We long ago ceased trying to explain things to other people and so Euphemia remarked, as if it were the most natural every day occurrence to see five boys from seven to seventeen in bathing suits racing around the house: "I think the boys are back."

Other people's children must be cared for, and the only solution of the problem seems to be for all the childless people to turn to and do it. We need more practice and less precept on the subject. The public institutions are mighty poor substitutes for homes. There is something in institutional life at its very best which takes initiative out of adults and benumbs and blights a child.

The poorest kind of a decent home is better than the best institution. Euphemia declares she had rather take a street gamin than a child who has been blighted by several years in an institution. The children are crying for homes, and how any childless household can close its doors and sit down comfortably, deaf to their clamor, passes all understanding. Christine is probably right as to the mission of old maids.

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**NURSING IN MISSION STATIONS**

A LETTER from Miss Margaret Strathie, of the David Gregg Hospital, Canton, China, says:

"In the first place, I have been a subscriber to The American Journal of Nursing ever since it started, I should miss it more than ever could I not have it out here. I read almost everything in it, some of the articles are especially helpful; the April number this year with Miss Biermann's article on massage was to me most interesting, as along with my study of the language I have been trying to teach a blind girl (who was educated in Dr. Niles' blind school) to give massage. It has been very uphill work; it was so difficult to get an interpreter at the right moment, but part of two days last week I was able to get one of our little doctors who speaks English to help me put the article into Chinese. It is particularly interesting to the Chinese in that it is a work that is returning to China after three thousand years. They still give a massage with both hands closed. I am hoping that the teacher will have the article in shape in a week or so, so that the nurses can copy and read it off to the blind girl who, in turn, will copy it in her way; they use the Braille system.

You ask how the students turn out. Dr. Fulton graduated one just after I came. She is a very good nurse. This fall two more will graduate. They do very well as far as they know. I have not been able to give them as much time as I would like, as last year I put in all of my time on the language, and this year I have still to put in several hours each day studying. Besides the blind girl I have only four pupils, but after this fall I hope to have a much larger class, when I shall be able to give them more of my time. Hospitals everywhere are so anxious to get them, and there is a good-sized foreign
community here, beside nearly a hundred missionaries. We cannot begin to supply the demand, but I felt it was better to have as few as possible until I got better acquainted with the language. We have only one book thus far for them to study from and it was compiled by a number of doctors up north. The translation of Mrs. Robb's book is not finished yet though both Dr. Niles and Dr. Ruth Boggs are working on it.

I am the only nurse trained in America in active work here. There are several who married before coming out and there is, in the Canton Hospital for men and women, a graduate of the Royal Infirmary, Edinburgh, in charge, or at least she will be after she gets the language. I am a graduate of the Presbyterian Hospital of Philadelphia. I am very happy to be identified with China at this time when women are coming to the front in education. In connection with this hospital there is a medical school for women with thirty-two students. At Chinese New Year seven graduated and the Viceroy sent three watches to those standing highest in the class; it was a great day for them. In this year's freshman class there is one girl from Hainan and two from Foochow who must put in an extra year studying this dialect. The regular course is four years. The nursing course is two years. We have room in the hospital for about fifty beds. There is a great deal of abdominal surgery. The women are waking to the fact that something can be done for them. Day after to-morrow we operate on one, and two more are waiting their turn. Until we get more nurses the medical students "special" the laparotomies for two or three days. There is a great, great work being done here in Canton alone, for women, and yesterday our women's conference was addressed by a Miss Spenser from Iowa and a Miss Paddock, at present in Shanghai, both intensely interested in W. C. A. work. They came here to find the sentiment in regard to establishing a branch here, so this fall a lady comes out who will study for two years, and next year an assistant will be sent out. Long before they have the language they will be overwhelmed with work, there is so much to be done in every branch. A young lady is going in training this fall for kindergarten work. As she was born in China, she will be ready for work in a year after she arrives."

Another account of St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo, is given in the August number of Spirit of Missions by A. M. Clark.

"It was my good fortune last summer to spend two months as a patient in one of the private wards of St. Luke's Hospital, Tokyo. Only one who has been taken ill alone in a foreign land and laid up in a hotel far from clean, with no attendant who can speak or understand your language, can appreciate the great relief of finding one's self under the hospitable shelter and skillful treatment to be had at St. Luke's. There are many of our own countrymen and people of other nations in Tokyo who, but for St. Luke's, would have small chance of recovering from serious illness, and who, during a long sickness and convalescence would have had to dispense with all the little comforts and mitigations to be had at home.

Though St. Luke's has been erected as a means of bringing the Japanese under the influence of Christianity, we must not therefore neglect our own
countrymen or those of other foreign nations who sometimes in illness need our care as much as the Japanese themselves. Therefore, English and Americans, French, Germans and Russians, all are cared for at St. Luke's together with the Japanese. And the fees paid by the foreigners assist in extending the work among the Japanese.

There are nine private wards in St. Luke's, all spotlessly clean and as cheerful and attractive as our home rooms. The floors are of hard wood, with blue and white Japanese rugs, the furniture is well chosen and the walls are painted a warm buff color, so that the general effect is sunshiny and cheerful. During the hottest weather Dr. Teusler was at the seaside, but remained in telephonic communication with the hospital, and came up by train to Tokyo whenever sent for. The head nurse, Araki San, who has been trained in America, was also taking her summer vacation, and several of the other nurses, too, and yet all the daily routine went on and the patients were cared for as if the full staff had been present. The Japanese assistant doctors are very capable and at least one of them is always in the building. The Japanese girls trained here make excellent nurses. Four of the present staff speak English quite well. They are bright, happy little creatures who seem to enjoy their work, and so small that they look almost like children as they come solemnly around with their little watches and thermometers to take the patients' temperatures."

**Note.**—A trained nurse is needed in the Anatolia College Hospital, Marsovan, Turkey in Asia. It is a wonderful opportunity for some Christian young woman to identify herself with the beginnings of medical missionary work in a foreign land. It will need a woman of exceptional ability, as the work is important. There are about twenty-five Americans in the compound, and the social life there is delightful. For information, address Miss Edith B. Hoover, Hershey Hospital, Muscatine, Iowa.