

"Well, dash it all, Lella, I think I'm in love. I'm not sure, I think you'll have to help me out. But if I'm not quite in love, I'm almost."

"How topping! Who with?"

"Well, she's a Chiswick solicitor's widow's daughter."

After the first interview Lella gave it as her opinion that Dorothy was lovely, and her nose is "too, truly."

"Yes, she's a thing to possess, isn't she"? responded Oscar. "And, Lella, I've been thinking. What's so ripping about you is that you're such a wonderful audience; I mean you're such an appreciative listener. You are, really!"

Half-an-hour later Lella was walking back along the asphalt pathway with her own news undelivered.

She was happy, however, with that curious happiness that comes from having achieved a self-effacement.

Though Lella adored Oscar, she wondered if any woman could be frightfully happy with him. "It would want a big love."

Pretty, ordinary Dorothy proved a failure as the wife of dominating brilliant young Oscar.

Lella, who was big-hearted, prayed better at Oscar's wedding than she had done at her own.

"O God make them happy," she said. "Make Dorothy understand and give him what he needs. And make him gentle and patient with her. Bless and prosper his new engine." But, feeling this was too prosaic a word to offer to God, she altered it to "Bless and prosper his new enterprise."

Oscar and Lella both showed the Pool Shattery and Shattery Pool breeding in the great crisis of their lives.

After Dorothy's betrayal of him and the turning of the tide of public popularity, Lella had braved her husband's displeasure to stand by him.

In Oscar's final letter to her he wrote: "It's not a light thing to look at you and say 'never any more,' to know one is despised by all the world but one and to give up that one. It's really the only hard thing I've ever done." H. H.

TWILIGHT.

Twilight it is, and the far woods are dim, and the
rooks cry and call.

Down in the valley the lamps, and the mist, and
a star over all.

There by the rick, where they thresh, is the drone
at an end,

Twilight it is, and I travel the road with my friend.

I think of the friends who are dead, who were dear
long ago in the past,

Beautiful friends who are dead, though I know
that death cannot last;

Friends with the beautiful eyes that the dust has
defiled,

Beautiful souls who were gentle when I was a
child.

—John Masefield.

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.

CLEAN MILK.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I was much interested to read the letter published in your issue of last week on the subject of milk cans. Does it not show how essential it is that practical commonsense should be brought to bear on every relation of life? We, as a nation, legislate to provide that the quality of milk and its percentage of cream must not be below a certain standard. We purvey it in immaculate tiled-lined shops, we deliver it in sealed bottles, we congratulate ourselves on the conditions under which milking has taken place, and all the time deadly germs may be multiplying within the sealed bottles, and a poisonous instead of a life-giving fluid may be delivered to unsuspecting customers, because the simple, the elementary precaution has not been taken of ensuring that the cans in which this milk travels to its destination are sterile and fit. I very much hope that legislation may be enacted making it compulsory that all empty milk cans to be adequately cleansed before being returned to the farmer who despatched them, and that steps are taken to inspect cans to be used for containing milk before they are filled and despatched. I am glad that your correspondent drew attention to this question. Nothing could be more important from the standpoint of the nation's health.

Yours faithfully,

PREVENTION IS BETTER THAN CURE.

REGISTRATION OF INTERMEDIATE NURSES.

The only Nurses who are now eligible for registration are what are termed Intermediate Nurses—those who have completed their three years' training and been awarded a Certificate since November 1st, 1919. The term of two years' grace for Existing Nurses has terminated.

WHERE TO REGISTER.

Apply for Application Form to the Registrar:—
ENGLAND AND WALES—12, York Gate, Regent's
Park, London, N.W.

SCOTLAND—13, Melville Street, Edinburgh.

IRISH FREE STATE—33, St. Stephen's Green,
Dublin.

NORTHERN IRELAND—118, Great Victoria Street,
Belfast.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION QUESTION.

September 15th.—What is the distinctive value of Night Duty in the scheme of training for nurses? What do you consider the advantages and the drawbacks of Night Duty?

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