

Miss E. M. Horton.
A.A.N.S.

I embarked on the 12th June, 1917, on the "Mooltan" with 300 other sisters bound for Salonica. We dis-embarked at Suez, and entrained for Alexandria, where we stayed for five days. I embarked again at Port Said on the "Gorgon, for Salonica, and reached Salonica on the 29th July.

Although on the trip we sighted submarines, we fortunately were not attacked.

On reaching our destination, we were taken in ambulances to the 60th General, at Hortiach, which was about 12 kilometres out of town, in the hills.

After a very dusty journey, we arrived, only to find that we were not expected, our tents were not erected, and we slept on the ground, having only a ground sheet and blanket.

It was a large tented Hospital, capable of holding 1,000 patients. We were the first sisters to arrive, and found that there were already 800 patients there, the Hospital having been run a fortnight by the medical officers and orderlies.

The wards were not in order, so we had to set to work to put things straight. We worked here under very trying circumstances, and had great trouble in obtaining food, owing to the transport difficulties. These conditions, however, improved rapidly, and before I left, after a months service, bath rooms were being erected.

I was then transferred to the 52nd General Hospital, which was only half an hours run from Salonica, and here we worked under much better conditions.

It was a large hutted Hospital, and extremely well equipped. When there was a rush of work, extra tents were erected, and sometimes we had as many as 1200 patients.

We took both medical and surgical cases, and the medical portion was kept solely for special malaria cases. Here the medical officers carried on research work for twelve months.

We had very few amusements, only one or two picture shows, and once in three months, we had a band from one of the neighbouring camps. Weather conditions were very bad, summer being so enervating, and winter so extremely cold. I may say here, that I have never felt the cold so much in my life before, and have never worn so many clothes. We had two small fires in each ward, and stoves in our own rooms, but the latter were practically no use to us, for half the time we could not get any oil.

The hours of duty varied according to the work, and sometimes we had only one day in two months.

I stayed here until the 25th January, 1919, when I crossed to England, and after twenty-one days leave, I was detailed for duty at No. 3 A.A.H., Dartford, where I am doing temporary duty, while awaiting transport to Australia.

Nobody realises how much the boys suffered out there, uncomplainingly, as the supplies of Red Cross were not at all plentiful, owing to the difficulty in shipping, and so many of the boats being torpedoed.
