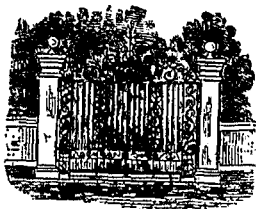


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



THE Programme for the International Congress of Women is now almost complete, and we hope to publish it in full at an early date.

Most encouraging accounts are to hand of the interest which the Congress is arousing on the continent of Europe, in our Colonies, and in the United States, and it is probable that our American sisters will attend the Congress in large numbers. The reduction of fares, by all the great steamship companies, will enable many women from Canada and America to be with us, who otherwise might have been unable to attend. We must remember this is to be a meeting of women workers, many of whom are self supporting, but they have neither unlimited time nor wealth at their disposal.

Already many eminent women have signified their intention of being present. Amongst them, Mrs. May Wright-Sewall, President of the United States Council; Miss Susan B. Anthony, one of the pioneers of the demand for Woman's Suffrage in the States; and the Rev. Anna Howard Shaw. From Canada, Mrs. Boomer, Mrs. Willoughby Cummings, and Madame Dandurand; Frauen Anna Simson, Marie Stritt, and Bieber Boehm from Germany; from Sweden, Fröken Ellen Fries, Ph. D.; from Denmark, Fröken Kerstin Friedriksen; and Mdlle. Camille Vidart from Switzerland.

In organizing the Congress the Committee passed a resolution courteously giving precedence, as far as possible, to our guests from other nations, so that the reading of papers and opening of discussions will be offered to women from abroad. This means, we shall have the advantage of hearing of the work and views of women born and bred under different laws and conditions to our own—a very educational and highly beneficial experience for the majority of English women, who are notoriously insular in their opinions.

As far as possible the Hon. Officers of the International Council, and Englishwomen, are to be invited to take the chair, and preside over the meetings, and amongst those who have already signified their consent to do so are the Countess of Aberdeen, Adeline Duchess of Bedford, Lady Frederick Cavendish, Lady Laura Ridding, the Lady Battersea, Hon. Mrs. Arthur Lytleton, Mrs. Alfred Booth, Mrs. Creighton, Mrs. Kendal, and many other women well known for their untiring work for the welfare of the community.

It is well that much hospitality is being arranged, if, as it is anticipated, there will be a thousand members of the Congress. Many different parties must be arranged, and no doubt different sections of society will entertain those interested in the same branches of work. For instance, those interested in Agriculture

and Horticulture will surely flock to Swanley, where a garden party is to be held. Swanley, in July, with its wealth of flowers and fruits, will be lovely, and the new rose garden designed by Miss Sieveking, the Hon. Secretary of the College under the guidance of Dean Hole, is to be opened by him in June.

We should advise that tickets for the Congress should be taken early, and application may now be made for them to Miss T. Wilson, 20, Motcomb Street, S.W. Tickets to the general public are 7s. 6d.; but to women who belong to Societies affiliated to National Councils the cost is 5s. Members of the Matrons' Council, the Queen's Jubilee Nurses' and the Registered Nurses' Society, are eligible for tickets at the lower charge.

At the annual meeting of that most useful association, the Women's Local Government Society, the President, the Countess of Aberdeen, took the chair. The meeting was held at 117, Piccadilly, the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Hoare, amongst those present being Lady Frederick Cavendish, Mrs. Sheldon Amos, Mr. P. W. Clayden, Miss Cons, Mrs. Charles Mallett, Miss Kilgour, and Miss Leigh Brown, Hon. Sec.

The Annual Report proved the watchful care of the committee as to women's interests, and the careful way in which every measure introduced into Parliament is considered lest women's interests should be neglected.

Mr. F. A. Channing, M.P., urged the importance of admitting women to county councils. Mr. W. Johnston, M.P., spoke of their position in the local government of Ireland, with special reference to the Magill case, and Miss A. E. Bush gave an account of the valuable work that could be done by women on vestries.

Mr. Walter McLaren, referring to the new measure on London Government, said that there could be no greater act of imbecility than to exclude women from the new town councils, thereby preventing the continuance of the excellent work they were already doing on vestries. He hoped the Society would take up the matter strongly—a hope which we cordially endorse.

A Book of the Week.

JANE TREACHEL.*

THERE is a certain delicacy of distinction about Mr. Hamilton Aidé's writing which makes it always pleasant reading. His new book is not nearly as good as the last he published, "The Suitors of Elizabeth;" but for all that, it is a story well put together, and so extremely well told, that it is in itself a lesson in the art of narration.

Geoffrey Chawaorth is heir-at-law to his cousin, Sir George Grandville, who early makes a marriage which does not please his family. The girl he marries is poor and obscure, not clever, and not very strong. Geoffrey strongly objects to the marriage, more on account of the bride whom he has never seen, than on

* "Jane Treachel." By Hamilton Aidé. Hurst and Blackett.

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