

Streatham, has received a gift of 10,000 guineas from Miss Thomas, of London, towards the 200,000 shillings which that institution urgently needs.

The first of the Day Nurseries for the children of working mothers will shortly be opened in Myrtle Street, Hoxton, a district that contains, perhaps, a larger number of women workers than any other London neighbourhood. The Committee of the Day Nurseries desire to provide for the proper care of those infants whose mothers are compelled to go out to work, and so are unable to look after their little ones during the day. The Committee includes the Countess of Kinnoull, the Lady Vivian, the Dowager Countess of Londesborough, Lady Julia Wombwell, the Lady Borthwick, Lady Moncrieffe of Moncrieffe, the Marchioness of Tweeddale, Sir John Batty Tuke, M.P., Sir Thomas Wrightson, M.P., the Hon. Claude Hay, M.P., Mr. Wallace Bruce, L.G.C., and many others who have practical experience of social work in poor districts. No effort will be spared to make the Hoxton Nursery a model one in every sense of the word, and it is hoped that similar institutions will be inaugurated shortly in other poor districts of London. To this end donations are earnestly requested. They may be sent to the Hon. Secretary, 376, Strand, W.C., by whom they will be gratefully acknowledged.

The British Museum authorities have notified that they intend to institute a Library of Voices of eminent publicists of our time so that they can be stored with other of the nation's treasures. The Lambert Company, who are the only concern in the world making "cylindrical" permanent records, have brought out for this purpose a new recording set, which embraces some very wonderful improvements on previous methods of making phonograph records. We understand that a committee is to be formed to arrange what voices and under what conditions these records are to be made, and as every record will be moulded from a gold mould, the mould itself will be retained, and the records can be "printed" from it whenever desired, as, of course, gold does not oxidise. Already a considerable number of Lambert records have been secured for the Nation's Voice Library.

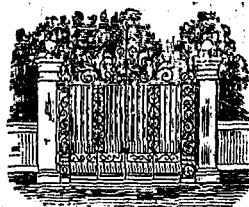
Last November Lord Hylton, of Ammerdown, near Radstock, offered a donation of £100 to the funds of the Royal United Hospital, Bath, provided that within six months other donations amounting to £900 were received. It is gratifying to learn that the donation was secured three weeks before the time limit had expired.

The Earl of Haddington will preside at the International Conference on the Blind, which, with an exhibition of their work, will be held in Edinburgh from June 19th to 24th.

The Committee of the International Congress on Poor Law and Charity (*Assistance Publique et Privée*), which is to be held at Milan in May, 1906, and of which M. Casimir-Périer, ex-President of the French Republic, is chairman, has invited Mr. Geoffrey Drage to undertake the duties of *Rapporteur-Général* on the subject of the relation of methods of thrift and insurance to public and private relief.

Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



At a meeting of the friends and Council of the Horticultural College, Swanley, at which Lady Falmouth presided, an interesting account was given of the work of the institution. Originally founded as a college for men, it admitted women in 1891; ultimately it was thought desirable to convert it into a college for women only. No fewer than forty-eight old students are now occupied as private gardeners, and thirty-three are employed as gardeners in schools and institutions. Three are landscape gardeners, eight are jobbing gardeners, and ten are nursery gardeners. Two are lecturers, nine have taken up science as relating to horticulture, and twelve have gone to the colonies. A special effort is now being made to place the finances of the college in a better position by raising a sum of £2,000 wherewith to pay off a debt of £1,400 incurred before the college was converted into a women's institution, to discharge a balance of £400 still owing on the glass houses, and to leave a small balance as working capital.

Mrs. John Hopkinson explained the work and aims of the colonial branch, and mentioned that the Princess of Wales had provided a bursary "to help to train a girl for the colonies."

The Marchioness of Londonderry, who presented the prizes and medals gained by students of the women's gymnasium of the Battersea Polytechnic, said that she could only look with unbounded admiration on the spirit which induced girls to perfect themselves in gymnastics, after their ordinary daily vocations. It augured well for the future of the race. She was an ardent believer in the physical education of the people, and particularly in that of women.

At the annual public meeting of the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, Mrs. Bryce said that the Association, founded seven years ago, had made remarkable progress during its short life.

They were now in co-operation with six sister societies in the provinces, and during the past twelve months more women had been placed in employment than in any former year. The bureau tried to get suitable and properly-paid work for women—to bring together those who wanted work and those who wanted workers. An elaborate system of investigation had been instituted, and endeavours were made to enlarge the sphere of women's work and to discover new occupations for them. Opportunities were afforded to women to train themselves for particular kinds of work, by which means they tried to remove the causes of want of employment. A loan fund had been established for granting loans to women who wished to train.

Mrs. Creighton, through whose instrumentality the Bureau was largely founded, described its work as both permanent and preventive. It was not a commercial concern, nor was it a relieving agency for those who could never support themselves. An interesting

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