

## LEAGUE NEWS.

The Leicester Royal Infirmary Nurses' League held its winter general meeting on Wednesday, January 19th, in the Nurses' Home of the Infirmary. The proceedings commenced with a meeting of the Council. Two new members were elected. After other business was concluded, Miss Pell Smith said she wished to tell the League that she proposed to hold a meeting of nurses in the town with the object of explaining the Hon. A. Stanley's scheme for organizing the profession to them, and she hoped the League members would attend.

The Council meeting was followed by the general meeting, which was entirely social, just tea and talk. Letters of regret at absence had been received from many members, both at home and abroad, with wishes for an enjoyable meeting. A few came from London and from the county, and were very pleased to enjoy tea and a chat with old friends who had returned to Leicester to work in the Military Hospital. Tea tables and comfortable chairs were tastefully arranged in the main corridor of the Home.

During tea Miss Wade rose and offered Miss Vincent (Principal Matron 5th Northern Territorial Hospital) congratulations, in the name of the League, on having been awarded the Royal Red Cross, and said the League felt several inches taller for this honour conferred on one of its vice-presidents. This was seconded by Miss Braye, and carried with acclamation. Miss Vincent thanked the League for their congratulations. Miss Wade also proposed that good New Year wishes be sent to the President, Miss G. A. Rogers, who was unable to be present. Miss Pell Smith seconded this, and three cheers were given for the President.

After tea Miss Warren and Miss Dora Rice, accompanied by Miss Dalley, sang several songs, which were much enjoyed, and after singing the National Anthem, the members dispersed to their several duties.

## JUSTICE FOR WOMEN IN MANITOBA.

A Woman's Suffrage Bill, giving women not only the Parliamentary vote, but the right to sit in Parliament, has been passed by the Manitoba Legislature. Manitoba is one of the Provinces of Canada in which a Nurses' Registration Act is in force, so it is now quite a corner of the world in which women may find scope for their best energies.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK.

## "THESE TWAIN." \*

We must look forward to any fresh work of Mr. Arnold Bennett's with pleasurable anticipation. We cannot call the present volume a fresh creation, as it is a continuance of the history of the fascinating personages in "Clayhanger" and "Hilda Lessways." The author continues through a long volume the daily life in its minute details of Hilda married to Edwin Clayhanger, who had taken her and her illegitimate child George into his heart and home. Lest our readers have not read, or do not remember the foregoing history of these people, we must remind them that Hilda's misfortune was due to George Cannon's bigamous marriage with her, she being ignorant of the existence of his real wife. In order to thoroughly enjoy this masterly succession of novels it is necessary to acquire the Arnold Bennett cult. We suppose that there are numbers of persons to whom they make no appeal, or who are, indeed, somewhat irritated by them. But in our experience the more one reads the more one falls under their peculiar spell, and the endless self-analysis of mind and trivial incident, gradually unfolds before us the realisation that it is the work of a genius in character study, and an expert for probing into the motive that is behind the apparent commonplace of daily life. Mr. Arnold Bennett leaves nothing commonplace; everything he touches becomes vital and interesting. We cannot attempt to deal with the story as a whole, or even to attempt to account for its many personalities; we ask our readers to obtain the book and read it.

Hear Hilda's views as house-mistress. "Yes, she took her oath that her house should be intelligent and agreeable before it was clean. She pictured Auntie Hamps gazing at a layer of dust in the Clayhanger hall, and heard herself saying, 'O, yes, Auntie, it's dust right enough; I keep it there to remind myself of something I want to remember.' She looked round Auntie Hamps' sitting-room and revelled grimly in the matron's catalogue of its mean ugliness. And then Auntie Hamps came in, quite unconscious that she was dead and that her era was dead, and that Hilda was not guiltless of the murder."

Hilda, at the works, had criticised the conduct of Big James, the impeccable foreman.

"The implication that Big James was a fraud, and that he, Edwin, was simpleton enough to be victimised by the fraud, while the great, all-seeing Hilda exposed it at a single glance, and the implication that he, Edwin, was fussy at home and negligent at the works!

"Don't work yourself up, darling,' she counselled with kindness and concern, as he went out of the room. 'You know how sensitive you are.' It was a calculated insult, but an insult which had to be ignored. To notice it would have been a grievous tactical error."

\* Arnold Bennett. Methuen & Co., London.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)