

go far to ensure its success. Her wide knowledge and experience, her personal charm, her enthusiasm and her outlook on things medical and nursing, make a combination as irresistible as it is delightful. Professor McIlroy (as also her Assistant Professors), will undertake no private practice, but devote her whole time to the care of the patients in her charge, to the instruction of students and to research. Even a brief interview with Professor McIlroy leaves one quite certain that her direction along the paths of learning will be extraordinarily stimulating and inspiring to the medical students whose studies she directs. We hope an overflow will be available for the benefit of nurses. And we have little doubt on this score, for Professor McIlroy speaks most appreciatively of the value of the work of trained nurses, on which she considers successful medical practice is based. It is interesting to know that she has consistently refused to engage as a maternity nurse, in her private practice, a midwife who has not also had general training as a nurse. She speaks warmly of the support she has received from Miss Cox-Davies, Matron of the Royal Free Hospital, and of the efficient nursing staff she had placed at her disposal in the wards forming the Unit of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. Miss Cox-Davies had also much to do with the furnishing and general arrangements of the Clinical Unit, and it is certain that the nursing staff feel as great a pride in it as the medical students, and that they will use their best endeavour to do their part to ensure its successful working.

An arrangement giving the Unit completeness and charm is that Professor McIlroy has a private room of her own on the floor, her Assistant Professors share another, and the House Surgeon has a bed-sitting room and bath room, the very best having been made of the available space.

The history of the Royal Free Hospital is bound up in the history of the noble struggle of the pioneer women to gain admission to the Medical Profession. The ceremony on May 11th provided an excellent illustration of their victory over outworn prejudice. Long life to the Royal Free and its noble army of graduate women.

We learn that a letter was received from the Queen at the Royal Free Hospital a few days after her visit there expressing Her Majesty's satisfaction with the arrangements made on the occasion of her visit.

THE NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

The annual meetings of the Nurses' Missionary League, held at University Hall, Gordon Square, on May 11th, were of a very friendly nature. Members were present from a large number of different Hospitals besides other branches of nursing work, missionary nurses being represented by four from China and others from India, Africa, and Persia. The afternoon was a special opportunity for conversation, and the enjoyment was

greatly enhanced by the beautiful songs and the delightful humorous recitations contributed by the Misses Logan Wright.

As befitted an annual meeting, consideration of the work of the League filled an important place in the day's programme. A "demonstration Bible Study Circle," composed of members from four hospitals illustrated a method of work which is being carried on successfully in some hospital branches. Reports which had been sent from branches in three London Hospitals and from Blackburn, Bristol, Manchester, and Edinburgh, described a variety of other methods that are being used, such as combined reading and working parties, meetings at which papers are read by different members, and social evenings. In the discussion which followed a great many practical problems and suggestions were brought forward. The annual report, which was passed in the evening, showed that the League has considerably strengthened its work, especially in the Provinces and Scotland, visits having been paid to some twenty-seven towns. An urgent appeal for increased funds was made, for although the members have helped splendidly and the income has increased, some £150 more a year is necessary to meet the considerably advanced cost of such items as printing and travelling.

The work of medical missions was described by Dr. White (Persia), Dr. Shearburn (N.W. India), and Dr. Weir (Korea). Within a radius of five days' journey around Dr. White's hospital at Kerman there is no other doctor, no nurse, no hospital, no asylum for the insane, no V.A.D. Mission hospitals in Mohammedan lands are a demonstration of practical Christianity, for in their religion they have no conception of love. A Mohammedan gentleman was shown over Dr. White's hospital with its X-ray apparatus, its laboratories and up-to-date equipment, but what impressed him most was the sight of a European nurse dressing an ulcerated leg. "That," he said, "is the most wonderful of all; our holy men would not touch it with a pole." Miss Shearburn also spoke of the utter lack of love in Mohammedan lands, and by vivid pictures described the grey, monotonous, drab sadness of the lives of the women. Dr. Weir in a more general survey described the different branches of medical mission work, and urged the immense importance of the work of training indigenous nurses, a work which especially in India and China is now beginning to show splendid fruit.

The chairman at the evening meeting, the Rev. R. C. Gillie, gave an address on "Christ's Need of the World." He said that God, the Infinite and Eternal, has chosen to be incomplete without the response of men and women, has chosen that things shall not be done without their service and co-operation. This fact makes life astonishingly sacred, and means that we must "learn to lead the listening life" so as to be ready for His summonses. He closed with the arresting sentence: "I would fain be to the Eternal Goodness what his own hand is to a man."

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