

needs be an old one, an old ideal. It is the one word, *Health*. It is of all things essential that we keep our drama sane, and sound, and sweet and wholesome. For my part, I can say that I have always endeavoured never to produce or take part in any play that a young fellow might not take his sweetheart or sister to see. Now it remains but to do him honour. To the Nation's Pantheon with the illustrious dead.

E. G. F.

At the Grave's Edge.

What lands shall greet your gaze?
What winds shall lift your hair?
What mightier stars for you shall blaze,
In what diviner air?

And the long journey through,
Shall Love not have his will?
And the old dream come true,
And the old grief be still?

We reach out empty hands—
We never can forget!
O heart, at last that understands,
Do you remember yet?

—HENRY FLETCHER HARRIS, in the *Independent*.

What to Read.

"The Life of Queen Henrietta Maria." By I. A. Taylor.

"The Queen's Poor: Life as they Find it in Town and Country." By M. Loane.

"The Mistress of the Robes: A Tale of Queen Anne's Days." By Sidney Herbert Burchell.

"Life of Helen Macmillan Brown, the First Woman to Graduate with Honours in a British University." By Edith Searle Grossman, M.A.

"The Risen Sun." By Baron K. Suyematsu.

"The Black Spaniel." By Robert Hitchens.

Coming Events.

October 21st.—Meeting of the Provisional Committee of the National Council of Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, 3 p.m.

October 23rd to 27th.—Conference of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, in the New Central Hall, Corporation Street, Birmingham. President, Lady Windsor.

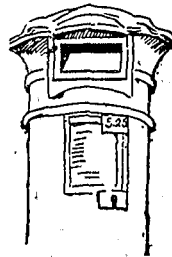
October 24th and 25th.—Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland. Chairman, Miss Clifford.

October 24th.—Irish Nurses' Association—Dr. Jellett's Lecture on "Emergencies," 7.30 p.m.; 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin.

October 24th.—Examination of Central Midwives' Board, written paper. October 30th and 31st and November 1st—Viva-voce examinations. Examination Hall, Thames Embankment.

October 26th.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, 6, Suffolk Street, Pall Mall.

November 2nd.—Conference Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Paper: "The Twentieth Century Matron," by Miss Isla Stewart, President; 431, Oxford Street, 8 p.m. Tea and Coffee.



Letters to the Editor.

NOTES, QUERIES, &c.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

DRESSING-GOWNS ON DUTY.

To the Editor of the "*British Journal of Nursing*."

DEAR MADAM,—I hope that in the interest taken in the Registration of Nurses question, that the very important pronouncements of the Select Committee on the Registration of Nursing Homes will not be lost sight of. I quite agree with you that two Bills will be necessary to effect legislation on two such different questions as the Registration of Professional Women and the Inspection and Registration of Nursing Homes. All the same, the R.B.N.A. has done good service in bringing forward the latter question.

The more one knows of the management of many of these institutions, the more absolutely necessary it seems that home hospitals and nursing institutions should be regulated, and some protection afforded both to the patients who are received into them and to young women taken in as nurses.

"A Woman of the World" is not a bit too severe in handling this matter, and no one can disagree with her that young women, often untrained, should not be permitted to sleep in the male patients' rooms; it is so extraordinary an arrangement that one is quite surprised that modest young women can be found to do it.

Another very important detail of Home Hospital management is the custom of some proprietors of charging untrained girls large fees, some as much as £10, for training; it is most unjust upon pupil and patient, and even where this is not done a great many "Homes" make up their staff of half-trained nurses, and still charge for skilled nursing. Any Bill dealing with this thorny matter should make it compulsory upon proprietors of Nursing Homes to employ certificated registered nurses; but no doubt a discriminating public would soon insist upon this standard, as they do about their doctors.

With gratitude for the privilege of being able to ventilate professional questions without fear or favour in your Journal, I am, &c.,

LADY SUPERINTENDENT, HOME HOSPITAL.

[We feel sure most trained Superintendents would endorse these views, and it is a pity that well-managed Homes should be classed with purely commercial institutions. In the minds of the public this will be so till registration divides the tares from the wheat.—Ed.]

LOSS OF SLEEP.

To the Editor of the "*British Journal of Nursing*."

DEAR MADAM,—I think "A Private Nurse" knows what she is writing about when she says that many private nurses deprive themselves of sufficient sleep when on night duty in private houses. I have had some experience in the capacity of employer, and I

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