarkson Road, Cambridge, helped pioneer the introduction of village colleges.

One of her three daughters, Mrs. Rosalind Buffrey, of 2 Clarkson Road said, "Health and education were her main interests".

Mrs. Parsons, a former city alderman, was chairman of the former Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Education Committee and served on the United Cambridge Hospitals Committee for more than 20 years.

She was a county councillor between 1937 and 1974, served as a governor at Addenbrookes Hospital when the board was formed in 1948 and took part in planning of the new one.

She became hospital board chairman in 1966 after a 10 year term as vice-chairman.

Mrs Parson was national chairman of the British and Foreign School Society and was also a member of the Cambridge and Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust.

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