

the hands of the Roman Catholic Orders, the latter had probably the largest share in all that was done in Germany for the care of the sick in the mission field.

MISS RICHARDSON, Secretary of the Nurses' Missionary League, said that of the 1,100 members of the League, 536 had volunteered for work abroad, and 84 were now in the mission field. There had been 24 recruits this year, and 9 or 10 were hoping to go out at the close of the year.

The equipment and preparation of the Missionary Nurse, whether for work at home, or abroad, should be of the highest and most varied kind. Every missionary nurse should learn everything it was possible to learn, for it would all come in useful in the mission field. The physical training and equipment should also be of the best. The nurse should take plenty of exercise, such as tennis and cycling; she should keep up her music, and those who had vocal powers should keep up their singing. Then as to mental training, a nurse should read good books, both prose and poetry, including standard novels and biographies, and, in fact, do all that she could to cultivate a cultured mind. Then surely the last and the highest equipment was the spiritual equipment, the utmost for the Highest, for Him whom every member of the nursing profession worthy of the name was seeking to serve in and through the sick and suffering, both at home and in the mission field.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SESSION said that, referring to the amount of knowledge which a missionary nurse should have, a graduate of the Toronto General Hospital Training School, had been for years a nurse in Africa. When she joined the Mission a doctor was in charge of the medical work, but his health failed, and he was obliged to leave, and for three years that nurse had to do everything in that Medical Mission.

MISS L. L. DOCK said that she had only just arrived in the room, and so had missed what had been said previously. While every woman should be imbued with the true spirit of real religion, there was a certain danger in having missionary endeavour brought too prominently forward on certain doctrinal lines. In connection with the Nurses' Settlement in New York, where she lived, they had not to go to foreign parts to do missionary nursing, for the people had come to them. They had the Jews, the Catholics, the Mohamedans, the Armenians, the Bohemians, the Germans, the Italians, and occasionally the Americans, but not often. All these people had their own religion, and at the Settlement they had learnt to respect these religions very deeply; they respected real religion whenever they saw it no matter under what particular doctrine it was taught. They had reverential feelings for the Chinese, who sincerely worshipped strange and very queer-looking images, for the Jews, and for the Holy Church whose father in Rome watched over all his people. Whatever form of religion these people belonged to, where it was true and genuine, they respected it, and the people felt that. When they found erring people who had fallen away they did not try to force their own religion upon them, but

asked them in what church they had been brought up, and tried to lead them back to it. So in the Nurses' Settlement you might sometimes see the curious sight of a Jewish nurse taking a young Catholic girl back to her priest. On the other hand you would see the Catholic nurses most careful in the observance of the queer Jewish punctilious methods, never asking a Jewish person to strike a match on Saturday, because they knew the Jewish law forbade it. In the Settlement they had nurses of every religion, and some without any, and they lived together there—Catholics and Protestants, high church and low church, broad and long. They had never encountered the slightest distrust from any of their people, and people of any kind of religion were quite willing to trust their children to them, because they knew they would have perfect respect for their religion, and would not try to get the children away from it. She thought nurses should not lay too much stress on changing the religious label of the people they met to that which they themselves had been brought up in, and believed to be the right kind.

Mrs. HANS KOCH said that nurses who definitely went out as missionary nurses must try to save souls, that was their *raison d'être*. That was a remark which she felt it her duty to make. Mrs. Koch then proceeded to move the votes of thanks which have already been recorded in these pages, after which the Congress was reluctantly brought to an end, and those present joined in singing the British National Anthem and "Auld Lang Syne."

We print below a short account of the Session on "The Organisation of Private Hospitals," which took place simultaneously with the Session on "The Nurse in the Mission Field."

THE ORGANISATION OF PRIVATE HOSPITALS.

MISS EDLA R. WORTABET spoke in the Small Hall on the organisation of private hospitals. She first treated the subject in an international way, and then spoke of the English methods, and the great need for reform. On the Continent and in America, where hospitals were supported partially or entirely by the State, their administration was necessarily different from that usual in the United Kingdom. In Great Britain there was very little provision made for private patients—a maximum of 120 beds was all that could be counted on for those unable to pay fees higher than £1 ls. to £4 4s. a week, while the nursing homes charged from 4 guineas to 21 guineas a week. Abroad the fees were lower and the accommodation, as a rule, better and more up to date. Miss Wortabet argued that while the poor of Great Britain could boast of the most comfortable, luxurious hospitals, containing all the requisites that modern science could command, many of the best nursing homes, with trained nurses at the head of them, they did not meet the requirements of the day.

MISS PELL SMITH then gave an account of her home hospital at Leicester, showing that a good, conscientious woman could not make large profits, as the expenses of a nursing home were very great and fees must necessarily be high to cover expenses.

MISS BEEDON, a lady who is endeavouring to find funds to provide the necessary accommodation

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