

## Nurses' Missionary League.

Three Valedictory Meetings to take leave of Nurses proceeding to the foreign field were held under the auspices of the Nurses' Missionary League, at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C., on Saturday last. The full list of members of the League, some of whom have already sailed, who are leaving for work abroad for the first time, is as follows:—*Miss Rachel A. Williams* (trained at St. Thomas's Hospital) proceeding to Bangalore, S. India; *Miss Ella Fagg* (trained at Mildmay Mission Hospital) proceeding to the Punjab; *Miss Daisy F. Hills* (trained at East Dulwich Infirmary) proceeding to Calcutta; *Miss F. E. Anderton* (trained at the General Infirmary, Worcester), proceeding to Baghdad, Turkish Arabia; *Miss M. F. Logan* (trained at the Royal Infirmary, Glasgow) proceeding to China; *Miss M. H. Dietz* (trained at the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford) proceeding to Tokyo; *Miss E. Dives* (trained at the London Hospital) proceeding to China; *Miss E. A. Barron* (trained at Guy's Hospital) proceeding to Fuh-Kien; *Miss A. Benning* (trained at Mildmay Mission Hospital) proceeding to Formosa; *Miss M. D. Ward* (trained at Prince of Wales' Hospital, Tottenham) proceeding to Bangalore, temporarily; *Miss Ellis* (trained at Chelsea Infirmary) proceeding to North China; *Miss Shilton* (trained at Isleworth Infirmary) proceeding to China; *Miss Steevens* (trained at the General Infirmary, Worcester), proceeding to Syria.

### MORNING CONFERENCE.

The morning conference began at 10.30 a.m., *Miss Overton* (Somerville College), member of the Executive Committee, presiding, and after a hymn had been sung the conference was opened by the Chairman with Bible reading and prayer.

### EQUIPMENT FOR SERVICE.

The subject under consideration, "Equipment for Service at Home and Abroad," was considered in four aspects.

*Miss L. MALONY*, M.B., from Yezd, Persia, dealt with the "Professional Equipment" necessary, and speaking as a trained nurse as well as a doctor, urged those proceeding to the foreign field to equip themselves as fully as possible. None of them could form any idea of how much they would want to know. She could not have done her work so well without a knowledge of nursing. At first she had no European nurse, and had to train native girls as probationers; and further her nursing experience helped her to understand the difficulties of nurses. The training needed by missionary nurses was the highest.

While speaking warmly of help she had received from untrained and half-trained ladies, the speaker considered that the time had gone by for sending out half-trained nurses to the mission field. (1) It was a heavy tax on those in the work. A doctor had far less strain if he knew that the nurse was fully trained. (2) It was unfair on the work. There was a tremendous amount to get through, and an imperfectly trained person was liable to make mistakes, and these discredited the work. (3) It was

hard on those who were working without the confidence which knowledge and experience give. *Dr. Malony* advised all missionary nurses to take their C.M.B., and said a knowledge of dispensing was an advantage. In a Persian hospital a nurse needed to thoroughly understand theatre work, as there was a great deal of operation work. She should be able to train native assistants to look after servants, should be methodical and a good organiser, should have a knowledge of eye work and of children's nursing—in short, she needed a thorough all-round equipment. A nurse even had to act as an impromptu doctor abroad. Thus, *Dr. Malony* said, a nurse with one year's training was carrying on her work in her absence.

*Miss C. WATNEY* (trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital), from Mengo Hospital, Uganda, spoke of "Physical Equipment," and urged nurses to care for their own health as a duty to God, to themselves, and to others. Any hobbies were useful and should be kept up. The body should be taken care of in order to fit it to accomplish the work God demands of it.

*Miss L. STEVENSON* spoke of "Mental Equipment," and said that the contact of a nurse's mind with that of her patients was something so indirect and delicate that she should pay special attention to her mental equipment. She moved amongst people who were often groping to understand the problems of life. Our Lord, when on earth, said to the Scribe who came to ask his advice: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy mind," and we ought not to offer to God anything less than the best of which we were capable. *Miss Stevenson* quoted the lines of Ben Jonson:—

"It is not growing like a tree,

In bulk, doth make men better be; . . .

In small proportions we just beauties see,

And in short measures life may perfect be."

*Miss J. MacFEE*, B.A., spoke of the necessary "Spiritual Equipment," and urged the cultivation of the habit of ejaculatory prayer as a means of keeping in touch with things spiritual all day long, and especially emphasised the spiritual help gained by obedience to the Master's command in relation to the Holy Communion, and the need of a thorough knowledge of the Bible.

### AFTERNOON CONVERSAZIONE.

In the afternoon *Mrs. Habershon* gave an At-Home to members of the nursing profession, who were invited to meet the members of the Nurses' Missionary League about to sail for the mission field, and during the afternoon *Miss E. M. Roseveare* (St. Thomas' Hospital), working at St. Stephen's Hospital, Delhi, gave a short address.

### EVENING MEETING.

In the evening *Mr. McAdam Eccles*, F.R.C.S., was in the chair, and the speaker was *Dr. H. Gordon Thompson*, of Pakhoi, who described "A Nurse's Work in a Chinese Mission Hospital," *Miss Bolton* being the nurse associated with him in the work. He vividly described some of its difficulties, such as the tendency of patients to throw away the powder, and give the baby the paper in which it was wrapped, and to eat the ointment instead of using it for its

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