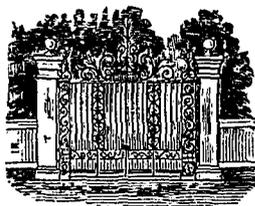


Outside the Gates.

THE ENGLISHWOMAN'S YEAR-BOOK.



An indispensable book of reference to all women who work, or who take an interest in public work, is the "Englishwoman's Year Book," which is edited by Miss Emily James, Organising Secretary to the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, and is published by Messrs. Adam and Charles Black, price 2s. 6d. It is a wonderful epitome of information of all kinds, and workers in all branches will find reliable data as to the conditions of their own calling. The sections dealt with are Education, Employment and Professions, Industrial, Medicine, Science, Literature, Art, Music, Sports, Public Work, Philanthropy, Temperance, Homes and Charitable Institutions, Religious Work. There is also a chronicle of the events of the year, an Obituary, and a Directory.

It is quite impossible to deal in the limits of a short review with a tithe of the information. We can only touch upon a few points of special interest.

The first is an article on the present condition of secondary education for girls, which deserves careful study. It shows that such education is of a type between that of the primary or elementary school and of the University, and is intended for young people who can stay at school up to sixteen or even nineteen years of age. That the reform movement in women's education during the last fifty years has produced a real effect on private schools, *inter alia* an altogether new type has been evolved corresponding in some measure to the public schools for boys.

In some girls' schools now the old-fashioned rigid discipline and supervision of the private boarding-school are replaced by a measure of self-government by prefects. This is good, for unquestionably, the diffidence of nurses as to co-operation and self-government dates back to their school days when they were never encouraged to think or "do for" themselves, but were "done for."

It is of interest to compare the expenses of learning other branches of work and the subsequent probable remuneration with that obtainable by nurses. Women gardeners at Swanley Horticultural College train for two, or preferably three, years, the fees being £80 per annum. Subsequently, the salaries they can command are at the rate of £1 a week for beginners, and £60 per annum, with cottage, is reckoned a high salary.

Teachers, in addition to a good general education, find special training in teaching subsequently desirable. Residence and tuition at a training college costs from £65 to £80 per year. For the higher posts a University degree is requisite. The salary of a public school teacher holding an honours degree is about £120. With a pass degree, £80—£100, non-residential. In a good High School this may rise to £150 or more. Head mistresses receive in salaries and capitation fees £180 to £800 per annum. No hospital Matron probably receives the equivalent of this, unless it be the Matron of the London Hospital; but so far as nurses are concerned, when it is remembered that they have no initial outlay, are boarded and lodged and paid

a small salary while they are learning their work, and that subsequently, they can earn in addition to board and lodging for the greater part of the year; from £80 to £100 per annum, it will be seen that their earning capacity compares very favourably with that of other classes of workers.

It is interesting to note that after March, 1906, every candidate for registration as a teacher must show that she possesses the following qualifications:—(a) Some form of university education; (b) professional training, either in a training college or as a student teacher in a recognised school; (c) a year's experience of school work. Special regulations have been framed in regard to those already in the teaching profession. Registration is not compulsory, but already the Board of Education has inserted in the scheme of an endowed school that the head master and head mistress shall be registered, thus showing the trend of registration.

Kittie Carson, writing of the dramatic profession, gives a useful bit of advice when she says that "those who would succeed, and hold the world's esteem, must never tire—they must work, work, work."

The article on nursing deals briefly with the various branches. It refers also to the appointment of a Select Committee last session to inquire into the expediency of State Registration. "There are," we read, "several branches of the profession, but at present, and quite rightly, the only portal is through the hospital." We wish we could think so, but it is undoubted that small nursing homes offer an open door to many would-be nurses, and rural nursing associations also appear to the unwary to afford a royal road by means of experience gained in the homes of the sick poor.

In regard to domestic service, we learn that its unpopularity is to be found in "the stigma of inferiority and the intolerable burden of personal subservience." Liberty is sweet, and, no doubt, the necessity for such subservience, the continual necessity for self-effacement, and for subduing personal preferences is at the root of much of the dislike of domestic service.

It is of interest to note the hospitals having women on the Boards of Management. They are in London, the Royal Free Hospital, and in the provinces the Royal Portsmouth Hospital, while Scotland can boast of women on the Boards of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, and the Royal Infirmary, the Western Infirmary, the Victoria Infirmary, and the Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Glasgow. We hope women who intend to benefit hospitals in their wills will remember this fact.

WOMEN.

With the object of lessening infantile mortality and of promoting the health of the people of the district a Women's Health Society has been formed in Lewisham, and under its auspices a most practical address was given recently at Catford Town Hall. Mrs. G. S. Warrington, the President, was in the chair, and in introducing Miss Douie to speak on "Healthy Homes and Households" congratulated the crowded meeting of women on the fact that, though the Society was founded only three months ago, there were already sixty members; she hoped that that number would soon be doubled. Miss Douie expressed regret that so many women were still in ignorance of many of the laws of health and of the best methods of bringing up their children. She urged them to do their utmost to provide for them good air, good water, good

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