

THE "FOLDEX" FOLDING CHAIR.

We have much pleasure in drawing attention to the many merits of the "Foldex" Folding Chair, supplied by the Medical Supply Association, Surgical Instrument Manufacturers, 167-173, Gray's Inn Road. In the first place one is struck by the extremely moderate price of this high-class chair. Most lounge chairs of the same type are so expensive that they are out of the question for all but the well-to-do. The "Foldex," which is most comfortable, both for invalids and for a luxurious lounge either in the house or out of doors, may be obtained, without table, upholstered



in canvas, for as low a price as 20s. ; with table, 25s. The highest price is 55s. Special points about this chair are that it is possible to get in and out of it without the foot-rest being in the way, which is usually the case. The occupant can either sit upright or recline. The table, which can be fixed at the side is really wide and useful. If placed across the chair in front it forms either a table, a book-rest, or a writing board. Lastly, it folds into a small space when not in use, and is very portable, so that it can easily be taken out into the garden, or used when travelling. To see this chair is to want it for one's patients and oneself, and we have no doubt it has a successful future before it.

RADIANT HEAT.

The Lancet has just published a report of some very severe tests made upon gas fires of to-day as to hygienic efficiency, and their general summing up of an exhaustive report is as follows:—

"Radiant heat is acknowledged to be the most cheerful and healthy agency for keeping our dwelling rooms comfortable and warm; and the modern object of the makers of gas fires is (in our view very rightly) to render the heat of the combustion of the gas in this form. In this they have met with considerable success, and further advances in this direction will most likely be made, and yet a greater proportion of the calorific value of coal gas become available as radiant heat.

"The present attitude of the gas fire industry towards all questions of improvement is a most satisfactory one, and enquiry shows that we may fairly expect in the near future an encouraging and hopeful issue."

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

In the House of Lords last week the second reading of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill was rejected by a majority of 44. The debate was well worth while, if only to afford publicity to the rare and precious speech delivered by Lord Lytton, who believes in courage, devotion, heroism and self-sacrifice even if misdirected. He also believes that the opposition to women's suffrage is a losing cause—so do we. Nothing can prevent it. Only we want it *now*.

On May 21st the statue of Elizabeth Fry which has been given to the Corporation of the City of London by an anonymous donor, and is to be placed at the Old Bailey, will be unveiled by the Countess of Dudley, who was a Gurney. The Lord Mayor will accept the custody of the statue.

The Quinquennial Meeting of the International Council of Women has been in Session at Rome during the past week, and has been attended by about 500 members from the various National Councils. Queen Elena of Italy received a deputation of the Council and entertained the ladies to tea. The following officers have been elected:—The Countess of Aberdeen, president; Mrs. Henry Dobson (Tasmania), vice-president; Mrs. W. E. Sanford (Canada), treasurer; Mrs. Willoughby Cummings (Canada), president of the Finance Committee; Mrs. George Cadbury (Birmingham), president of the Peace Committee, and Mrs. Ogilvie Gordon (Scotland), president of the Education Committee.

At the meeting of the Executive Committee, the question was raised by Mrs. Wright Sewall, the American Founder of the International Council of Women, whether the fact that the Presidency continued to be held by a British representative destroyed the International character of the Council. Mrs. Sewall, who is at the head of a party in favour of the rotation of the presidency, maintained that the principle of the organization could not be international if one nationality was always in command as was the case with Lady Aberdeen, who had been president for 20 years.

After her election Lady Aberdeen delivered a short speech with much feeling. She said that she had hoped that a woman of some other nationality would have relieved her of her responsibility, and had only agreed to stand when she was unanimously requested to do so.

The following important questions have been discussed at Rome:—

An international appeal to adopt mediation, even where the vital interests of the countries concerned are involved.

The more effective protection of women during war.

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