

perplexed him in his childhood. We never guess till the last page that this girl is bad at the core. Perhaps it would be fairer to say handicapped heavily in being the daughter of her mother. She fools young Christopher while amusing herself with Heccadon, with whose wife she is on terms of intimacy. But she assures Christopher

"If he called to me. . . ! Don't be afraid. He won't, and I shouldn't lose my head if he did. I was born later you see than poor mother. But if he did."

She said all this without shame. There was something not ignoble in her frankness.

"Mrs. Heccadon?" Christopher forced himself to say.

"Margot? She understands each of us. She understands each of us. She is one of the people who are born to pay. As I am not," she added after a moment, and he knew she was right.

In reading this book we are constantly expecting and constantly experiencing disappointment.

No one achieves. That Christopher does achieve some future day is hinted at, but that does not console us.

Climbing the years—from Boulogne to London he had been under a delusion. He was to know, maybe, that he was under a delusion. He was to know beyond all doubt, if so that the delusion itself had been divine. Was it?

We are told that in spite of all this girl was the ultimate joy of his conscious and unconscious seeking." H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

January 19th.—The Royal Sanitary Institute, 90, Buckingham Palace Road, S.W. "Problem of After Care of Sanatoria Patients." By T. D. Lister, M.D., B.S., F.R.C.S. 4 p.m.

January 26th.—Central Midwives Board. Penal Cases, Board Room, Caxton House, Westminster, S.W., 2 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.

February 7th.—Dickens Centenary. National Council of Nurses, Saiey Gamp At Home. The Doré Gallery, 35, New Bond Street, London, W. Exhibition, Music. Refreshments, 8.30 p.m. Guests to be in character from the Works of Dickens. Tickets, Professional, 3s.; Friends, Non-Professional, 5s. Apply, Miss Cutler, Hon. Sec., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, E.C.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Dream Bright Dreams,
And they will comfort you.
Be Patient: One by One they will come true,
And Death will be more fair.

SIVORI LEVEY.

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.

COMPULSORY FEVER TRAINING FOR REGISTRATION.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—In your issue of January 6th I observe a further letter from Miss E. A. Stevenson regarding Sir William Macewen's remarks at our annual meeting. I have nothing further to add to my previous letter except to say that it is a matter not only of "opinion" but of *knowledge* that "neither the S.N.A nor its President holds that fever training should be compulsory for all nurses."

Yours faithfully,

P. H. ROBERTSON, M.B.,

Secretary, Scottish Nurses' Association.

5, Kelvin Drive, Glasgow.

PILFERING IN THE NURSES' HOME.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I think it is high time something was done to grapple with pilfering in Nurses' Homes—from what I hear from friends in the best hospitals and also from personal experience in one of them—it is a very serious abuse. Then does the evil stop at pilfering? It does not. When, on your day out you go to your locked drawer, and find your best coat and skirt has disappeared, it is not only a very serious matter to a woman earning a very small salary—but it amounts to *theft*—not pilfer. Matrons and Committees of late years have had the very greatest worry on this question—they naturally, for the good name of the hospital, try to hush it up, when, in my opinion, they would be much wiser to give it the widest publicity possible. No doubt poverty may account for some of the thefts—as the goods are known to have been sold and not worn—but lack of delicacy also accounts for the pilfering of small articles of apparel. I would suggest that a rule should be printed, and enforced in every school—that no borrowing of any article of apparel is permissible, and that those found infringing this rule should be called upon to resign from the service of the hospital.

I am, yours truly,

ONE WHO HAS SUFFERED.

DEAR MADAM,—I do not think that pilfering is always due to inadequate salaries, that is, when the articles taken are wearing apparel and eatables. When I was in hospital, I found the greatest offenders were women with ample private means. They "borrowed" and forgot to pay back; if I found any of my property in another room

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