

THE recent examination for Nurses and Probationers of St. Olave's Infirmary, Rotherhithe, which was held by Dr. H. J. Campbell, has been highly satisfactory, eleven out of fourteen passing, three of the number with distinction. The medical officers and the Matron, who have done so much to secure these excellent results, are to be congratulated upon them.

THE Royal Free Hospital will soon have an opportunity of finding out the influence that music has on sick people, as a fund is being raised to place American organs in those wards in which there are no musical instruments. It is a small sum that is needed, only £25, and half this amount has already been subscribed by the medical staff, the students and their friends.

These organs will add greatly to the attractions of the Sunday ward services, which have recently been instigated by some of the students. A remark made by one of the patients, "that Sundays seemed so long without any singing," suggested that it might be very delightful to establish "services of song" on Sunday evenings.

The movement to organise services by students in Hospital wards originated in Edinburgh, and has spread generally through Scotland. In the Royal Infirmary in Edinburgh the students are most enthusiastic in conducting ward services, and in some hospitals they are allowed to give short mission sermons. But there are no sermons at the Royal Free services, although prayers—not extempore ones, however—are read.

All the helpers at the services are members of the London School of Medicine for Women, and half an hour is the limit of time—a period quite long enough in a ward full of sick people. The hymns are varied with solos, and are often sung to the accompaniment of violins. The whole movement is admirable, and it is very encouraging to find that the women medical students enter into such sympathetic and friendly relations with their patients.

AN Armenian lady, who is taking her training in an English Hospital, writes of her utter loneliness and the want of sympathy she finds among Englishwomen. She says: "You cannot conceive what I have suffered during my Hospital life, so lonely, and suffering from the Englishwomen who have so looked down upon me with their superior English smiles. I had such a lofty ideal when I left my home and came to England of the gentlewomen I should meet and work with, but most of my illusions are dis-

pelled. I mean to clench my teeth and go through another year of it, but God alone knows what it will cost me."

Courtesy to the stranger within the Hospital gates is one of the first duties and pleasures of a Nursing Staff, and we should hope that it is rather over-sensitiveness on the part of this lady rather than under-courtesy on the part of her fellow-workers, which prompts this foreign lady to write so despairingly. It is often quoted that cleanliness is next to godliness. We have often thought it would be more true to say that courtesy is next to godliness.

THE Nursing Staff of the East Lancashire Infirmary, Blackburn, have presented Dr. C. E. Maude (on his resignation of the post of House Surgeon) with a very handsome travelling bag, fully fitted up, in recognition of the interest he has taken in the improvement of the Nursing work in the Infirmary, and also of the personal care he has bestowed on the training of the Nurses. Dr. Maude has acted as lecturer to the Probationers for the past two years, and his resignation is much regretted.

AT a meeting of the Kendal Home Nursing Institution, when a very satisfactory account was given of the work done by the Institution, which is quite a new one, in the cause of district visiting, the chairman, Mr. Crewdson, said he saw that some County Councils were providing funds out of the grants for technical education to send up young women to learn Nursing, so that they might carry on just such work as was being done in Kendal. He thought it was a plan that might work very advantageously in counties other than those where it had been adopted, and it would be found one of the most blessed forms of technical education that modern science could give them.

We sincerely congratulate the County Councils on so admirable a scheme, but we trust they will be careful to enforce a three years' training before allowing their pupils either to teach or practise sick Nursing.

AN illustrated interview with Dr. Arabella Kenealy, the author of the remarkable book "*The Honourable Mrs. Spoor*," which has just been brought out, will appear in our next week's issue. The line taken and the views expressed in this book on the subject of "The Woman with a past" are so original that Dr. Kenealy's explanation of the problem, from a medical and psychological standpoint, should prove of interest to our readers.

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