

dire needs of the very many sick and wounded on the Society's hands. Much suffering for brave men can be avoided if some assistance can be promptly sent from London to the Society at Madrid. It is in the hope of doing this that the Committee have issued an appeal. The Spanish Red Cross Society is striving night and day to follow the track of the bullet with the touch of compassion, to fight diseases of camps and trenches, to supply *matériel* which diminishes pain, consoles agony, stays illness, wards off, perhaps, the outstretched hand of Death!

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Queen's Jubilee Rotherhithe District Nursing Association, at Rotherhithe Town Hall, Sir Thomas Barlow soundly condemned the way in which mothers of the middle and upper classes left their duties to their infants to other people. The fashionable monthly nurse was one of the worst possible institutions. There seemed to be a conspiracy among them to discourage natural feeding. Among the poor he found the best intentions in this matter, but they lacked knowledge. An infant fed naturally was ten times less likely to contract contagious disease than one brought up by the most skilful artificial feeding, and a nurse who would encourage the natural method was a most valuable asset of the society.

Sir Thomas also referred to the question of helping poor nursing mothers with food. They heard a great deal, he said, about undermining self-respect and self-reliance. That was all very well; but no amount of such talk could dispose of the ennobling effect on the mother of instilling into her mind the idea of doing something for the sake of her infant. The desire for that was the noblest trait of human character. To give them food for that purpose did not pauperise them, and they found them anxious, as soon as their husbands resumed work, not to make further demands on the funds. They would often carry away the food given them for themselves to give to their children at home. Such self-sacrifice would never be demoralising; it would have nothing but an ennobling effect.

The work of the Nurses' Missionary League during the past six months has been most encouraging. The third camp for nurses was held in June at Mundesley-on-Sea, and was attended by 16 Sisters and nurses, representing 11 hospitals. A very helpful time was spent, and one of the most outstanding results is, that, in addition to 5 who were volunteers when the camp began, 8 of the nurses present have since

signed the volunteer declaration of the League, "It is my purpose, if God permit, to become a foreign missionary," and one has been definitely accepted by the C.M.S. Sixteen members of the League have gone abroad as foreign missionaries since April under the following societies:—The S. P. G., the C. M. S., the C. E. Z. M. S., the C. I. M., the B. M. S., the E. P. M., the F. F. M. A., and one to Tokyo by private arrangement.

The work of the League is carried on as far as possible inside the hospitals, and meetings are now held regularly in 15 hospitals in London, and at irregular intervals in half a dozen others; besides these there are branches in many provincial hospitals.

At the C. M. S. Exhibition, "Africa and the East," the N. M. L. had a stall, the stewards being nurses from various hospitals. As a result meetings have been started in three new hospitals, and there have been two definite offers of service for foreign mission work. Out of a membership of just over 1,100, 355 are volunteers.

Any particulars as to the work of the League may be obtained from the Secretary, Miss H. Y. Richardson, Sloane Gardens House, 52, Lower Sloane Street, London, S.W.

Mrs. H. M. Jean Kipp, writing in the *Canadian Nurse* from 546, Bathurst Street, Toronto, says: "We greatly need missionary nurses in the West of Canada. The first essential in any nurse entering the service of the Women's Home Missionary Society is a strong missionary tendency, a love of charitable work for the work's sake. The second is adaptability. She must be resourceful and willing to make the most of inadequate equipment and uncongenial surroundings, as the majority of patients are foreigners. Men, women, and children are admitted into the Home Mission hospitals and mission houses and given the required treatment in a clean, Christian atmosphere under loving, skilful influences.

"The life is one of sacrifice with its isolation and hard work giving a higher nobility to a noble calling. The help problem is as serious in the West as in the East and although the resources of the Board would permit of assistance for the heavier part of the work, on many occasions it is not available, consequently the nurse has to do what her hand finds to do whether she expected to do it or not. This picture of the work may not be attractive to nurses seeking monetary profit or professional fame, but it presents to the nurse with missionary inclinations a life of service and devotion to Christ and humanity."

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