

gona, Bengal, where he was the very first white doctor. The people are very primitive in dress, habits and ideas, and their knowledge of medicine and surgery is even more primitive. He told of children dying, because the mother's only idea of nursing was to tie string round wrist and ankle to keep out the evil spirits; and of one husband who refused to allow an operation on his wife, saying, "If you have to die, you must die, and I can marry another wife." Dr. Taylor concluded with a strong appeal to nurses to go out to these lands. The other speakers were Miss Atkin, from Sierra Leone, and Miss White from Chefoo, China.

At the evening meeting the chairman was the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell, who was warmly welcomed as President of the League. In moving the adoption of the Annual Report, Mr. McAdam Eccles, M.S., F.R.C.S., called attention to the fact that thirty-one members had started for the mission field during the year, a larger number than in any previous year, and also dwelt upon the greater earnestness and enthusiasm of the members, as illustrated, among other things, by the successful annual Sale of Work. The increased interest and support given to the League by Matrons in various hospitals was most gratefully noted, and also the closer touch which is year by year gained with the great missionary societies.

After the election of the new Committee, Dr. White, of Persia, gave an account of work in that land. He gave as the greatest need for every missionary nurse *adaptability*; and then spoke of the tremendous need for more nurses. In his own society, the C.M.S., there were 90 hospitals and dispensaries, 87 doctors, and *only 67 nurses*; and many other societies had a similar need. In the whole of South Persia there were only 7 nurses, with some forty Persians whom they had trained. A large part of the work was surgical; one day's work might include 2 cataracts, 4 other eye cases, 2 tumours, and 2 of radical cure for hernia. The nurse had to act as assistant surgeon and to supervise everything. In the wards the nurse's influence was unlimited; they had all kinds of men in as patients, from princes to brigands and prisoners, and one and all were invariably civil and very grateful. The results of the medical work, both professional and spiritual, were very great; the field is tremendous, the number of nurses working in London is out of all proportion. Surely the question for every nurse to answer is not, "Shall I go?" but "Can I stay?"

The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell, in the closing address, dwelt upon the fact that all nursing work is *God's* work, and that He is working in and through nurses just as much as through the ordained ministry. In this work the risen Christ shows His power. The great need is to train the will up to the point of being willing to follow wherever He may call. Then, too, nurses must realise that they are called, not only to heal, but to evangelise. Not only in the mission field, but also at home, men and women come to realise the love of God by having seen that love in the life of the nurse who ministers to them.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

The Council held its Annual Meeting on April 27th.

The Executive Committee reported that nine new Branches had been started and that the membership had been more than doubled since the last Report was published. And that the following questions had been considered and action taken:—

The Evils of the Coupon System of advertisement which affects the Nursing Profession.

The earnings of private nurses.

The giving of evidence before the Royal Commission on Venereal Disease, as to the training received in the subject by nurses.

Appointment of delegates to various Conferences dealing with questions affecting the Profession.

The formation of a contingent of nurses for service in Ireland, if required.

The answering of enquiries respecting average rate of sickness amongst nurses, rate of payment for lecturing, advice of choice in training schools, legal advice, &c.

The Council decided to adopt a proportional system of representatives of Divisions in a Branch on the Central Council and to defer the proposed alterations in the Constitution until such representation came into force.

LEEDS BRANCH.

A well-attended meeting of the Leeds Branch of the N.U.T.N. was held in the District Nurses' Home, Lovell Street, on April 22nd, at 7.30 p.m.; Miss Barlow (Lady Superintendent of the Home) in the chair. A debate took place on "Are Nurses Underpaid?" and on "State Registration of Trained Nurses." The for and against of both subjects were well discussed, and the papers read were good. When the vote was taken, the meeting was unanimous that nurses are underpaid, also the meeting was in favour of State Registration of Nurses. The members regret the loss of Miss Hill's (treasurer) valuable help to their Branch, and wish her every success in her new work as Lady Superintendent of the Royal Aberdeen Hospital for Sick Children. They also regret that through ill-health Miss Glass (a member of the committee and late Lady Superintendent of the West Riding Nurses' Home), has had to leave Leeds. They wish her a speedy recovery. Miss Walker (Matron), the Children's Convalescent Home, Meanwood, is Branch Treasurer. A hearty vote of thanks was given to Miss Barlow for her kindness in providing refreshments, and for presiding at the meeting.

Dr. de Carle Woodcock has kindly promised to give a lecture on "Tuberculosis," on May 22nd.

BATH DIVISION.

A most successful meeting of the Bath Division of the N.U.T.N. was held on April 25th, by the kind invitation of the Hon. Mrs. Mostyn, at 17, Somerset Place, Bath. There were about fifty

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