

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

Woman's Kingdom, the section which will fill the whole Gallery at Olympia of the Children's Welfare Exhibition, has been organised by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and will amply demonstrate the wonderful activities of women in these stirring times. We surmise that it is going to be extremely interesting and instructive, and yet by no means dull. The Labour and Time-Saving Devices and Appliances will appeal to every woman running a house. One stand will show that woman's home-making instincts accompany her even to the wilds, and a woman's holiday camp, with a complete schedule showing the expenditure, will be shown by a Welsh lady, whose camp-setting genius has led her to the far-off Rockies, there to organise and run a men's fishing camp during the spring season. In neighbouring stands will be found a woman's "One Night's Bivouac," and some interesting evidences of women's exploring proclivities—all of which goes to show that the "eternal boy" sometimes peeps out in his mother! As a stern contrast to these exhibits of outdoor life, there will be a section devoted to showing what women are doing in the matter of the education of mothers and infant care. The charge for entrance to Woman's Kingdom will be sixpence during the day, and threepence after six p.m.

Organisers are required in connection with the work of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, and members of the nursing profession are considered particularly fitted for this kind of work, as it requires tact, initiative, and powers of organisation. Nurses who have for various reasons had to give up active nursing and would like the opportunity of doing social work which a Suffrage organiser gets should apply to the Secretary, N.U.W.S.S., at 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

The Costume Dinner we suggested to the Women Writers' Franchise League last year is now to be organised by the Actresses' Franchise League and the Writers combined, and will be held in the Grand Hall of the Hotel Cecil, London, on Monday, May 4th, when celebrities of to-day will impersonate celebrities of the past in a grand pageant. The range of fancy is a wide one, as the costumes may be those worn by famous men and women B.C. 700—A.D. 1914. Miss Edith Craig will arrange the pageant of celebrities, and it is hoped that every one will come in costume, though this is optional. Non-members can obtain tickets price 10s. 6d., from Miss Bertha Graham, 2, Robert Street, W.C. The Women Writers always make a great success of, and a profit on their social functions, and the Costume Dinner promises to be an immense success.

The Joint Advisory Committee projected by Mrs. Humphry Ward, of Members of Parliament

and women social workers, to consult about proposed legislation for women and children (why not for dolls and dumplings?) is to hold its first meeting shortly in the House of Commons. Matters relating to the municipal rights and franchise of women, to education, insurance, public health, poor law questions, women in the Civil Service, the working of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, care committee work—every question, indeed, with the exception of the only one of real importance, Women's Suffrage—will be considered, and the Joint Committee will hold sittings, probably fortnightly, at the House of Commons. Naturally, the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland, which has long covered all this ground, has pointed out the overlapping and waste of power likely to result from this new non-elected Committee. We may point out incidentally that the interests of women and children are very unsafe in the hands of men and women who deny the right of full citizenship and self-government to women.

## BOOK OF THE WEEK.

### "THE PURPLE MISTS."\*

This story is, as are many others from the pen of Miss Mills Young, drawn in South African setting. It is, perhaps, the charm of the telling which attracts us, before that which is told. There is a forcefulness in the writing which hides a certain irresolution in the plot. But it is quite certain that the book will be a popular one.

Euretta, whose name, she tells John Shaw, and incidentally the reader, means the North Wind, is the young sister-in-law of a farmer of a small homestead on the velt. This was the only home she had known for years.

It was in the light of the flaming sunset that John Shaw saw her standing out. With that vivid background there was something about her that suggested fire—fire and wind—because of her wind-blown hair and garments.

John Shaw was a doctor, doing the work for a friend temporarily in the day. He was the type of man that women find interesting: strong, virile, reserved. It was during an outbreak of typhoid fever in the dorp that they became closely acquainted. Euretta had volunteered to nurse Dysart, a man who had married a nigger wife—but he had *married* her—that was to his credit. In other respects he had a character for wildness, and in consequence of his marriage was ostracised. But the poor black wife was dead, and he in extreme sickness.

Euretta's brother-in-law forbade her his house in consequence of her action. So she was homeless and friendless in the house of Dysart. John Shaw well understands that scandal will be busy with her name, and he, nothing loth, persuades her to marry him by special licence. "Our marriage will make no essential difference," he said. "You will go on with your work here."

\* By F. E. Mills Young. London: John Lane.

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