

OUTSIDE THE GATES.

WOMEN.

An indispensable book of reference, which no one interested in women's work can afford to be without, is the *Englishwoman's Year Book*, which is published by Messrs. Adam & Charles Black, and of which the issue for 1914 has just appeared. The editor, Miss G. E. Mitton, is to be congratulated on the large amount of information, presented in an accessible form, gathered together within its pages. The book is divided into two parts, one including Education, Professions, and Social Life, and the other being mainly devoted to philanthropic effort in its many manifestations.

An interesting article contributed to the present issue is that on "Health Centres or School Clinics," by Miss Margaret McMillan, who states that the movement which led to the establishment of School Clinics and Health Centres was begun in Bradford in the early nineties. Under the heading of sick nursing it is stated that "earnings taken generally, and particularly in the case of district nurses, are computed on a sadly inadequate scale, and the lowness of the remuneration, and the uncertainty of any provision for old age and sickness is undoubtedly deterring women of the educated classes from entering the ranks of this profession." The disorganization of the nursing profession generally is mentioned, and the remedy, the Bill "To regulate the Qualifications of Trained Nurses and to provide for their Registration" referred to at some length.

A very interesting Meeting is convened by the National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, to be held at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, on January 21st, at 8 p.m. Mrs. St. Clair Stobart will speak on "The Women's Convoy Corps Hospital, organized by her at Kirk-Kilisse in the Balkan War," and Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will move her a vote of thanks.

Miss E. Roper, B.A., will speak on "The Present Position of Women in the Post Office and the Holt Report," and Miss Gore-Booth has as her subject "The Recent Strikes against Women's Employment in the Bookbinding and Printing Trade." Miss Esther Roper has kindly offered a few reserved seats for nurses who would like to attend, tickets for which can be obtained from her at 33, Fitzroy Square, W.

Under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, Surgeon-General Evatt, C.B., will address a public meeting at Caxton Hall, Westminster, on January 28th, at 3.30 p.m., on "The Life and Work of Florence Nightingale." General Evatt is well qualified to speak on this subject, as he had the honour of being personally acquainted with Miss Nightingale; and we think that many nurses will be glad to have the opportunity of hearing the address. It is one of a series organized by the W.F.L. to be given at the Caxton Hall.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"THE DOMINANT PASSION."*

This story can lay claim to a certain amount of originality, and though it is unconvincing, it holds the attention of the reader.

It is peopled chiefly by men of science, and artists of various kinds, who have all temperament varying in degree.

Andrea and Anthony Bradon are cousins, the latter immersed in studying pellagra, and all its attendant fascinations, has nevertheless time to fall in love with and marry Honor Passfield, who is gradually struggling into fame as a writer.

Anthony's acquaintance with her is of recent date, and he obtains his introduction to her through Andrea, of whom she is an old friend, and a subject in many of his pictures. After events proved that he also loved her.

Now Andrea is the ruling spirit of the story, and a more unpleasant personality one seldom meets, even in fiction.

Some two or three years before, a boy of twelve was suddenly introduced into his household; Andrea spoke of him to those who might presumably be aware of his existence, as "my son." In point of fact he was his natural son. The boy Laurence, beautiful in face and form, was a source of endless gratification to his father from an artistic point of view, and for his own selfish ends, he frustrates the lad's burning ambition to become a musician. On the portraying of a really fiendishly cruel and callous nature the authoress has spent a large amount of skill and output, but in spite of this, the only person who sees through him, and hates him as he deserves is his son Laurence.

Anthony, the good, who, although he distrusts him, comes under his fascinations, and actually sends his young wife Honor home for a year to his immediate neighbourhood, in order that she may write, and he pursues his microbes, without interruption—therefore we write Anthony a fool.

"In a letter Honor received he told her to settle in what part of England was most suitable for her purpose. . . . And Anthony continued the life which had been so suddenly filled and so suddenly emptied of joy for him, because he believed his honour was involved in his wife's literary success." This sounds more noble than natural.

Perhaps the most interesting portion of the book, is that which deals with Anthony's experiment on the cases of pellagra, and his difficulties with the suspicious Italian race who did not believe in interfering with the visitation of God. If Anthony was an unskilled lover he was no doubt an able scientist, and it was heartbreaking that his eight years' work of investigation and

*By Marguerite Bryant (Mrs. Philip Munn).
Hutchinson & Co., London.

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