

open windows. The bright, cheerful room, with its lovable banality and familiar comfort, smiled its welcome, and there, in the midst, the majestic and alien presence sat, overpowering and grotesque in its unappropriateness."

The Bouddha is typical of Tante and her sinister influence, which soon—very soon—estranges this young couple. Tante and the Bouddha in one flat proved too much for an ordinary everyday young man.

When it is too late, Karen discovers the feet of clay belonging to her idol (Tante, not the Bouddha), and bitterly regrets the exchange from a very desirable husband to an exacting, hysterical tyrant.

But Gregory, being a reasonable and controlled person, after many happenings recovers his wife, and we are led to suppose they lived happily ever after.

H. H.

#### COMING EVENTS.

*January 16th and 17th.*—St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.—Christmas Entertainment for the Resident Hospital Staff, Great Hall, 7.45 p.m.

*January 17th.*—Meeting Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland. Business meeting: Address on "The Instruction of Nurses in Some Aspects of Venereal Disease," by Dr. Florence E. Willey; 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Business Meeting, 3 p.m.; Tea, 4 p.m.; Address, 4.30 p.m.

*January 18th.*—Open Meeting for Nurses to receive Report from the Nurses Protection Committee, *re* National Insurance Bill. Mrs. Bedford Fenwick in the Chair. Miss Mollett will speak on "An Approved Society for Trained Nurses," Morley Hall, 26, George Street, Hanover Square, London, W., 8 p.m.

*January 18th.*—Monthly Meeting of Central Midwives Board, Caxton House, Westminster, 2.45 p.m.

*February 7th.*—The Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh. Lecture: "Some Hints and Observations on the Physiology and Treatment of Skin Diseases." By Dr. Gardiner. Extra-mural Medical Theatre, 4.30 p.m. Trained Nurses cordially invited.

#### A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Beautiful hands are those that do  
Work that is earnest, brave, and true,  
Moment by moment the whole day through.

Beautiful feet are those that go  
On kindly ministries to and fro,  
Down lowliest ways, if God wills it so.

Beautiful shoulders are those that bear  
Ceaseless burdens of homely care  
With patience, grace, and daily prayer.

Beautiful lives are those that bless,  
Silent rivers of happiness,  
Whose hidden fountains none can guess.

ELLEN P. ALLERTON,  
*In Rosemary Leaves.*

#### 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.*

#### COTTAGE NURSES IN IRELAND.

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—With great regret I observe an attempt on the part of a laywoman to defend the foisting on the poor, of mothers' helps as Nurses, in Ireland of all places, where, owing to distance from the doctor and other inconveniences, we need the very best type of trained Nurses. Let me hasten to assure you that the project is opposed by all that is best in our Irish nursing circles. Not one of our Hospitals will lower its standard by accepting a fee for turning out a sham.

If United Irishwomen are in earnest, let one of their number go and be trained as a Nurse, and come back and devote herself to the people, and let the others lodge her and feed her. I like practical common-sense combined with knowledge—not sentimentality joining hands with ignorance.

Yours faithfully,

ALBINIA BRODRICK.

Ballincoona, Caher Daniel,  
Co. Kerry, Ireland.

#### THE COLOGNE CONGRESS.

*To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.*

DEAR MADAM,—Can you tell me how I am to attend the International Congress at Cologne?—I do not belong to a League. If I went "on my own" should I be recognised—and be invited to social functions? I am a great believer in international intercourse between classes of workers—but at the hospital where I trained we were discouraged from joining any nurses' societies, and from reading the professional nursing journals.

Yours truly,

A. C. F.

(After the next meeting of the National Council of Nurses, when the arrangements for the Congress will be more matured, we shall be pleased to advise on this question. It will be necessary for nurses from the United Kingdom to have credentials if they wish to participate in the social functions in connection with the Congress—and we hope to make such arrangements as will prevent any disappointment to those who are not members of the National Council. All three years certificated nurses can co-operate, and should do so, by becoming members of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, or the Scottish and Irish Associations of Nurses.—ED.)

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