

"Because of his attachment to you!"
 "That's moonshine," said Helga with decision.
 "I hope not," said Mrs. Byrne.

The mother and daughter turned from each other, troubled, silent, afraid of the next word.

"The marriage Helga had made, without being greatly stirred, took its place at last as the paramount adventure of her life. . . . Torments of anxiety and desire consumed the silly child, who had played with love, not knowing that love was a fire."

The fortunes of the family going from bad to worse, compel Helga, who is afraid to own her marriage, to find some way of earning her own living. She obtains the place of a parlour maid to some intimate friends of her husband's, and after the obvious awkwardness that such a proceeding would bring about, she at last confesses her deception to her parents, and, by a stroke of the wand, everything is as it should be, including a remunerative billet for Mr. Byrne.

But we were perhaps wrong in saying that "The Lantern Bearers" escaped the commonplace.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 7th.—Central London Sick Asylum, Hendon. Nurses' Meeting. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will speak on Nursing Organisation and State Registration. 5 p.m.

October 8th.—Royal Free Hospital, W.C., Nurses' Home. Meeting to consider the formation of a Nurses' League.

October 10th.—Territorial Force Nursing Service, City and County of London. Reception at the Mansion House by invitation of the Lady Mayoress and the Members of the Executive Committee. 8—10.30 p.m. Entertainment and music.

October 10th.—Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. Course of Lectures—Training for Women Health Visitors and School Nurses.

October 10th to 14th.—The National Union of Women Workers. Annual Conference, Central Hall, Lincoln. Annual Meeting, National Council of Women, 12th and 13th inst., 10.30 a.m.

October 12th.—Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Course of Lectures to Trained Nurses. Opening Lecture on "The Nursing of Cases of Cardiac Disease," by Dr. G. A. Gibson. 4.30 p.m.

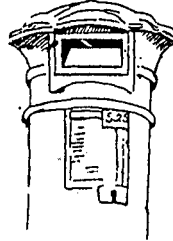
October 13th.—The National Pure Food Association. Lecture. "Infant Mortality and the Food and Drugs Act," by Mr. John Foot, Chief Inspector for the Borough of Bethnal Green, 38, Russell Square, W.C., 8 p.m.

October 14th.—Central London Sick Asylum, Cleveland Street, W. Nurses' Meeting. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will speak on Nursing Organisation and State Registration. 5 p.m.

October 18th.—Royal Institute of Public Health, 37, Russell Square, W.C. First lecture of special course for women desirous of qualifying as Health Visitors and School Nurses, 7 p.m.

October 20th.—Society for State Registration of Trained Nurses. Meeting Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, London, W., 4 p.m. Tea.

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.

STATE REGISTRATION OF FEVER NURSES.

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

DEAR MADAM,—The Scotsman and Glasgow Herald have again given a prominent place to the above subject. The point of the recent correspondence has been the registration of fever nurses. Dr. Campbell Munro advocates a separate or supplementary register; other writers condemn this method of recognition.

As the question of State Registration of Nurses is primarily a nurses' question, I shall, with your kind permission make a few remarks through the columns of the BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

A register of fever nurses would tend to isolate fever nurses even more than they are isolated at present in connection with their education and training. It would cramp and fix their work and position in the future; it would render it more difficult for general trained nurses to obtain fever training; it would be little or no use to the public. On the other hand, it would be a convenience to local authorities, but such a convenience could be attained without sacrificing the best interests of the nurses. One writer says that a fever register would cause confusion in the public mind, but a supplementary fever register could no more cause confusion than the mental nurses' register or the male nurses' register; there are much more weighty and reasonable objections to it than this. A full medical, surgical, and fever training has always appeared to me to be the ideal training. I agree with Dr. Robertson, who writes as a member of the Scottish Nurses' Association that a separate register would not do justice to fever nurses. Dr. Robertson goes on to say, however, that the training "in our large fever hospitals" is "quite sufficient for the nursing of medical cases," and he proceeds to advocate the abolition of general medical training for nurses who have gone through three years' training in fever hospitals. Medical nursing and fever nursing differ in many respects, as those nurses who have gone through both trainings know. In my opinion, Dr. Robertson's proposal to keep nurses for three years in a fever hospital, give them one year's surgical training, and send them out registered as general trained nurses (after having undergone a few years' training in which medical nursing is not included) would be a very grave injustice. A year of medical training, a year of surgical training, and a year of fever training would be more like justice to nurses. I merely mention these periods of time as an illustration because there will be much to do in the adjustment of a full curriculum. It has always, however, been my belief

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