

the girl's cheek it was rich and golden as a pomegranate. He saw no more the ugly green cloth coat and the dreadful slum Sunday hat with its many roses. She stood undisturbed as feature by feature he began to know her. The mouth over the little pointed chin full of curves with parted upturned lips and an air of appeal. She was a good, straight girl, and Huncote loved her for the time and married her. Then followed tragedy, as might be supposed. Sue in her own environment had a different aspect to Sue in Huncote's.

Poor Sue. Of course she suffered for her husband's mistake. Of course he was cruel over her social lapses, and of course the estrangement grew and grew.

It was no doubt hard on Roger to be told that his friendship with Theresa "was running after a single lady," and many other like things, but it was not poor Sue's fault, after all.

But the constant struggle to do the right thing, the constant dread of failure and of her husband's displeasure broke Sue's spirit, and she turns again to Bert, her slum lover. She just clung to him shaking all over.

"Cheer up, you silly kid," said Bert, moved and angry because his voice was husky. "Chuck it, I say." He could not bear to see her cry, but would not tell her so, and then as if love told him exactly what to do he drew her closer into his arms."

The book is well worth reading, and it contains many clever character studies; and shows a deep insight into the lives of the dwellers in slums. Its literary style is also original.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

April 1st.—Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, 431, Oxford Street, W. 4 p.m.

April 1st.—Irish Nurses' Association: Meeting Executive Committee, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. 8 p.m.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

Candidates for the French Flag Nursing Corps Service in France can be interviewed by appointment. Write to the Hon. Secretary, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. Candidates must be well educated and hold a certificate for three years' general training, which they should bring for inspection. Experience in fever nursing and massage, and a knowledge of French are additional advantages.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"The kiss of the sun for pardon,
The song of the birds for mirth;
One is nearer God's heart in a garden
Than anywhere else on earth."

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.

NO OFFICIAL OLIGARCHY.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—We are told this Nursing College Scheme is a "Matrons' Scheme" for the organization of our profession. May I venture to point out that, unless the Matron is a trained nurse first and an official second, we prefer to evolve our own system of organization. Personally, I doubt that even the Anti-registration Matrons have defined this dangerous constitution for our subjugation; it has the old male official ring about it. Moreover, the Matrons' Council has always worked hand in hand with other trained nurses' organizations—and the sort of liberal-minded Matrons who have joined it and stood for State Registration ideals are the right sort of Matrons—so don't let us blame the Matrons for this latest attack. We will not submit to any oligarchy of hospital governors or Matrons—the rank and file form the backbone, the hard-working, ill paid majority of every profession—and we must not be led away by any specious arguments "for our good." We have a right to legal status as our colleagues have in the Colonies and the United States, and we want no hospital committee over us once we are free and earning our own living. I know of one large hospital at least where absolutism has crushed out the spirit of hundreds of women in the past thirty years. The Nursing College Scheme of lay and official government would simply strangle every atom of individual independence trained nurses now enjoy—and that is not saying much.

C. F. TUDOR.

London.

Private Nurse.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

April 8th.—Describe briefly the structure of bone. How is bone nourished?

April 15th.—What would you do in the following emergencies while waiting the arrival of a physician?

- (a) Apoplexy.
- (b) Asphyxia from gas.
- (c) Poisoning from an alkali.

OUR ADVERTISERS.

We would remind our readers that they can help THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING by dealing as far as possible with advertisers in the paper, and getting their friends to do likewise. Only the most reliable firms are accepted by the management.

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