

## OUTSIDE THE GATES.

[Her Majesty the Queen has given an immense impetus to the collection of antiques during the past few years—owing to her intense love of the beautiful in art—and during her stay at Craigweil House she has paid many visits to antique shops on the South Coast and picked up many treasures. These visits have brought the Queen in touch with a number of dealers and people not usually met in her circle, and their admiration for her simplicity of manner, her wonderful expert knowledge, and her enthusiasm and generosity knows no bounds. Let us hope many lovely treasures, the fine work of our bygone craftsmen, may thus be saved for England from the keen demand from the United States, to which destination tons of our precious works of art are shipped weekly.]

The Prorogation and Dissolution of Parliament will take place on Friday, May 10th, and Polling Day will be Thursday, May 30th. For the first time thousands of young women will have the right to record their votes, and we hope they will not fail to perform this duty. There are some constituencies in which the Nurses' Vote might carry the election. Let candidates realise it is an all-powerful factor in their success, and also that where the National Health is concerned we mean business.

Women Candidates already fixed for the General Election number 65, and include the eight women who now sit in Parliament.

Only eight candidates are Conservatives, Labour has 29, and the Liberals 25. There are two Communists and one Independent Candidate, Miss Eleanor Rathbone, English combined Universities. It will be interesting to see if women support their own sex now that they have the majority of votes in the Kingdom.

The Age of Marriage Bill, which was introduced by Lord Buckmaster and passed by the House of Lords, was passed by the House of Commons on Friday, May 3rd. The object of this Act is to make void marriages between persons either of whom is under the age of 16. At present a girl of 12 and a boy of 14 may contract a legal marriage.

Sir James Caird has saved the famous Mercury Collection of ships' models for this country. It was announced at the Mercury Prize-giving that he had paid £30,000 for it. For a long time Americans have attempted to secure this collection, and there were times when it seemed as if it would find a new home in the United States; but Commander and Mrs. C. B. Fry were keen that it should remain in this country. There are about 150 models, which at one time were in the possession of the Admiralty.

Sir James Caird recently purchased the MacPherson collection of old naval prints, and he was a generous contributor to the Victory Restoration Fund.

By and by, when all "the lions lie down with the lambs," naval ships will no longer patrol the seas and rule the waves. It will therefore be of inestimable interest to future generations to visit the Mercury Collection, and realise their exquisite craftsmanship and beauty.

Lord Rothermere, who is taking steps to secure the site of the Foundling Hospital, at a cost of £525,000, as a Children's Park, will receive widespread gratitude from the nation as it will help to materially raise the standard of health in London. The only condition that he makes is that the entire site shall be used for the Children's Park with the exception of one month in the

year, when it is to be placed at the disposal of the British Boy Scouts Association as a camping ground. This is a splendid benefaction.

The First Commissioner of Works has granted a site in the Victoria Tower Gardens, Westminster, for the erection of the statue of Mrs. Pankhurst, the most heroic woman of our time.

A study in plaster by Mr. A. G. Walker of the head and shoulders of Mrs. Pankhurst is on view at the Royal Academy Exhibition.

If only magistrates would send the demons who ill-treat animals to prison instead of letting them off with a pettifogging fine, much heartrending cruelty would be stopped. Take those poor dear little pit ponies in the Park House Pit, at Clay Cross. An inspector who examined 32 animals found 19 fresh from work suffering from injuries to the withers and chine, clearly due to rubbing against the roof or side of the roadway. Most of the horses were 4 ft. 2 in. high, whereas the plane road through which they had to pass in some places was only 3 ft. 11 in. high, with low bars and girders across. The result was that in some cases the ponies were 3½ in. to 4 in. higher than the distance between the roof and the floor. After subsequent examination the inspector asked the manager and agent what he thought of the condition of the horses, and he replied: "Well, it made me ill."

As usual, a fine. To realise that these high-spirited animals are grinding and suffering all their lives, so that we humans may toast our toes before the glow of fire, and enjoy the amenities of civilization, should surely make us eager to better their unhappy lot. The women's vote should have power in future to help protect poor defenceless animals from a life of slavery.

## COMING EVENTS.

May 10th.—Guy's Hospital Nurses League. Annual Dinner, 7 p.m. Annual Meeting, 8 p.m., Nurses' Home, Guy's Hospital, S.E.

May 12th.—Unveiling of War Memorial to Liverpool Nurses in the Lady Chapel of Liverpool Cathedral.

May 15th.—East End Maternity Hospital. Annual General Meeting, Royal Hospital, Chelsea. 4 p.m.

May 25th.—University College Hospital Nurses' League. "At Home" Trained Nurses' Institute, Huntley Street, W.C.1. 3.15 p.m.

May 30th.—General Election. Polling Day.

June 1st.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses. General Meeting. 2.30 p.m.

Mrs. Bedford Fenwick will unveil the Plaque of the late Miss Isla Stewart, in the Isla Stewart Memorial Library. 4 p.m. St. Bartholomew's Hospital, E.C.

**The British College of Nurses,**  
39, Portland Place, London, W.1.

May 14th.—Lecture by Dr. Saleeby on "Sunlight and Health." 8 p.m.

May 16th.—Miss A. M. Bushby, F.B.C.N., and Miss M. S. Cochran, R.R.C., F.B.C.N., Councillors. "At Home." 4—6.30 p.m.

May 25th.—Council Meeting. 2 p.m.

June 13th.—Miss M. G. Allbutt, F.B.C.N., and Miss K. M. Latham, R.R.C., M.B.C.N., Councillors. "At Home." 4—6.30 p.m.

**Royal British Nurses' Association, Club Fixtures.**

194, Queen's Gate, S.W.7.

May 15th.—The General Council "At Home" to members of the Association. 4—6 p.m.

May 23rd.—Lecture on "Fatigue," by Miss Isabel Macdonald, S.R.N., F.B.C.N. 3 p.m.

May 31st.—Ramblers' Club visits Jordans.

*previous page*

*next page*