

telling dear humphy just in her own sweet way. Thereat she kissed him passionately three times, and fell suddenly a weeping over him with her face against his, telling him he was the dearest humphy in the world, and he must promise to love Berkeley."

"If it is your happiness, Jane," he told her, "you must surely know there can be no one in the world more glad than I."

That was the last and best he could do. He kissed her and turned to the lamp."

We are delighted therefore at the close of the book to hear her say: "Humphy, after all there is no one I care for like you. . . . You can never be too old for me. If you care for me now that Berkeley has cast me aside . . . I think this is what I prayed for last night, humphy."

He drew her hands and pressed them to his breast.

"God bless you."

We could quote many an amusing passage from the old Vicar's infatuation for his numerous nephews and his garden to the complete submerging of his parochial duties.

"They admire (without walking on it) the velvet texture of the green lawn that the Vicar nurses like a child, with Chinese umbrellas to keep the sun from its tender places at mid-day, and waters by countless buckets at nights, with the assistance of his maids. It is the lawn that so astonished the Archbishop when he came ten years ago to consecrate the pitchpine pews."

The said lawn, his own creation, being in a sad state when he first came to the living, so that he said of his predecessor: "Poor fellow, he's dead and gone; but he didn't seem to have the slightest vocation for a vicar."

"The Doctor's Lass" is a masterpiece.

H. H.

Coming Events.

CONGRESS OF THE ROYAL SANITARY INSTITUTE, ROYAL PAVILION, BRIGHTON, SEPTEMBER 5TH—10TH.

Principal Events.

September 5th.—Reception of Members and Delegates by the Worshipful the Mayor. 1 p.m.

Opening of the Health Exhibition in the Dome by the Worshipful the Mayor. 3 p.m.

Inaugural Address to the Congress by the Hon. Sir John A. Cockburn, K.C.M.G., M.D. 8 p.m.

September 6th.—Conference, 10 a.m.

Lecture to the Congress by Dr. Arthur News-holme, F.R.C.P., "The National Importance of Child Mortality." 8 p.m.

September 7th.—Conference. 10 a.m.

Conversazione and Reception at the invitation of the Worshipful the Mayor. 8 p.m.

September 8th.—Conference. 10 a.m.

September 9th.—Conference, 10 a.m.

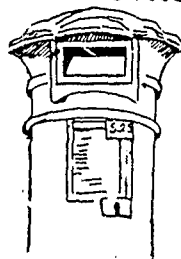
Closing Meeting, 1.30 p.m.

Garden Party, 3.30 p.m.

Popular Lecture by Dr. Alex. Hill, M.D., F.R.C.S., J.P., on "The Bricks with which the Body is Built." 8 p.m.

September 10th.—Excursions.

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 FIRST CARAVAN OF THE WOMEN'S IMPERIAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION.

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

DEAR MADAM,—I read with great interest your account of the ceremony of inauguration of the first caravan despatched on tour by the Women's Imperial Health Association of Great Britain, and feel sure that every trained nurse will wish it well on its mission. The maintenance of health is one of the most important problems for the individual, and for the nation, which is, it is to be feared, for the most part in gross darkness, in spite of the fact that all children now come under the influence of the Board of Education.

Even that Department is only learning slowly that to cultivate the brains of the children in the schools throughout the country, and to ignore the physical necessities of their growing bodies is both futile and cruel, and that time is well spent in instruction in such subjects as will help boys and girls to discharge the duties of every day life, and to be good husbands and wives when they grow to adult life. Surely it is not too much to ask that domestic economy should be one of the subjects in which every girl is instructed. To know how to cook and sew, how to wash and dress a baby, what it should and should not be fed upon, the necessity for a pure milk supply, and for strict cleanliness of all vessels with which it comes in contact, will be of more value to a girl in her future life than a smattering of subjects, probably forgotten as soon as she leaves school.

We exclaim at the dense ignorance of mothers, yet at whose door should we lay that ignorance? Most mothers are painfully anxious to do their best for their children, witness the success of "Schools for Mothers" when started. But such schools are poor makeshifts at best. The knowledge imparted there ought to have been acquired before girls become mothers at all, not at the expense of their first born, as many a tiny grave bears witness. It is our system of education which is at fault, a fact which, I am glad to note, the London County Council is beginning to apprehend, and the instruction now given in its schools in practical catering and cooking for working class families should do something towards improving the stamina of the nation.

I am, Dear Madam,

Yours faithfully,

DISTRICT NURSE.

OUR PUZZLE PRIZE.

Rules for competing for the Pictorial Puzzle-Prize will be found on Advertisement page xii.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)