

story of evil-doing and crime. Diana herself is completely ignorant of her mother's story; when, therefore, the day after her engagement, she learns the truth she is heart-broken. Only Oliver's love could have softened the blow, and he fails her! The brilliant, ambitious young politician cannot risk the loss of his career by having as his wife a woman whose mother was notorious. Lady Lucy vehemently opposes the engagement on the ground of possible heredity, telling him frankly she will disinherit him should he persist. Diana, realising that he has not stood the supreme test, releases him, and he weakly accepts his freedom.

With this action the current of his success steadily changes. When, at length, he lies ill and despairing, Diana proves a very tower of strength to his weakness.

There are many other characters, all types wonderfully drawn, with an insight into various phases of human nature truly marvellous.

E. L. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 19th.—Manchester Royal Infirmary open for public inspection.

October 19th to 31st.—Institute of Hygiene, 34, Devonshire Street, W., Infants' Health Exhibition, to be opened by the Duchess of Albany, 2—9, admission 6d.

October 20th.—Discussion on the Nurses' Registration Bill, House of Lords. Postponed by Lord Amphthill from the 15th inst.

October 23rd.—Central Midwives' Board Examination, Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, W.C., and at Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

October 23rd.—"At Home," 50, Queen's Gate, S.W., to the Nurses' Union, 3—6.30.

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

LECTURES.

A Course of Lectures for Nurses at 67, Guilford Street, Russell Square, W.C., on the Tuesday mornings in October, 10.30—11.30 a.m.

October 20th.—The Responsibility of Hospital and Private Nurses towards their Patients." By Miss Moriarty, late of Isleworth Infirmary.

October 27th.—"The Responsibility of all Members of the Nursing Profession towards the Heathen World." By Cecil J. Davenport, F.R.C.S., of Shanghai Hospital.

SERMON.

October 18th.—A Sermon to interest Nurses and friends in the Nurses' Missionary League will be preached in All Souls' Church, Langham Place, W., by the Rev. F. S. Webster, 7 p.m.

MEETING.

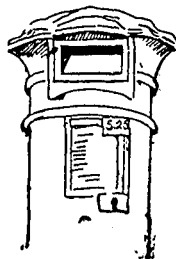
October 19th.—Meeting in connection with the above in the Church Home, Great Titchfield Street, W. Nurses warmly welcomed, 8 p.m.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Education is not business; it is pleasure. It means soaring into the sky of knowledge, and seeing all the kingdoms of the earth.

Mr. GEORGE WYNDHAM, M.P.,
Chester Society of Natural Science.

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.

OUR GUINEA PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of cheque for one guinea for Puzzle Prize with many thanks.

I am, yours faithfully,
Faith Ward, G. M. Mew (Sister).
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

HOSPITAL NURSES AND THE LIVING-IN-SYSTEM.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The scheme propounded by Miss Ashby that nurses engaged in hospital work should "live out" is quite unpractical and unworkable, but probably what is in her mind in regard to the living-in system is the tutelage in which nurses in training are kept in many institutions, not only in regard to their work in the wards, which is, of course, quite right, for they are at school and in training, but also as to how they spend their time off duty, what they shall and shall not read, etc. Surely grown-up women who have sufficient intelligence to be fit for the responsible work of nursing may be trusted to use their discretion as to the literature they read when off duty, yet to my certain knowledge nurses in many hospitals are not only not encouraged to take an interest in the general welfare of their profession, and to read the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, but are absolutely discouraged from doing so. Indeed, a friend of mine in one large London training school tells me the nurses there are "not allowed" to read it. Needless to say, they do, just as much as the prisoners in Holloway, where talking is prohibited, find means to communicate with one another.

But one thing my friend, who is an ardent Registrationist, dare not do. She dare not attend a registration meeting, because she might be recognised, and her conduct reported to the powers that be, and she is afraid she might lose her certificate if she were found guilty of such "disloyalty" to her Matron.

Is it any wonder when these things are possible that nurses are beginning to want "a little time which they can call their own."

It is not the living-in system, but the abuse of power by those in authority which Miss Ashby should attack.

Yours faithfully,

FAIR PLAY.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)