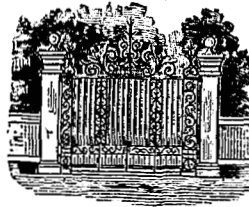


**Pre-arranged Harmony.**

SIR JAMES CRICHTON-BROWNE will have it that the meeting summoned to consider the situation at the National Hospital was a "packed one," and assumes "it was thought undesirable to have at the meeting anyone who might introduce a note of discord into its pre-arranged harmony." Well, Sir James Crichton-Browne should know. If he is not a competent judge of little matters of this kind, from the art of suppressing unpalatable resolutions to the organization of pre-arranged harmony, who is? All the same, Mr. Burford Rawlings asserts that the meeting was summoned in conformity with the regulations by a notice in the press. We are not discussing the merits of the National Hospital dispute, but we think that a better advocate of the cause of the medical staff than Sir James Crichton-Browne might well be found. His career in connection with the conduct of business at public meetings has not been altogether a creditable one.

**Preparations, Inventions, etc.****FIELD'S SOAPS.**

ONE of the most important matters, in these days of antiseptic surgery, which are impressed upon trained nurses, is the cardinal importance of soap and water. In fact, many of the leading operators ridicule the idea of antiseptic lotions, holding that if the entire environment of the patient be surgically clean, there is no possibility of germs being present; while, on the other hand, if bacteria be in evidence, no amount of antiseptics can ensure the patient's safety. These facts being granted, as they must be, it is not to be wondered at that every Hospital Matron, and still more every private nurse, is constantly wanting Pure Soaps. From time to time, therefore, in these columns, we have drawn the attention of our readers to the various soaps which we have carefully tried and not found wanting. Amongst these we can cordially recommend Field's Soaps. For cleansing basins, bowls, instruments, etc., the Carbolic and the Eucalyptus soaps are excellent. For the use of private patients, few can compare with the Fleur de Lys soaps manufactured by this firm. They possess great advantages over the ordinary and what are called superfatted soaps—which are too often mechanical mixtures of crude and perhaps rancid fat and still more crude alkalies—in that they are made of pure cream and spermaceti. They are perfumed with pure vegetable balsams and aromatic essences. They are delightful to use; cleansing and refreshing the skin; and in price they compare very favourably with that charged for very inferior products.

**Outside the Gates.****WOMEN.**

THE Dissolution of Parliament and the coming General Election is a matter of supreme importance to women, as their hope of obtaining the franchise in the near future depends upon the views of the candidates returned. What should therefore be the attitude of women at the present time? Unquestionably they should use all their influence with their male relatives and friends to make their support of any candidate conditional upon his promise to support woman's suffrage in the House. Secondly, we know that men who oppose granting the franchise to women are by no means averse to the help of women in support of their candidature. What can be the condition of mind of a woman who, while holding up one hand in support of woman's suffrage, actually works with the other for the return of a man opposed to it? Let women be true to their principles, and to one another. We are of opinion that they should ask but one question with regard to any man who seeks their help in the coming election. Is he pledged to support woman's suffrage or not? If he is, whatever his politics, they should work for him. It will be time enough for women to think of political opinions when they have a right to express them. If he does not support woman's suffrage *work against him.*

A copy of a resolution passed at a Committee meeting of the Cornish Union of Liberal Women's Associations, of which we subjoin the text, has been forwarded to Mr. Leonard Courtney: "That this Union ventures to express the hope that Mr. Leonard Courtney will contest the South-east Cornwall division at the forthcoming General Election, and will be successful in retaining his seat. They further desire to record their sincere gratitude to Mr. Courtney for his never-failing efforts on behalf of the enfranchisement of woman, and most especially for his recent arduous endeavours on behalf of the London Borough Councils (Women's Disabilities Removal) Bill. Mr. Courtney, in reply, wrote to the secretary as follows: "I am extremely grateful to you and to the Committee of the Cornish Liberal women for the resolution they have passed and you have sent. I know not what may be the issue of the present uncertain state of men's minds, but I shall always remember the sympathy you have thus expressed, touching which my only fear is that it largely exceeds my deserts."

The recommendation of the Committee of Recommendations of the British Association, that in future women members of the Association should be eligible for the general and sectional committees, has been endorsed by the general committee, there being only three dissentients.

At the recent Conference of the Journalists' Institute, held at Lincoln's Inn Hall, the following resolution was moved by Miss O'Reilly (London), seconded by

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