

claims of the hospital, denied that heredity accounted to any large extent for the scandalously great mortality among infants. It was chiefly due to lack of air and light and to improper feeding, the last being the main factor, largely caused by well-meaning ignorance. These facts had been demonstrated up to the hilt at the Infants' Hospital. Colonel H. F. Bowles, the Hon. Treasurer, appealed for financial help for the institution.

Mr. Burns, M.P., will preside over a conference on Infantile Mortality to be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on June 13th and 14th. The conference is primarily for public health authorities, but it is also open to representatives from medical associations, parish councils, and school boards, who can send delegates as corresponding members. The latter are entitled to discuss the questions raised, but cannot vote on the same.

On Monday, May 28th, a conference on Thrift and Insurance for Women, will be held at the Council Chamber, Denison House, 296, Vauxhall Bridge Road, Westminster, S.W., convened by the Central Bureau for the Employment of Women, and the Charity Organisation Society. The afternoon meeting, which will be at 4.30, is specially arranged for Professional Women. The chair will be taken by Sir Edward Brabrook, C.B., and the papers read will be: "Why Saving is Difficult," by Mrs. Alfred Pollard; "A Benefit Society for Women," by Mrs. Erskine Loch; and "Friendly Societies for Women with special consideration of the Sickness Risk from the Actuarial point of view," by A. W. Watson, Esq., F.I.A. The evening meeting will be at 8 p.m. when "Motives for Saving," "Methods of Saving," and "Benefit Societies for Domestic Servants," will be discussed.

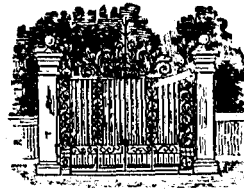
It was reported at the Annual Dinner in aid of the funds of the German Hospital, Dalston, at which the German Ambassador presided, that it is the intention of a few German gentlemen to present the institution with a new convalescent home and open-air sanatorium. One gentleman has given several acres of land in a good position at Hitchin, and others have already contributed upwards of £14,000 towards the cost of the buildings and for maintenance. The Committee are appealing for an endowment fund.

Some of Mr. Joseph Collinson's fellow workers in the Humanitarian League have presented him with a handsome library bureau bearing the following inscription, together with a purse of gold:—"Presented by members of the Humanitarian League to Joseph Collinson in recognition of his valuable services as Honorary Secretary to the Criminal Law and Prison Reform Committee, and specially of his untiring and successful efforts for the abolition of flogging in the Navy."

The sanitary committee of the town of Nordhausen, in Hanover, have given orders that in future no ladies will be allowed to wear trailing skirts within the town's jurisdiction. The penalty for each offence is a fine of 30s.

## Outside the Gates.

### WOMEN.



Who that was present at the Foreign Office on Saturday last, when the Premier, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman received a joint deputation on the subject of Women's Suffrage, will ever forget the occasion? The time appointed

was twelve o'clock, and long before that hour, representatives of the various organisations entered the large hall, the labour representatives were a little later as they assembled on the Embankment and marched in procession, orderly and determined, to the Foreign Office, where they attracted much attention in the Courtyard. Conspicuous amongst them was Miss Annie Kenney with her shawl over her head and wearing the clogs of the Lancashire worker. When they too filed into the Hall it was filled to overflowing, and the air was electric with intensity of feeling.

That feeling found voice when Sir Charles McLaren, Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Women's Suffrage, who was supported by forty members of Parliament, introduced the deputation to the Prime Minister, and every delegate present must have felt a thrill of pride at the manner in which those chosen to voice their cause presented it to the Prime Minister. They were in deadly earnest; they were eloquent; their arguments were irrefutable. First came Miss Emily Davies, LL.D., who was one of the two suffragists who handed the first petition in favour of women's suffrage to John Stuart Mill in 1866, then Mrs. Eva McLaren, who in the name of 80,000 Liberal women asserted that it was the clear duty of the party that claimed to be in the van of progress to give political enfranchisement to women.

Miss Margaret Ashton, representing 99,000 Liberal women, and Mrs. Roland Rainy, of the Scottish Women's Liberal Federation, followed, and then came Miss Eva Gore Booth, representing Northern Trades' Unions. The wage-earning women cannot, she said, afford to wait. "We urge upon you to enfranchise us, and to do it soon." The pent up intensity of her concluding words to the Prime Minister, "Do it now," will not soon be forgotten by those who heard them.

Mrs. Gasson, of the Women's Co-operative Guild argued that the women who had charge of the family purse had a right to a voice in fiscal questions.

Mrs. Dickinson spoke finely as a woman wage earner, Miss Watson for the Scottish Christian Union, Mrs. Pankhurst said there was a growing number of women who were prepared to sacrifice life itself in order to secure the franchise, and appealed to the Prime Minister to render that sacrifice unnecessary, and Miss Bateson presented a petition from women graduates.

The Prime Minister in his reply endorsed the arguments which had been used, and shattered others which are sometimes advanced against granting the Suffrage to women, and then proceeded to dash the

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