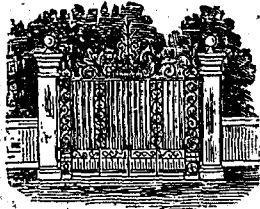


Outside the Gates.

WOMEN.



The Association of University Women Teachers held its annual meeting last week at Queen's College, Harley Street. Miss Maitland, Principal of Somerville College, Oxford, who presided, spoke of the new Education Act as having increased the demand for university women as teachers, thanks to the establishment of new secondary schools throughout the country. Referring to what she termed the laudable tendency manifest among education authorities to raise the standard of salaries, she said she had made some attempt to collect statistics of the minimum salaries in these new schools under local authorities which were absorbing both higher-grade schools and pupil teachers' centres, and they seemed to be considerably higher than those in girls' secondary schools previously existing. Unless the governing bodies of the secondary schools could raise their standard also, which would raise their standard also, which would probably involve the necessity of increasing the school fees, they would find themselves outbidden in their quest for the best teachers. At present qualified teachers found no difficulty in obtaining work. Miss Clough, Vice-Principal of Newnham College, was elected President of the Association for 1905.

In view of the effort which is being made to bring about the establishment of separate courts of justice for children, it is interesting to know the views of Miss N. Adler, the hon. secretary of the Committee of Wage Earning Children, which has the matter in hand. Miss Adler has stated that the Commissioners on Prisons themselves admit that the existing state of affairs is regrettable, and that it could not be worse. Children's courts have already been instituted in Ireland, the United States of America, Canada, and South Australia, and Bills to institute children's courts are now being framed in New South Wales and New Zealand. Under the Summary Jurisdiction Act it is possible by notice to appoint any particular place to be a court house. The committee are seeking to have this option made compulsory. Already in Manchester, Bolton, and Bury the magistrates have set aside special rooms for the hearing of children's cases. Probably, owing to the peculiar conditions obtaining in London, there will have to be special legislation for the Metropolis. One of the most important things, Miss Adler thinks, if children's courts are to be made thoroughly useful, is the appointment of probation officers. Without them children's courts of justice cannot be successful. It would be their duty to watch over the children brought before the justices, to endeavour to keep them straight in the future, and to get in touch with the children's homes, bad conditions in which are frequently the cause of the trouble.

We regret that, owing to a printer's error, the Householders' League should have been described in our issue last week as an association of "women who pay no rates or taxes of any kind whatever," whereas the object of the League is to associate

together women who do pay rates or taxes of any kind, and who will pledge themselves to work only for such Parliamentary candidates as will give a written promise to support the Women's Parliamentary Franchise.

It is announced that Fräulein Bertha Krupp, only daughter of the late Geheimrat Alfred Krupp, of Essen, reputed to be Germany's wealthiest heiress, has been betrothed to Dr. W. Heck, a medical practitioner of Rheydt, Rhineland.

What are our *haute noblesse* about to miss making such a fine bargain with their coronets? But perhaps Kaiser William objects to German millions being transferred to perfidious Albion.

"I have had children reeling and fainting before me through sheer hunger," recently said the headmaster of the Johanna Street L.C.C. School, Lambeth. This same school was described by Dr. Eicholz, one of His Majesty's inspectors, as "the worst school by far" of any he had seen. There is a connection between the two statements. If the school is bad, it is largely because the scholars are faint, hungry, ill-nurtured, and deprived of nearly everything that makes for the beauty of childhood.

An eye witness writes:—"The coffin of the late Crown Princess of Korea is being carried up and down the streets. It is painted red and decorated with dragon heads, and the funeral will take place in a month or two. The order has gone forth commanding another year of white hats, white clothes, white shoes, white head-band borders, and all the other ghostly paraphernalia that go with mourning."

A Book of the Week.

THE REAPER.*

"The great fact of life is the sea. Baby eyes open upon its splendours, and reflect its clear cerulean blue; bairnies and gulls and whaups share the treasures of the beach after a storm; lassies and laddies trudge up the high moorlands to the school on the hill-top, and the sea all round is the rim of their world. Sweethearting ranges by letter all the waterways of the earth; and at the last the sailor builds his home-nest in a sheltered cove that looks out upon the twinkling of lonely lighthouses. There he turns fisherman, and his wife, rocking her bairnies by the fire, while the wind hums down the chimney as in the rigging of ships, sings old sad songs, with her heart abreast the waves with him. She knows that the life-giving sea may one day clamour for its dead; the sea that was a man's nurse and the sweetheart of his youth, may end by being his bane. There is no sleep for a Shetland woman when the waves run high.

"Between the bare uplands and the barren ocean is the slender tilth of the crofter fishermen at Snaravoe, and the ring of their low white houses between the beach and the mossy turf dyke. Above and below is the domain of the *old things*: the fairies that come forth from the hills and deal kindly with wanderers that are pure in heart; the ghosts of drowned sailors that steal out of the mist on the outskirts of the safe land; *Bronnie*, who gallops a path of terror across the moorlands by night; and those *ancient ones* of the sea that lurk always within hearing of him who speaks unwisely.

* By Edith Rickert. (Arnold.)

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