

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

The Annual Conference of the National Union of Women Workers, which opens on October 6th at Hull, and continues throughout the week, will naturally attract a large number of members, as the subject selected for discussion is "The Children of the Nation." The meetings will be held in the Assembly Rooms, and the members are to be hospitably welcomed by the local organising committee.

The Annual Meetings of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, the governing body of the Union, will take place on October 8th and 9th, when several resolutions and most important business will be transacted. The resolutions will be considered on the 8th, and the first item on the agenda for the 9th is "To receive and consider the Report of the Special Sub-Committee on the Revision of the Constitution," to which several amendments are also down for consideration. Delegates should receive instructions how to vote, as there are several suggested alterations concerning which there will no doubt be keen difference of opinion.

Women played a very honourable part in the recent meeting at Birmingham of the British Association, and at the Honorary Degree Convocation held in the new University Buildings at Edgbaston Park Road, when members and associates were received by the Vice-Chancellor, Mr. Gilbert Barling, and the Principal, Sir Oliver Lodge; the reception given to Mme. Curie was becomingly enthusiastic. Degrees were conferred upon five distinguished foreign visitors: Dr. Arrhenius, Mme. Curie, Professor Dr. Keibel, Professor H. A. Lorentz, and Professor R. W. Wood. In presenting them to the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Oliver Lodge paid a tribute to their scientific achievements.

He presented Madame Curie as the discoverer of radium, and the greatest woman of science of all time. All the world knew how, inspired by the spontaneous radioactivity newly discovered by Becquerel, she began in 1896 a metrical examination of the radioactivity of minerals of all kinds; and how, when a uranium residue showed a value larger than could have been expected from its uranium content, she, with exemplary skill and perseverance, worked down some tons of this material until she obtained evidence first of a new element, which she christened polonium, in memory of her own country, and then after months of labour succeeded in isolating a few grains of the other and more permanent substance now so famous—a substance which not only exhibited physical energy in a new form, but was likely to be of service to suffering humanity.

This public recognition of her genius, should for all time silence those who have attempted to deny to Mme. Curie the fame which is her due.

In Section K (Botany)—Miss Ethel Sargent, the first woman President of a section, prefaced her address with a challenge for the equality of sex in science.

She said: "Section K (Botany) has made a great innovation in choosing a woman for its president this year, and I will not refrain from thanking you in the name of my sex because I happen to be the woman chosen. And, though I must and do feel very keenly the honour you have done me as a botanist, yet that feeling is less prominent than gratitude for the generosity shown to all women in that choice. Speaking in their name, I may venture to say that the highest form of generosity is that which dares to do an act of justice in the face of custom and prejudice."

The Annual Dinner of the Society of Women Journalists is arranged to take place in the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, W.C., on the evening of October 25th. The President, Mrs. Baillie Reynolds, will be in the Chair, and the guests of the evening will, as usual, be influential people in literary and artistic circles. The speeches at the Women Journalists' functions are generally very bright and to the point.

The Pacific Coast Women's Press Association is arranging an International Congress of Writers to be held during the International Panama-Pacific Exposition, at San Francisco. The President of the Congress will be Miss Ena Coolbrith, Society of Women Journalists, says its organ, *The Woman Journalist*.

Miss Ruth Sörensen has been appointed Judge at Hammerfest in Norway, the first to be so appointed in that country. She was born in 1877 and passed her examination as a lawyer in 1900.

COMING EVENTS.

September 19th and 20th.—Meeting of Annual Poor Law Conference for Yorkshire at Scarborough.

October 6th to 10th.—Annual Conference National Union of Women Workers.—Annual Meeting of the National Council of Women of Great Britain and Ireland, 8th and 9th inst., Assembly Rooms, Hull.

October 23rd.—Central Midwives Board Examination, London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

November 3rd and 10th.—Medico-Psychological Association Examinations for Mental Nurses.

A WORD FOR THE WEEK.

After all, it isn't the way we live, nor the work we do, that matters, but the ideal we put into it.
ELLEN GLASGOW.

'Tis a fine thing to smart for one's duty; even in the pangs of it there is contentment.

R. L. S.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)