

her into his arms. Yet the expected joy evaded her desire, and the sudden determination to lose utterly her reserve."

Yet deep within her, surprising in its vitality, a fragile ardour persisted. If she could explain, not only might he understand, but be able to make her own longing clear and secure.

But all she managed to say was, "If you kiss me again, I think it will kill me."

"You were never alive," he asserted. "I'll put some feeling into you. It has been done before with marble."

Though she realised that to marry him was still the crown of whatever happiness she could imagine, her shrinking from him was not overcome, and she married her kind, middle-aged kinsman, with a memorable voice, and an easy distinction of manner. On the whole she decided he was nice but uninteresting.

Dodge Pleydon kept his devotion for her and also her devoted friendship. In his great work, the statue of Simon Downige, she realises that it was her inspiration that brought him fame.

After his death she sits at the base of the monument he had created, and thought over the past.

"She had even asked him in passing resentment, why he had never directly modelled her, kept with his recording genius the shape of her features. How incredible! At last she could see he had preserved her spirit, her secret self from destruction. The delicate perfection of her youth would never perish, never be dulled by old age or corrupted in death. It had inspired and entered into Pleydon's being, and he had lifted it on the pedestal rising between the sea and sky. From the moment he had sat with her on the divan, she had been the source of his power."

An unusual and powerful volume.

H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

October 15th.—General Nursing Council for England and Wales. Meeting, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, S.W. 2 p.m.

October 15th.—National Union of Trained Nurses. Lecture, "Civic Duties and Responsibilities," by Councillor Beatrice Kent. 46, Marsham Street, Westminster. 6 p.m.

October 16th.—British Hospital for Mothers and Babies, Woolwich: Her Royal Highness, Princess Christian, will lay the foundation stone. 3 p.m.

November 1st.—Central Midwives' Board for Scotland: Examination, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee, and Aberdeen. Particulars from the Secretary, Mr. D. L. Eadie, 49, Lauriston Place, Edinburgh.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

Sow good services; sweet remembrances will grow from them.—*Madame de Stael.*

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.

KERNELS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

MATTER IN HANDS OF TRAINED NURSES.

Sister Territorial Force Nursing: "Glad to note that our Nursing Council is open to the Press, as I for one shall follow its proceedings with exceeding interest. Congratulate G.N.C. on its reply *re* V.A.D.s. If the Chairman of the College of Nursing, Ltd., succeeds in thrusting them on our Register, they will remain there in solitary state. You may take it from me, we certificated nurses will boycott the whole show. As you ask, what are the College Centres going to do about this matter? They ought all to pass a swinging resolution objecting to the action of their Chairman, and forward it to the College Council. But will they? I doubt they have not the courage. If not, it proves the danger to our professional affairs of trained nurses being controlled by their employers.

[We have no fear of V.A.D.s being considered eligible for registration on the English trained nurses' Register, but we advise Scottish nurses to ask for a definite pronouncement on this point from the General Nursing Council for Scotland. We hear social influence is coquetting with the question north of the Tweed. Trained nurses have this matter entirely in their own hands, and if they are loyal to their cloth they have simply to boycott any Register which includes V.A.D.s and the whole structure of the Nursing Acts falls to the ground like a house of cards.—ED.]

A SEVEN OR SIX DAY WEEK.

Would-be Nurse:—"In this town (Newcastle-on-Tyne) it is announced in the press that the Committee of the Royal Infirmary has adopted a resolution for an eight-hour day for nurses. Does this mean a seven or six-day week?"

[We advise our correspondent to write to the Matron, Royal Victoria Infirmary, on this question, as she is a member of the College of Nursing, Ltd., it is probable that the fifty-six hour week has been adopted, as recommended by its Council.—ED.]

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION

QUESTIONS.

October 23rd.—How would you prepare the following for the use of the surgeon at operation? :

- (a) Ureteric catheters.
- (b) Silk-worm gut.
- (c) Chromatised gut.
- (d) Gauze abdominal packs.
- (e) Scissors.

October 30th.—What are the dangers of syphilis in the pregnant woman, and what is a nurse's duty in such cases?

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