

estimate of him, and a true one it proves. Still the man is a gentleman, and cares for his pretty wife as much as he is capable of caring for anyone. She has many friends and all that wealth can supply. Fate once more deals her a cruel blow, when she loses her little son, just at the age when children are most engaging. One realises, then, that the deepest, strongest passion in her life is mother love. Never through all the coming years does she lose the sound of the little pattering feet, the feel of the little clinging hands.

Then the heaviest shadow in her life falls on her, and the husband she has never really loved dies tragically. How that end is compassed, and how once more Fate, with relentless hand, metes out retribution for what many would call mere youthful folly, we must surely leave to the author's telling, as it is a wholly unexpected climax.

Alan Harcourt, Esterelle's first lover, is a really fine representation of a young Englishman. "Manly, open, and honest, and leaning to the masterful."

A very different but equally interesting type is Cyril Carruthers, a man of the fashionable world, with the kindly heart and outwardly cynical manner; most vividly is he placed before you, as is also Lady Chettrington, the great county lady, who proves Esterelle's best friend and greatest help when under the cloud of doubt and suspicion. The whole book is thoroughly human and possible—a true page from life, needing no great plot to hold the interest of the reader all through.

E. L. H.

Coming Events.

February 19th.—Irish Nurses' Association. Meeting of Debating Society, 86, Lower Leeson Street, Dublin, 7.30 p.m.

February 20th and 22nd.—Nurses' Missionary League Conference, Mission House, Newington Green, N.

February 22nd.—The Princess of Wales opens the new ward for children at the Great Northern Central Hospital, 3.30 p.m.

February 25th.—Shoreditch and Bethnal Green District Nursing Association. The Annual Meeting, St. Leonard's Parish Room, Shoreditch, Mayor of Shoreditch in the Chair, 5 p.m.

March 3rd.—The Royal Sanitary Institute. "The Control of Infectious Diseases in Schools." To be opened by Dr. A. Carruthers, M.D., D.P.H., County Education Medical Officer, Bucks.

March 5th.—59th Annual General Meeting of the London Homœopathic Hospital, in the Board Room of the Hospital, the Right Hon. the Earl Cadwor presiding, 3.30 p.m.

March 10th.—Royal Free Hospital. Annual Meeting at Mansion House, Lord Mayor presiding. 3 p.m.

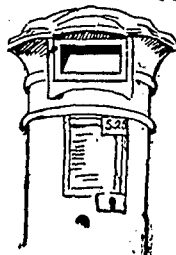
THE ROYAL INFIRMARY, EDINBURGH.

Lectures.—Extra Mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Trained Nurses cordially invited.

February 24th.—"The Electric Current Production, and Uses of," by Dr. Dawson Turner.

March 10th.—"Bacteria," by Dr. Theodore Shennan.

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 PUZZLE PRIZE.

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

DEAR MADAM,—Thank you for forwarding to me the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING announcing my success in last month's competition, and also for the £1 ls. prize. It was a pleasant surprise to me, especially as I thought I was rather late in sending in my answers.

I may say I have taken the Journal for some years, and always look forward to Friday, when I get it.

Wishing the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING every success,

Believe me,

Yours truly,

E. L. PENNIE.

Holy Trinity Parsonage, Motherwell, Scotland.

THE WOMAN IN THE BONNET AND CLOAK.
To the Editor of the "British Journal of Nursing."

DEAR MADAM,—The appearance of the masquerader in the field of nursing is now so common that one ceases to be astonished at anything done by the woman in the bonnet and cloak! I have recently returned from a visit in the country, where I was the guest of the doctor and his wife—old friends of mine. I inquired why there was no District Nurse in a parish of 15,000 people, and was told there had been two or three, they had not, however, been a success. Further inquiries elicited the fact that the Committee which was formed to appoint one, was composed of the local magnates, people in easy, comfortable circumstances, and quite without the requisite knowledge and experience—a lay Committee entirely.

My friend, the doctor, who had lived and worked in the parish for many years, and who alone was qualified to deal with the matter, was not even consulted! For this large parish, with outlying hamlets, these triflers engaged a woman in a bonnet and cloak, to whom they offered the handsome salary of 15s. a week!

The doctor, not being pachydermatous, felt the slight offered to himself, and the injustice of an inadequate wage to the woman. He pointed out to one member of the Committee that no trained nurse could or would accept such a wage; her reply to that was that she was sure they could be had for as low as 10s. a week!

N.B.—This sweater had a comfortable home of her own!

The doctor justified his remarks when he was asked to "step in" and view the woman in the bonnet and cloak dead drunk on the floor of her lodging!

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)