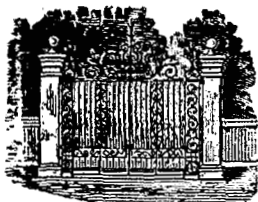


Outside the Gates.

Book of the Week.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF WOMEN WORKERS.



The annual conference of the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland will be held at the Central Hall, Lincoln, from October 10th to 14th. There are 42 local branches of the Union, and in addition 142 Societies connected with women's work are affiliated. Lady Laura Ridding is this year President of the Union.

The proceedings will open on Monday, October 10th, when, after a meeting for branch workers, the Mayor and Mayoress of Lincoln will give an "At Home" in St. Martin's Parish Room at 5 o'clock. In the evening there will be a public meeting, at which Lady Laura Ridding will preside, and the Bishop of Lincoln, Lady Cecilia Roberts, and Mrs. Edwin Gray will be the speakers.

On Tuesday morning Lady Laura Ridding will deliver her presidential address, which will be followed by a discussion on "Educational Ideals," by Dr. L. Martindale, Mrs. Wyndham Knight-Bruce, and the Hon. Mrs. Franklin. At the afternoon meeting papers on "The Relative Place in Education of Literary and Manual Training" will be read by Lady Darwin and Miss E. P. Hughes (Glamorgan), while the evening papers will be on "The Effect Upon the Nation of Forty Years of Elementary Education," by the Headmaster of Westminster and Mrs. Simon (Newcastle-on-Tyne).

A meeting of the National Council of Women will be held on Wednesday to consider the annual report, etc., and reports of the sectional and other committees will be considered. The Conference will discuss "The Responsibility of the School in Regard to the Child's Future Career" (Miss Burstall, M.A.), "Street Trading and Labour Bureaux" (Miss M. E. Marshall), "Women's Indian Study Association" (Mrs. George Cadbury), and "International Council of Women" (Lady Aberdeen). A meeting for rescue workers will follow at 5 o'clock, and in the evening there will be a reception by Lady Londesborough in the County Assembly Rooms.

The National Council meeting will be continued on Thursday morning. The Standing Committee of the Scottish Union of Women Workers have a resolution "That for the name 'National Union of Women Workers' there be substituted the name 'National Council of Women.'" Resolutions on Education, Street Trading, and the Care and Control of the Feeble-minded will be considered, and in the afternoon papers on "The Position of Women in our Universities" and "The Participation of Working Women in Higher Education" will be discussed, followed by a reception at the Girls' High School. An ethical meeting will be held in the evening, at which Canon Masterman will speak.

On Friday the Bishop of Lincoln will preach at a special service in the Cathedral at 11 a.m.

THE ROSARY*

This book appears to have enjoyed an amazing popularity, and has already been reprinted a number of times. Why, we are not prepared to state, except that it abounds in sentiment of a rather sickly order. We seem to have met the Duchess of Meldrum and the young man who feels "just seven" quite recently in one of Mr. E. R. Benson's books. Though the latter looks wickedly picturesque "in a violet shirt and tie with white flannels," he chooses as the object of his adoration a woman his senior by three years.

"Jane Champion was now in her thirtieth year. She had once been described by one who saw below the surface as a perfectly beautiful woman in an absolutely plain shell; and no man had yet looked beneath the shell and seen the woman in her perfection.

She would have made earth heaven for a *blind lover*." (The italics are ours, and we anticipate the conclusion by stating that Garth Salmain obligingly accomplishes this ideal by being shot through the eyes.)

"She had a glorious voice, but her face not matching it, its existence was rarely suspected."

We suppose that the Honourable Jane, of independent means, having studied under first-class masters, must have been at considerable pains to hide her light under a bushel, so completely did she take by surprise her audience in the Duchess's concert room, when the prima donna, having failed through illness to appear, she consents to step into the breach—and sing "The Rosary."

"The listening crowd held its breath. This was not a song. This was the throbbing of a heart.

. . . The last four words were given with a sudden power and passion which electrified the assembly."

It is after this revelation that Garth realises that his old chum Jane is more than this to him.

"Jane looked steadily into his shining eyes, and a smile of pleasure illumined her own.

"So you liked my song?" she said.

"Liked—liked your song?" repeated Garth, a shade of perplexity crossing his face. "I do not know whether I liked your song."

"Then why this flattering demonstration?" said Jane, laughing.

"Because," said Garth, very low, "you lifted the veil, and I—I passed within."

Jane weighted with the sense of her own plainness, however, refuses her happiness, and alone in her room she "turned on all the lights over the dressing table, particularly two bright ones on either side of her mirror, and sitting down before it, faced herself honestly, and as the village clock struck one, she arrived at her decision. Slowly she arose, turned off the lights, fell upon her knees, and broke into a passion of desperate silent weeping.

After the accident that deprives Garth of his

* By Florence M. Barclay. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London.)

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