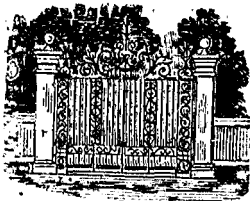


## Outside the Gates.



### WOMEN.

A Special Meeting of the Legislation Sectional Committee of the National Union of Women Workers is to be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on Tuesday, June 13th, at 10.30 a.m., "To consider the National Insurance Bill as it relates to women." The Lady Laura Ridding will preside, and the speakers will include Miss Constance Smith (Industrial Law Committee), Miss Mary MacArthur (Women's Trade Union League), Miss Rosalind Paget (Midwives' Institute), and Mrs. Summerton (Women's Court, Ancient Order of Foresters).

The Committee who have organised the Marys' Coronation Gift to the Queen have received nearly £12,000. The Queen's wishes as to the disposal of this sum is being made known to a deputation which her Majesty is receiving at Buckingham Palace as we go to press.

The *Fortnightly* for June has a most interesting article on "Women and Work," from the able and graphic pen of Mrs. Alec Tweedie, who says that the whole economic condition of affairs has been, and is being, revolutionised by women in all the educated communities of the world.

The Japanese Ambassador's daughter is at Oxford University, the Chinese Minister's little girls are at school at Brighton. Clearly the East is about to follow the women of the West.

To-day women sit in the Parliament Houses of Finland and Norway; soon they will probably do so in Holland and Denmark. France has women lawyers, America women clergymen. Women have received the Nobel prize. No fewer than six hundred women have taken medical degrees in Great Britain alone. Others have become professors and lecturers to large classes.

The writer refers to the fact that three women have been elected as Mayors, one of whom acted as Returning Officer at the last Parliamentary Election, that five have been chosen as Chairmen of Boards of Guardians, the town of Honnewell, Kansas, U.S.A., has a woman filling the office of Chief of the Police, and Denmark has started a woman policeman. We can never go back to those days when Byron spoke of "soulless toys for tyrants' lusts." True, these words still apply to most women of the East, and we see that Eastern civilisation has remained stagnant in consequence.

The greater the women, the greater the country.

Recent important Royal Commissioners were, we are informed, unanimous in recommending that increased powers and increased duties be assigned to the London County Council. Lunatic asylums, as well as homes for inebriate women, are under the charge of these bodies. The London

County Council has eleven thousand female lunatics under its control. Do not these need women to inspect and advise?

Miss Lawrence, L.C.C., has pointed out how economy as well as efficiency, would be served if the managing committees were not, as now composed entirely of men. . . . Municipal house-keeping, without the house mother is a one-handed affair, and certainly, for some parts of their work men welcome the attention to detail, the housewifely practical experience and "mothering" which a capable and tender-hearted woman brings as her share of the capital into the business.

The Women's Local Government Society, some three years ago, took evidence from Unions in England and Wales. It was appalling to see how needlessly stupid and cruel some of the regulations were in the Unions where no women served as Poor Law Guardians. There are still over 230 such Unions. Where there are women Guardians the Board usually delegates to them questions of clothing, the care of the old women and children, imbecile girls, and invariably the affiliation cases. The question of feeble-minded girls, and the large percentage who go astray, is one with which most men hate to intermeddle; but which a woman dare not shirk.

Surely, too, women ought to be placed on the managing boards of hospitals.

Altogether the article is one not to be missed.

## Book of the Week.

### THE GARDEN OF RESURRECTION.\*

At its very outset this book draws us in the mesh of its charm, and undoubted originality. On the title page we are told that it is the Love Story of an Ugly Man. It is that, nothing more, nothing less. It would be hard to suggest anything that could be added, nor could we spare anything from its recital. It is a gem in its own setting.

The following extract is an example of many other equally happy descriptions:

"A little nursemaid had wheeled her pram down the path where I was sitting. She was one of those rosy cheeked creatures who come up from the country to grow pale in London, just as the flowers come up of a morning to Covent Garden and wither, perhaps, before the night is out. She must have been very new to it all, for she had all the country freshness about her still. Her cheeks glowed in the quick bright air. Her hair blew loosely about her forehead, through the stray fine threads of it her eyes glittered with youth. I remember now of what it must have reminded me. You have seen those spiders' webs caught on the points of furze which on a crisp May morning glisten with drops of dew. Those eyes through her hair reminded me of that. As she passed by me, leaning forward again and again to whisper to that fat round baby in the pram she chanced to look at me. . . . You have it there in that

\* By E. Temple Thurston. (Chapman and Hall, London.)

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