

HMC.



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Miss P. Nowland.
A.A.N.S.

I embarked in May, 1917, on the "Ulysses" and we had troops and munition workers on board. We had very little duty as there was so little sickness.

We called at Durban, and the people were very kind to us and made our short stay of one week, a very happy one.

Our next port of call was Cape Town, where we took on board 600 troops, who were coming from German East Africa.

Owing to a collision with another boat while in port, we had to wait while repairs were effected, and did not reach England until August, it having taken three months to cross from Australia to England.

After furlough, I was detailed for duty to the Croydon War Hospital, which was a British Hospital staffed by Australian sisters, and divided into five separate divisions, all a short distance from each other. I was in the massage department while here, and the work was not very heavy, but extremely interesting, the cases being principally old fractures.

We worked under very good conditions and were very comfortable. While at this Hospital, we had many air-raids, but only the shell-shock patients were at all upset by them, and although we had cellars for protection, we seldom went into them.

I remained here until January, 1918, when I was transferred to No. 2 A.A.H., Southall.

Here I did relieving work as I was only temporarily attached. I stayed there for about three or four weeks, and was then sent to No. 1 A.A.H., Harefield. I was in the surgical ward for about two months, and the work was very hard as they were the heavy cot cases awaiting transport to Australia.

This was a very well equipped Hospital, and we worked under very good conditions, and were very comfortably billeted.

In April, after having furlough, I went to France, to the 74th General Hospital, Trouville, which was another British Hospital, and we were 20 Australians loaned to them. They were very good to us, and we enjoyed our stay.

The work was heavy, but most interesting; we got the wounded almost direct from the line. It was a very well equipped Hospital, and we worked under extremely good conditions, but our hours off duty fluctuated with the stress of work.

We were billeted in very comfortable shacks, and had a fair amount of amusements. As there were big convalescent camps attached to the Hospital, we saw a lot of their sports and concerts, etc.

I remained there until August, 1918, when I crossed to England, and reported back to No. 2 A.A.H., Southall, and remained there until May, 1919, when it closed.

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The work here was fairly heavy as there were many operations to be performed, but we worked under excellent conditions, and the patients had amusements of all sorts and descriptions. The food was good and plentiful.

When the Hospital closed, I was transferred to No. 3 A.A.H., Dartford, where I am doing temporary duty, pending my transport to Australia.
