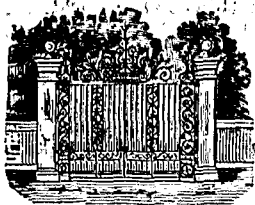


## Outside the Gates.

## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF WOMEN.



The Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland will be held in the New Central Hall, Corporation Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, October 24th, at 2.30 p.m., and on Wednesday, October 25th, at 10.30 a.m.

Several Nurses' Societies will be officially represented in the Council. The Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses and the Registered Nurses' Society by Mrs. Bedford Fenwick; the Royal British Nurses' Association by Miss M. E. Jones, Matron of the General Hospital, Birmingham; and the Matrons' Council by Miss K. Richmond, Matron of the Women's Hospital, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

The Agenda is a long one, and will no doubt be full of interest, and the Resolutions on the Agenda all bear on matters on which nurses might give useful information.

## RESOLUTIONS.

Miss Catherine Wood, on behalf of the Women's Local Government Society, will propose:—

"That this Council desires to bring before the Local Government Board the urgency of the need for the appointment of Women Inspectors for the sick wards and infirmaries of Poor-Law Unions, especially outside London; and the advisability of further extending official inspection by women to all residential institutions under Poor-Law Guardians, and to those to which guardians send inmates; and also to infants farmed out under conditions regulated by the Infant Life Protection Act."

This resolution will be seconded by Mrs. McIlquham.

2. Proposed by Miss Bondfield, on behalf of the Industrial Sectional Committee of the National Union of Women Workers, seconded by Miss Caroline Ellis, on behalf of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen, and Clerks.

"That it is desirable that further powers should be given by legislation for regulating the sanitary conditions of sleeping apartments of shop assistants, and the sanitary accommodation of shops."

An amendment will be proposed as follows by Miss M. Mallison, and seconded by the Lady Battersea:—

"That it is desirable that further powers should be given by legislation for regulating the sanitary accommodation of shops."

3. Proposed by Mrs. Bassett, on behalf of the Birmingham Branch, seconded by Mrs. A. H. Bright, on behalf of the Liverpool Branch:—

"That this Council desires to emphasise the need for the teaching of the simpler rules of health and temperance in elementary and secondary schools, and to endorse the petition signed by nearly 15,000 members of the medical profession, and presented last year to Lord Londonderry."

It is a curious coincidence that all these resolutions refer to the health of the community, proving an awakening interest of women in this great national asset.

## WOMEN.

A Liberal agent has unsuccessfully objected to the vote of an inmate of a lunatic asylum. The Revising Barrister ruled that a private paying patient in an asylum must be considered as a person able to return to his occupation at will and allowed to vote. This is one more blow to the self-respect of women in this country—Utlanders we know ourselves to be—but there was a grain of consolation in the fact that all male criminals, paupers, and lunatics kept us company. Now that the law has ruled that a lunatic, if only he has cash, may help to govern us, surely it is going a little too far, even for the most fatuous of "womenly" women—those inanè parasites who are too inert to appreciate personal responsibility, and who look for food and clothes, as the gaping fledgling for its worm!

At a Liberal demonstration at Wetheral, Cumberland, Lady Dorothy Howard claimed for women a share in politics, because, she said, politics should mean showing an interest in all classes of society. If women had a voice in the government of the country such problems as physical deterioration and overcrowding would not remain long unremedied.

Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, writing to the press, gives a timely reminder to the modern girl of her indebtedness to a former generation. He says:—"The freedom-loving girl of to-day, who can enjoy a walk by herself without losing her reputation, who can ride down the street on her 'bike' without being hooted at, who can play a mixed double at tennis without being compelled by public opinion to marry her partner, who can, in short, lead a human creature's life, and not that of a lap-dog led about at the end of a string, might pause to think what she owes to the 'unsexed creatures' who fought her battle for her fifty years ago."

Much fun was poked at the mothers of babes during the Congress at Liège who seceded in great numbers from the conference and held their converse apart. One paper says:—"Liège has proved what is common knowledge in the domestic circle, namely, that the spinster is the only real authority on the treatment of babies." No doubt there is much truth in the claim that there is a right and wrong way of bringing up children, and that mothers do not come by this expert knowledge by instinct. All the same it seems a little hard that the spinsters, strong in their scientific superiority, should have pooh-pooed the dictates of mother love. Mother love is not a bad thing in the abstract, there is something very comfy about it; we are of those who prefer the breast to the bottle.

One of the Melbourne society papers has an illustrated interview with Miss Greta Greig, B.A., LL.B., the first Australian young lady to be called to the Bar. She is of Scottish birth, but Melbourne has been her home from childhood. Two of her sisters are in practice as doctors, and a third is a University tutor. She was discovered in comfortable chambers in consultation with a female client, and other ladies were waiting in the ante-room to see her. She says she does not intend seeking Criminal business, and will only undertake it in certain special cases. She prefers Common Law, Equity, and Probate business. The local humorists have not made as much out of her advent as they had anticipated.

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