

broken-hearted; how the Anarchist comes to the rescue and restores them both to happiness in his truly British method, we must leave the author to narrate in this most readable and delightful volume.
E. L. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 6th.—Women's Industrial Council—National Conference on the Industrial Training of Women and Girls, Guildhall, 10 a.m.

October 9th.—Demonstration in respect of disinfectants and sanitary appliances at the works of the Sanitas Company, Ltd., Locksley Street, Limehouse, followed by tea. Nurses cordially invited. 3 p.m.

October 10th.—The Princess of Wales opens the Albany Ward of the Royal Waterloo Hospital, 3.15.

October 12th.—The House of Commons re-assembles for the autumn session.

October 12th—15th.—Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, in the Music Hall, Aberdeen.

October 14th and 15th.—Meeting of the National Council of Women in the Hall of the Y.M.C.A., Institute, Aberdeen. *October 14th*, 3—5. *October 15th*, 2.30—4.30.

October 15th.—Meeting of Central Midwives' Board, Caxton House, S.W., 2.45 p.m.

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

October 3rd.—Farewell Meeting to bid God-speed to members of the Nurses' Missionary League leaving for work abroad, University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C. "At Home," 2.30 to 5. Meeting, at which chair will be taken by Col. Oldham, the sailing members will speak, and addresses will be given by Dr. Elinor Dodson and Rev. J. P. R. Gibson, 7 to 9.

LECTURES.

A Course of Lectures for Nurses is to be given at 67, Guilford Street, Russell Square, W.C., from 10.30 to 11.30, on the Tuesday mornings in October.

October 6th.—"The Responsibility of a Nurse towards herself, physically, mentally, and spiritually." By Sister Kate, Guy's Hospital.

October 13th.—"The Responsibility of a Senior Nurse towards other Nurses, and especially towards Probationers." By Miss Fox, Tottenham Hospital.

NATIONAL WOMEN'S SOCIAL AND POLITICAL UNION.

October 5th and every Monday afternoon.—"At Home" in the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., 3 to 5 p.m.

October 18th.—Public Meeting, Caxton Hall, 7.30 p.m.

October 29th.—Great Demonstration of Women, Royal Albert Hall. Chairman, Mrs. Pankhurst. 8 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Hate and mistrust are the children of blindness.

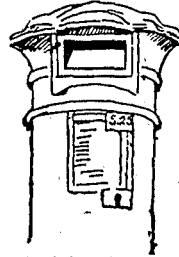
Could we but see one another 'twere well.

Knowledge is sympathy, charity, kindness,

Ignorance only is maker of hell.

WILLIAM WATSON.

Letters to the Editor.



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.

THE PAINS AND PLEASURES OF SCHOOL NURSING.

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

DEAR MADAM,—It is a pity that the writers of the article, published in the *Westminster Gazette* of the 22nd ult., by M.D., Camb., and M.D., Edin., headed "The Medical Inspection of Schools," did not obtain the real facts before sending to print, especially as the greater part of their suggestions are so good, and we hope the day is not far distant when these ideas will be in practical working order.

No one wishes more for help than the school nurse; she has a very difficult task to perform, not the least being the terrible understaffing, quite twice the number now on duty being needed to efficiently do the work of examining the children for pediculosis of the head and clothing. It has been no part of the nurse's duty to diagnose any cases, neither is there time for it. What has been done where ringworm is suspected is to take stumps from the apparently diseased patches, and submit them to the Medical Officer, Education Department, for microscopical examination. All other cases it is her duty to endeavour to persuade the parents to seek medical advice, unfortunately these are frequently so poor that it is impossible to seek attention; and many a fare to hospital is paid by the nurse whose own means are very limited. I would add that no well-trained nurse ever wishes to diagnose, knowing only too well that all her knowledge is but little, compared to what she has yet to learn.

One wonders if school nurses were abandoned, as suggested in the article referred to, who would undertake the very unpleasant task of examining for vermin, especially of clothing? The nurse dreads the task herself. Then there is the interviewing of parents both at the school and in their dwellings.

The visiting of homes must figure largely in this work, as her influence is great in these, to get into touch with the parents is very necessary if the work is to be done thoroughly, as the homes are often extremely dirty and require attention from the sanitary authorities.

Then, again, one is apt to blame too much a parent who is neglecting her child. One finds on going to the home, perhaps the mother is out the whole of the day at work, the sole breadwinner for the family. The right word from nurse will frequently set matters quite right. Sympathy and co-operation is at once established between parent and nurse. It has already been mentioned by another writer that the life is one of self-sacrifice,

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