

Miss S. M. McLennan.
A.A.N.S.

I embarked on the 30th August, 1917, on the "Wiltshire", and arrived at Suez on October, 14th. I then entrained for Cairo, and here I was loaned with six other Australians, to the 21st General Hospital.

We got on very well indeed with the English, who were extremely kind to us. I did surgical work all the time, most of the cases being severely wounded from the Gaza Stunt.

The Hospital had been an old Military Barracks, and was beautifully equipped, and the organisation was perfect. Our hours off duty varied according to the work, but when possible, we had three hours a day, and one day a month off duty. There were very few amusements for the patients as they were mostly too ill, and when convalescent, they were gradually discharged to other Hospitals.

We remained there for eight months, and then received orders to join our Australian Unit, bound for Salonica. We reached Salonica on the 22nd June, not having sighted any submarines.

I was detailed for duty at the 60th General Hospital, which was at Hortiach, up in the hills, and was a large General Hospital. The conditions were poor in comparison with the conditions of Egypt, but of course, these Hospitals had been organised for a much longer period.

I did surgical work, and it was not very heavy.

I remained here for about three months, and was then transferred to the 42nd British General, which was a dysentery Hospital at Uchanta.

This Hospital was very badly situated on the edge of a ravine, which was infested with mosquitos, and many of the sisters contracted malaria here. This was the hardest work I have ever done on active service.

In the afternoons, I had three wards to look after, 40 beds in each ward, all acutely ill, my only help being one orderly. I felt the cold there very much in the winter, as there was only one primus stove for the three wards.

Here I contracted malaria of a severe type, and was off duty for seven weeks, and after convalescence, I was transferred to the 52nd Gen. which was a much better equipped hutted Hospital. As it was on the eve of closing, I did very little duty, being temporarily attached to the operating room.

On the third of March, I crossed to England, and after three weeks furlough, I was detailed for duty to No. 3 A.A.H., Dartford, where I am at present awaiting transport to Australia.
