

## THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

Last week we reported the Morning and Afternoon Sessions of the recent Valedictory Meetings of the Nurses' Missionary League held at University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C. The day closed with the dismissal of the sailing members.

### EVENING SESSION.

Mr. F. Marcus Wood, Secretary of the China Inland Mission, presided at the evening meeting. The first speaker was Miss Richardson, Secretary of the League, who said there was great cause for thankfulness as to the work in the past, and the League might indeed thank God and take courage to meet the unknown future as it bid God speed to its real friends who were proceeding abroad, committing each one to the care of her Heavenly Father. She invited the home members to bear in mind that their colleagues were depending on them for faithful remembrance at the Throne of Grace, and to regard the opportunity as a sacred privilege.

Miss J. Macfee, B.A., Editor of *Nurses Near and Far*, then said that the League was now 9½ years old. It had 1,846 members, 588 of whom were volunteers for active service, 204 of these being already abroad, and that day the League was saying farewell to thirteen more of its number. It was well that the League should try to get an idea of what it had meant to the world that all these nurses should go out. Miss Macfee referred also to the urgent necessity for enlarged headquarters if the development of the work was not to be hindered. It was estimated that an additional income of at least £350 per annum was required.

The Chairman emphasised Miss Macfee's remarks and said that the League was really suffering from its success. More extensive premises were necessary and more office help. He also enlarged on the necessity for fully trained nurses in the Mission Field, and said what a tremendous support they were to the doctors and to mission work as a whole.

Each of the sailing members present then said a few words: the first, Miss HILDA ANTHONY (Royal Infirmary, Derby), is at present detained for lack of funds. She said that when she first went to hospital the Nurses' Missionary League was a great help to her, and the Chairman subsequently pointed out to the members what they might do for the new nurse, a little kindness to a new pro. went a long way towards establishing a friendship. Of course, when speaking on religious subjects tact was needed, and in illustration of this he told the story of a young man who, desirous of devoting his life to God's service, promised to speak to the first person he met the next day on the subject. He happened to be a butcher's assistant and the first person he came across was a little girl who came in to the shop for a joint of meat. To her he said, while sharpening his big knife preparatory to serving her: "My dear, are you ready to die?" That was a true story.

Miss J. A. CLOUTING (London Hospital), proceeding to Mien-chuh, was the next speaker. She said that her departure had been deferred for a year; and it had been a comfort to her to remember the teaching of the cloud, which went before the Children of Israel, in the wilderness—when it stopped, they stopped; when it moved on, they followed. Reckoning up the gains and losses of the past year, she could think of nothing but gains. She had been spending the year with a lady, formerly a missionary in West China, and had had some lessons in the Chinese language; she had had another Keswick; she had had useful work—very; two more nurses, great friends of hers, from her own hospital, had volunteered for missionary work; and she had been adopted by a home parish, which she had always greatly desired, so that she might be backed up by a real bank of prayer.

Miss MARY GODFREY (General Infirmary, Bolton), proceeding to Toro, Uganda, said that she was going to a new hospital of seventy beds, where there was only one English sister, who, on her arrival, would be coming home on furlough. She would, therefore, have to train the native nurses, who, she understood, were lovable but irresponsible.

Miss E. V. KRAUSS (Guy's Hospital), proceeding to Hing-hwa, commended the League to any who had not already joined it, that they might have the strength in unity afforded by the corporate life. She asked the prayers of the League for herself and the others who were going out "at His word," in simple obedience, truth and faith. They needed this support.

Miss MABEL MARTIN (Royal Free Hospital), proceeding to Siao Kau, who was unable to be present, wrote, saying that she owed more than she could ever tell to the Nurses' Missionary League.

Miss IDA THOMAS (London Hospital), proceeding to Delhi, emphasised the fact that those at home and those abroad all depended so much upon one another.

Addresses from the Rev. Montague Beecham (of the China Inland Mission), and the Rev. Dugald Macfadyen, M.A., concluded a most interesting and helpful day.

### LECTURES ON HINDUISM AND ISLAM.

The first of the five lectures arranged by the Nurses' Missionary League was delivered at University Hall, Gordon Square, on Wednesday, October 9th. The chair was taken by Miss K. Webb (Home Sister, Guy's Hospital), who spoke of the great interest of the subject of the lectures, Hinduism and Islam. The lecturer, Canon Weitbrecht (Secretary of the Board of Missionary Study), dealt with the origin and historic development of Hinduism, tracing its progress from the far-off days some 2,000 years B.C., when the early Aryan tribes poured into India from the North, enslaving the still earlier inhabitants of the land, the present "out-castes." He showed how caste

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