

cessors the "Junior Pros.," and may they be richly blessed with the saving sense of humour, without which this life is insupportable—almost impossible.

A GIRL ORDERLY.

We are indebted for our illustration on page 293 to the courtesy of the Editor of *The Gazette*.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

VALEDICTORY MEETINGS.

MORNING SESSION.

The Valedictory Meetings of the Nurses' Missionary League to wish God-speed to members who sail for the mission field this year were held at the University Hall, Gordon Square, W.C., on Tuesday, October 3rd.

In addition to the nurses whose names were published last week, Miss M. Jones (Universities' Mission to Central Africa), trained at the Stanley Hospital, Liverpool, and Miss E. Howard (C.M.S., Wuchang, China), trained at the London Hospital, must be included in the list of sailing members.

The chairman, Mrs. Douglas Thornton, opened the Morning Session with a short address on "The Need of the World at Home." This was followed by the National Anthem, and prayer for Doctors, Sisters, and all members throughout the world.

Mrs. Douglas Thornton then gave an address on "A Vision of the Need."

She spoke of the shepherds leading their sheep on the mountain side, and how the sheep followed them from pasture to pasture without any idea of where they were going.

At the present day we are leaving old pastures for new, old landmarks are swept away, and many of them ought to be moved. There are great issues and problems before us that puzzle and bewilder us. The problems of Peace and War, Capital and Labour, Men and Women. Also moral questions, so we must be prepared to look at things from an altogether different standpoint.

In all these things we must feel that we need someone to talk to, the need of personal guidance, someone able to give us up-to-date advice on life as it now is, someone absolutely capable to guide us. We must seek all this in the personal friendship of God.

Miss L. M. Shann then gave an address on Individual Responsibility. She said that we were realising to-day as we had never done before what it meant to belong to the British Empire. It was our personal share in it that must concern us, and our individual attitude to the social and moral questions of to-day. First we must see the vision, and then it was the duty of each one to carry the message.

Miss M. C. Gollock took for her keynote the words "I, even I, only am left." She said this was an age in which dumbness was im-

possible, everyone could not speak adequately, but speak we must. It was a time for strenuous thought, resolute action, fearless sacrifice. Conventions would no longer satisfy us. It was perfectly impossible to think that life would be the same after peace was declared as it was previous to the war. We must be prepared to go forward, or to be miserable reactionists. We must be prepared to face new responsibilities to the times in which we live.

AFTERNOON CONVERSAZIONE.

The Conversazione in the afternoon was a great success. The hall was attractively set out with small tables for the various groups of nurses, who enjoyed tea and chat with their friends. Miss Richardson and Miss Macfee, aided by many helpers, were kept busy dispensing tea and cakes, and yet found time to give a kindly welcome to all.

The hostesses were Mrs. William Scott, Mrs. Sturge, Miss Haughton, and Miss E. M. Smith.

Mrs. Taylor sang beautifully "Just as I am," by Noel Johnston, and then Miss Jolley, R.R.C., Q.A.I.M.N.S., formerly Matron of the Royal Southern Infirmary, Liverpool, who has only just returned from the front, gave a brief sketch of her experiences and impressions.

She described how she had to dress an extensive wound of the hip on an ambulance train by the light of one candle, and how she climbed on the top of the train to get a better view of the falling shells. She told how anxiously the boys asked if they had a "Blighty wound," that would ensure them a visit home.

The transport by barges, she said, much lessened the danger in head and abdominal wounds, owing to the absence of vibration.

In the clearing station she was so close to the firing line that her bedroom door would shake with the gunfire, and she would lie awake and distinguish between the machine and heavy guns.

Work at the casualty station, she said, she would fain forget. She never saw a single man flinch from death; they only expressed extreme contentment. Their chief anxiety was that their friends should not be told that they were very bad. She considered that the temperament of the men was not so hardy as at first; they suffer more from nerves, and therefore require more adaptability and patience from their nurses.

Major A. Neve, F.R.C.S., R.A.M.C., who is at present in charge of a hospital with many German wounded, said that at first it was decided by the War Office that women nurses could not be allowed to nurse the German soldiers, but he and the Matron had shown great firmness on the subject, and he was glad to say they were shortly replaced. We should, he said, refuse to come down to the German level of cruelty. The Swiss Commissioner who had come over to negotiate for the exchange of prisoners had professed himself much touched with the chivalry of the English. We must be true to the Christian tradition.

Some people were grudging nurses being sent to the mission field, but it should be remem-

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)