FIRST WEEKS IN LONDON.

LECTURES AND EDUCATION.

1. By E. A. Allen.

"London is a very big place!" This is what one of my most thoughtful friends said to me when I was beginning the first lecture of the year, speaking of the prospect of getting into touch with the most useful things.

I have been very much impressed recently by the idea that there is a likelihood of living there all one's life and not coming into contact with anything but that.

But one realizes it differently when one is actually faced with the veritable crush of books and papers, two columns of theatre advertisements, concerts, lectures, in Ibbetson Hall, an invitation to lunch from a boat companion, and four or five handbills from different university centers.

And one begins to have an almost bewildering variety of lectures. Within the same college there is a competition. The attempt to get to them all is a real problem. The first course of 16 students, resulted, after an elaborate plan of process, in fixing two hours for the same lecture, on Thursday, one on Wednesday.

One thing is very heartening. Every one agrees that there is a real movement in educational circles. This is due to the influence of pseudo-analyses which are having upon educational theories, and another to the influence of the school to get away from the timetable and to have a greater influence on the school. This is a different kind of organization and a modification of discipline.

The day training college is in Southwark Row. The first day that I went there I was struck by the fact of the large number of people coming out at one time of class. Such ragged little lines I have never seen. They led me to wonder if Professor Perry Woon, who in succession to Professor Adams, has the same reputation in other colleges. He is very popular with a rather flat face, and a very alert expression. He has a way of tying his necktie in a very peculiar manner. It is not very neat, and has a hypnotic effect on the students.

Mr. Fludg, a private lecturer at University College, is a fair young man, pale, bald, but very engaging. He has a very quiet way of moving his hands to make his points, and is quite a popular lecturer. But he is evidently becoming a little too mechanical and habitual the students take a liking to him. He is very polite, very deferential, and puts on and off again looking at his notes at all the time. He is impulsive. He excites the students and has a great influence on the course, without its being any hindrance to the students.

Prof. John Adams, the chair man of the committee, is a short, stocky man, with a very pleasant face. He was, as we have heard, a very important figure at the commencement of the conference. He was one of the leaders of the movement, and he is now one of the most important members of the committee. Mr. Fludg, as the chairman of the committee, was the secretary. There were a great many professors.

Professor John Adams is a man who has no enemies. He is in some way the finder of an alderman, the convenor of a conference, and the leader of a students' movement. He goes to university, and he has the good of the students in mind. He is kind and he has a good presence and sound appearance. But he soon forgets those who oppose him. He is surprising and unique. It is the way he has the individual tendencies and possesional feelings of the students. He is the chairman of the University College, and Professor Adams.