

Miss Ida Mason.
A.A.N.S.

I embarked on the 25th April, 1917, on the "Karoola" with 30 other sisters as passengers. We called at Durban, and then at Cape Town, where we took on board 200 tommyes, from German East Africa.

At Sierra Leone, our next port of call, we were allowed ashore, and the people there were very good to us.

We arrived in England, and after embarkation leave, I was detailed for duty for France, to the 25th General, Hardelot, which was a large skin Hospital. I found the skins very interesting, and though the cases did not require the heavy nursing of the badly wounded, they needed a great deal of attention, and it was continuous work.

The patients responded wonderfully to the treatment, and were most grateful for any attention given; they were not really difficult to manage.

All of the 'up' patients went to a Central Dining Hall, but being so well, it was difficult to get sufficient food to satisfy their healthy appetites. There were plenty of amusements in the way of concerts, etc.

It was a large British Hospital with an Australian Nursing Staff, and an R.A.M.C. male personnel, and the two services worked very well together.

We were very comfortably billeted in French Villas.

I remained here until December, 1917, when I went to England, to No. 2 A.A.H., Southall. This was the limbless centre for the Australian soldiers, and most of the cases were re-amputations.

Here we worked under very good conditions, and were again most comfortably billeted.

I remained there until it closed in May, 1919, and then was transferred to Dartford, where I am now awaiting transport to Australia.
