

the Potter Press. In fact they belonged to the Anti-Potter League, known as the A.P.L.

Mr. Potter would not have been worthy of his reputation had he not been aware of the existence of this League, he in no way resented it, and indeed it was not aimed at him personally, nor at his wife, but at the great mass of thought; or of incoherent, muddle emotion that passed for thought which Anti-Potters had agreed for brevity's sake to call "Potterism."

When war broke out, Johnny of course joined up, Jane sulking because she could not fight, thought for a time that she would nurse and get abroad that way.

Then it became obvious that too many fools were scrambling to get sent abroad, and anyhow, that, if Clare was nursing, it must be a mug's game, and that there must be a better field for her energies elsewhere. With so many men going there would be empty places to fill. . . . That thought came, perhaps as soon to Jane as to any one in the country. She obtained a good post in the Admiralty, but when the Armistice came she got badly left.

Jane wanted to make history in Paris. She felt out of it—left, as she had felt, when other people went to the war and she stayed at home.

She accepted the offer of her father (now Lord Pinkeston) to go across with him as his secretary. They were lunching at his club, he was quite good to lunch with; you got a splendid feed for nothing.

"You can come if you like, Babs. I want another secretary—must have one."

Jane thought for exactly thirty seconds, weighing shorthand-typing against Paris and Life. Life had it, as usual. "Right-o, daddy, I'll come along."

That was how Jane came to work for the Potter press. Jane's experiences as shorthand-typist are related with the same shrewd and amusing discernment as characterises the rest of the book.

Thus shortly afterwards she announced in her cool, leisurely way her intention of marrying Oliver Hobart, the editor of one of her father's papers.

Johnny announces her decision to Juke, one of the A.P.L.

"Its no laughing matter," said Juke. "Jane is imperilling her immortal soul. She is yoking together with an unbeliever; she is forming an unholy alliance. We must stop it."

"Stop Jane," said Johnny; "you might just as well try to stop a young tank."

As might be well supposed, the marriage was not exactly a success, but as we have not space to quote more, we strongly advise our readers to obtain and read this clever skit, which is one of the most able books of the year.

H. H.

Reason has moons, but moons not less
Lie mirror'd on the sea,
Confounding her astronomers,
But, O! delighting me.

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.

THE SPIRIT OF NURSING.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was glad to hear at the great meeting held to discuss so many burning questions on Dec. 3rd, that, with regard to the Hours of Employment Bill, it would be quite impracticable for private nurses. They must be left free to give the required time to each patient according to surroundings and finances. If a patient can afford two nurses and is very ill, there should be two; but I cannot help thinking it is only the minority that could afford three—think what it means when fees, board and laundry are paid—at least £16 a week; consequently more patients would go to nursing homes and very few private nurses would be required.

If we take only an economic view, all happiness and love of nursing is past. After all, a private nurse's life is usually what she makes it, and she gets a fair slice of social life. Personally, I started private work twenty-two years ago and still have many friends amongst my patients. If health permitted it, I would do my twenty-seven years' nursing over again. After all, "we lose what on ourselves we spend."

Yours, &c.,

E. EDITH FOWLER.

Sutherland Avenue.

PRIVATE NURSES AND THE HOURS OF EMPLOYMENT BILL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you allow me, through the medium of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, to say that the Professional Union of Trained Nurses entirely disagrees with the suggestion made by the College of Nursing, Ltd., in a circular sent round to its members, that Nurses should receive "overtime pay."

As far as Public Health Nurses, or those working in homes or institutions are concerned, it might be practicable, but for the large bulk of the Nursing Profession, the Private Nurses, it would be neither workable, I think, nor desirable. What the private nurse requires is not overtime pay but sufficient time for rest and recreation.

If, for instance, she has to work for twelve hours during a crisis in pneumonia, when the patient is convalescing, it ought to be possible for her to have more hours off duty to make up for the extra time she has worked.

Above all, it should be impossible for a Matron or a Lady Superintendent to force her to take on a

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