October, 1946

## A NIGHTINGALE BRICK IN CHINA.

## METHODIST HOSPITAL, HANKOW, CENTRAL CHINA.

When in 1938 we contemplated building a new School of Nursing, hostel and classrooms, we ventured to apply to the British College of Nurses for a gift of a Nightingale brick for our new building.

The Mayor of Hankow laid the foundation stone, just at the time the Japanese had invaded the coastal cities of China, and were bombing us from the air daily. The Mayor said the city was greatly encouraged by the faith we expressed in China's future, by proceeding with this building at such a time.

As Hankow was six hundred miles inland from Shanghai we did not at that time expect that the invaders

would ever reach us. For a whole year the building work went on, little by little as materials could be obtained, and at last the roof was finished just as the Japanese drew near and occupied our city. Another year went by before all the doors, floors, and windows could be finished and the school building could be opened and used.

The architect had taken great pains to plan the Lecture Hall so that the brick could be built into a good position above the wall over the platform. Below welfare of the Nurses, and great pleasure in the progress of nursing education in his country.

The illustration shows the platform of the Lecture Hall. Above is a replica of the School of Nursing badge and the motto "That they may have life."

The Christian Nurses of this hospital feel that they not only can help the patients to physical life, but can point them to the Saviour who came to give life abundantly in its fullness, to spirit, mind and body.

Below the motto and badge, the brick can be seen built into the wall, which below it hangs the statement about the brick, both in English and Chinese. The two farther portraits are of two Chinese Nurseleaders.

The hall is equipped with writing desks and cupboards

full of essentials for teaching the practice of nursing. Six bedsteads, a cot, and an adult and a child model completes the classroom, while next door to it is a library and reading room.

During October this year the Nurses in China are meeting in conference to plan for great а extension of their work in the future, and several of them plan to attend the International Congress of Nurses to be held in the U.S.A. next May.

G. S.

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PLATFORM OF NEW LECTURE HALL, METHODIST HOSPITAL, HANKOW, CHINA.

The "Nightingale Brick" is inserted under the Hospital Badge.

it, now hangs a framed statement telling the story of the brick from Florence Nightingale's own house and that the British College of Nurses had sent it out as a gift to our School. At the opening function, Chinese guests showed great interest and pleasure in the brick. One of the guests, a well-known Chinese specialist said that he congratulated the Nurses on their new building, but especially on the historical treasure that enshrined memories of Florence Nightingale.

Near the brick hangs a portrait of Florence Nightingale, while on the other side is a portrait of the Chinese gentleman who gave the building. His name is Mr. Lee and he is the Chairman of the School of Nursing Board of Directors, and he takes an intense interest in the

## THE NURSES' CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT.

On November 30th, the Nurses' Christian Movement are holding their Annual Day of Prayer and Gifts. In London a quiet day is being observed on November 29th at the G.F.S. Chapel, Townsend House, Greycoat Place, S.W.1, when Miss Gladys Stephenson will speak at all three sessions : Morning, 10.30; afternoon, 2.30; and evening, 6.30. Miss Stephenson has been President and Secretary of the Nurses' Association of China, and has just returned to this country from a Japanese Internment Camp. She has a great story to tell, and deep experience to share, which we are sure will be of sincere interest to all who are able to be present.



