

## The Nurses' Missionary League.

The Annual Meeting of the Nurses' Missionary League—always an interesting event—took place at University Hall, Gordon Square, on Saturday, April 24th. The League, which was founded in 1903, has now a membership of 1,002, 310 of these being volunteer members, i.e., those who purpose to become foreign missionaries.

During the past year 271 new members have joined, 79 of whom are volunteers. The League, in its report, publishes a list of the fully trained nurses working in the foreign mission field in connection with the various missionary societies, and nurses may well consider the claims of missionary work when they realise that the total number of nurses connected with foreign missions throughout the world is just over 260, or about the number required to staff one hospital of 700 beds at home. There is certainly plenty of scope for the work of the League.

The three sessions of the League on Saturday were of an entirely different character. In the morning there was a devotional meeting with an address by Miss Fairfield. In the afternoon a conversation at which the hostess was Mrs. Carless, and in the evening the business meeting was held, and interesting addresses given. Throughout the day, however, one thing characterised the meetings, the hospitality extended to all who attended them. Excellent tea and coffee and cakes were provided, and the fresh and constant supply, which seemed unending, must have meant much hard work to busy workers.

In the afternoon the Hall looked very bright with fresh spring flowers, the nurses present gathered round little tables, and conversation was animated. Mrs. Maxwell (*née* Saunders), trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, who is working with her husband in the Tainan Hospital, Formosa, showed many interesting curios, beautiful little carved figures, and silks, dyed and embroidered with the skill rarely attained by any but the Chinese.

Mrs. Weir, of the English Church Mission, Korea, Lady Superintendent of St. Luke's Hospital, Chemulpo, gave an interesting address on this little known country, and the work in the hospital. She also described the methods of the native doctors, in whom the Koreans have extraordinary confidence. These doctors have a certain number of drugs, and use them intelligently, and sometimes very effectively, in the case of simple complaints.

The Korean doctor has two chief cures for inflamed joints, and wounds. He runs through them

instruments something like knitting needles, called *chims*, either hot or cold; when hot they are not quite so disastrous, as they are then more or less sterile. When patients who have undergone this treatment are admitted to hospital often it is quite impossible to do anything for them but amputate the injured limb. The second treatment used is to light little fires over the inflamed spot, constantly the effects may be observed on patients

brought to the hospital. Sometimes the burns ulcerate and are troublesome to heal. Occasionally, however, this method of applying counter-irritation proves effective.

So far very little maternity or gynaecological



Mrs. Pomegranate.



Bringing Babies to Church at Sian-lang.

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