

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The Conference of the National Union of Women Workers on Public Opinion: Its Formation, Influence and Effect, held this week at Glasgow, is being widely attended, and several of the Nurses' Societies have appointed delegates. Miss Wright, of Stobhill Hospital, Glasgow, represents the Matrons' Council; and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, the National Council of Nurses and the Society for the State Registration of Nurses.

The Address of Welcome was delivered on Tuesday by Mrs. Greenlees, President of the Glasgow Branch of the Union; and Lady Laura Ridding presided over the meeting of the National Council of Women.

The Lord Provost, Magistrates and Town Council gave a Reception in honour of the Conference on Wednesday evening, in the magnificent Municipal Buildings, which was most influentially attended, and was a very brilliant affair.

The Englishwoman, that very high-class exponent of the Woman's Movement, which is eagerly read by an ever-extending circle of thoughtful women, intends to hold an Exhibition of Arts and Handicrafts in the Maddox Street Galleries, 23a, Maddox Street, London, W., from November 1st to 14th, to be opened by Lady Frances Balfour. There will be exhibits of colour-printing, lithography, etching, book illustrations, bas-reliefs, handweaving, jewellery, leather-work, book-binding, pottery, wood-carving, artistic dress, embroidery, lace, &c., &c. All the work shown will be of a very high standard; and this will be a unique opportunity of seeing what women and men are doing in the region of applied art. The Loan Collection will appeal to those who appreciate the exquisite arts and crafts of bygone days.

Miss Barton, Matron of the Chelsea Infirmary, is arranging a stall, illustrative of nursing, which will principally consist of dolls dressed in various uniforms, always an attractive exhibit, nurses' badges and medals, and models of special treatment for operations and cures in bed. Miss Eden will lend some of the interesting models prepared for the Nurses' Social Union.

The Women's Local Government Society has resolved upon an autumn campaign to give publicity to and to push the Local Government Qualification Bill to extend the qualification for being elected on County and Borough Councils. What is now required is that those who realise how seriously the Bill is needed, in the interest of the all-round efficiency of County and Town Councils, shall bring the issues thoroughly before the public, with a view to inducing the Government to bring in the Bill as a Government measure.

Why gardening and every active outdoor game should now be recognised as beneficial to health for better class women, and outdoor work for women of the labouring class decried, we know not, unless it is that the latter class earn wages grudged by men. This, it would seem, is at the bottom of the agitation of the Miners' Federation against the women pit-brow workers; and, in view of this opportunity, a meeting of protest against this and other interference by the Government towards women's labour in the mines, has been arranged to take place in London on the 31st of this month, called by Miss Eva Gore-Booth and Miss Esther Roper, the Hon. Secretaries of the Lancashire and Cheshire Women Workers' Representative Committee. The motto of the pit-brow women is: "Hands off our Work," with no compromise.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

MRS. MAXON PROTESTS.*

Perhaps it would not be far wrong to say that this is one of Mr. Hope's cleverest books. His intention perhaps at first seems somewhat obscure, but the sympathetic reader will recognise that in spite of apparent contradiction and in spite of the fact that virtue does not in the end triumph, underlying all its witty epigram a deeper and more earnest note is sounded.

Briefly, Winnie Maxon wearies of her irreproachable husband—a rising barrister—takes the bit between her teeth, and determines to free herself from the matrimonial yoke.

To her cousin, Hobart Gaynor, a lawyer, she explains that life with Cyril is insupportable. "She rose and walked to one of the tall windows that looked on Lincoln's Inn Field. 'I declare I envy the hungriest and raggedest child playing there in the garden,' she said. 'At least, it may be itself. Didn't God make me just as much as He made Cyril?'"

So she takes her way, and goes to stay for an indefinite period with the Aikenheads.

According to Stephen on his favourite formula, things that to Winnie "had seemed hitherto tremendously solid" were "in solution."

"What do you mean by things being in solution," she asks.

"I suppose it's been the same in every age, but it's more widespread now, isn't it? It gets into the newspapers even. 'Do we Believe?' 'Is Marriage a Failure?' It's not the answers that are most significant, you know, but the questions."

In this atmosphere of free and easy thought, pretty Winnie's next move is a fateful one, and she decides to link her life with Godfrey Ledstone. Dick Dennehy, a charming Irishman, unaware of what is about to take place, found "I had

* By Anthony Hope. (Methuen & Co.)

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