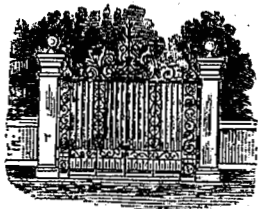


Outside the Gates.**WOMEN.**

should be granted before any other alteration of the franchise is made.

IN arranging the Professional Section for the forthcoming Congress of Women, it has been almost impossible to do justice to all the professional work in which women are now engaged, in the twelve Sessions, but when the final arrangements are concluded, we think the subjects dealt with, the papers and discussions arranged, will prove of the very greatest value not only to women engaged in the various professions, but to the public generally, who will, by attending these Sessions, be able to gather a very fair idea of the extent of the practical and theoretical education necessary for girls anxious to fit themselves for a remunerative vocation for life.

We should advise parents anxious to know what to do with their daughters, to make a point of attending the Professional Section of the Congress.

The Programme is being arranged under the following headings:—

- 1.—Professions open to Women.
- 2.—Medicine.
- 3.—Art.
- 4.—Women Inspectors.
- 5.—Women in Science.
- 6.—Drama and Music.
- 7.—Educational.
- 8.—Nursing.
- 8.—Literature and Journalism.
- 10.—Clerical Work for Women.
- 11.—Agriculture.
- 12.—Horticulture.

The work women are doing in Physical and Biological Science is as yet little known. But Mrs Ayrton and Mrs. McKillop who are giving such invaluable expert help to the Committee in arranging the Science Session think that there is a great future for women in the pursuit of science in various directions, so that the papers and discussions on these subjects should prove of unusual interest.

Agriculture and Horticulture again are almost new occupations for women, and they are going to be discussed at the Congress. Mrs. Alec Tweedie, who has lectured and written so much on the subject of dairy work in Denmark, is busily at work as a member of the Professional Sub-Committee, organizing the former branch, and Miss Wilkinson, of Swanley College, that of the horticultural section. Though it is only a short time since Mrs. Alec Tweedie made the then startling proposal that dairy work offered a pleasant and lucrative occupation for women, rapid progress has been made by women in agricultural

pursuits. We now have women lecturers, under the County Council, travelling about the country to give instruction in dairy work. The Lady Warwick Hostel, at Reading, is another outcome of the same activity, and we have now many women engaged in bee-keeping, stock breeding, poultry rearing, and even veterinary work. At the Congress we shall probably have an expert from Denmark to speak on butter-making, one from Holland to deal with the subject of milk export, and a third from France to tell us how to compete with French cheese makers.

The price of Members Tickets for the whole Congress has been fixed at 7s. 6d., and 5s. for those who are members of societies affiliated to the various National Councils. Several societies of Nurses will thus have the benefit of the cheaper ticket. Amongst them The Queen's Jubilee Institute, The Matrons' Council, and The Registered Nurses Society, which are affiliated to the National Council of Great Britain and Ireland.

What sort of creature will be the woman of the 20th century? The question has been put to Sully Prudhomme by a Hungarian editor. The industrial conditions of life, Sully Prudhomme says, have a tendency to destroy the love of beauty and charm natural in woman, and in all the large towns he visits he sees an appalling increase of insignificance, ugliness, and even monstrosity. Woman's dress is no longer dictated by the desire to please the artistic faculty, but by the desire to please the senses, and so it follows that the male regard in a busy and commercial age is no longer a homage, but an attack. Woman's vivacity, delicacy, sweetness, tenderness, all are yielding to expressions born of hard and mechanical conditions, and with the masculinisation of the woman is sure to come the brutalisation of the man. Science, moreover, the study of which is bringing the sexes more together, and more in competition, is tending to destroy their æsthetic differences and cause a general ugliness of the human race.

This all sounds very depressing, but in reading between the lines, it means that women have come to the conclusion that they have other functions in life, than the beautification of their persons for the pleasure of man. It also means a decrease in their colossal and futile vanity, for which let us be thankful.

A Book of the Week.**LOVE AND OLIVIA.**

WE all love contrasts, and there could be no stronger contrast than exists between the book noticed last week in these pages, and the one now under our consideration. "Love and Olivia" is a book distinguished by its reticence, its tone of culture, and its delicacy of description. It is much to be hoped that the author of this charming little story will go on, and give us something as wholly unexceptionable, and a trifle stronger. She seems at present just a little afraid of the situation she herself creates. But every single person that crosses her canvas is well drawn, from

*"Love and Olivia: The Sentimental Troubles of a Clever Woman. Margaret B. Cross. Hurst & Blackett.

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