Sister W. Willock, 3rd Aust. Aux. Hospital, Dartford.



I embarked on the 15th November 1915, on the "Orsove". We brought troops over, but had very little duty owing to the number of sisters and the small amount of sickness. Aftera very happy but uneventful trip we resched Suez and entrained for Cairo. I was tilleted at the let Australian General Hespital, Heliopolis.

After doing two months night duty I went into the operating room, where the work was very interesting indeed. It was only a fairly well equipped theatre, but the cases did very well. I remained in the theatre until April, 1916, when I was transferred to the Choubra Infectious Booptial. This was a very compact and very well equipped place. I was in the Diphtheria ward. Many of the cases were of a very severe type. They responded excellently to the treatment not having one death. We were able to get everything that was needed for the comfort of the patients. We were by the support of the patients. We were believed in a large house a short distance from the hospital.

After three months I was transferred to the 3rd A.G.H. Abbassia. The work here varied according to the fighting, our severest time being after the Romani stunt where they were severely wounded, but responded excellently to the treatment. Here we worked under splendid conditions. It was a very well equipped hospital. I remained here until the unit orssed in September 1916.

After an uneventful trip ecross we arrived at Brighton, where we were not expected. After a short time we took over the hospital from the British. It was a large workhouse excellently equipped, but many of the wards were very difficult to run owing to the length of the corridors and the snall wards. We were billeted some distance away from the hospital which was a great disadvantage, as in the cold and met meather me were almost frozen before me got to the hospital not being accustomed to it.

After six months I crossed with the unit to France, our destination being Abbeville until we were established. I was loaned to the 47th British Bospital, Le Treport. Here the conditions were not good. It was just a new hospital being established, and, therefore, the conditions were not quite so good as they were later on. The work was splendid getting the patients direct from the trenches.

After six weeks I was recalled to my own unit, but was loaned to the South African Hospital for duty as they were very busy. On rejoining my own unit again I went into the Post Operative werd where the work was more or less severe. This ward was very well equipped, and I worked under very good conditions the cases doing very well indeed, Carrel Dakén method being principally used.

The patients were wonderfully bright and cheerful. Our hours off duty here weried according to the stress of work when possible, however, we had every second half day and one whole day a week. This was a most soute ward so therefore the patients had no ammsoments, but every comfort was provided for them, liberally supplemented by the Australian Rei Cross.

When the Germans advanced we suffered severely from bombing, fortunately none hitting the bospital although some fell just at the entrance gate. As the Germans advanced on Amiens we evenuated nost of our patients, only 50 of the very severest being left behind. Most of the sisters were also evacuated but I was left behind with 24 others, and before our orders came to more the wounded poured in. Their wounds were most severe and we were practically turned into a 0.0.3, convoys arriving two or three

Sister W. Willock (continued)

times a day. The work was beyond our efforts as they came in hundreds, and we were only a handful of nurses.

This chaotic condition continued until our staff returned. The stress of work greatly diminished and we had a very quiet time until after Armistice was signed, when we had a very heavy epidemic of influenza, many of our boys who had come safely through the war, dying.

I remained at the 3rd A.S.H. until it disbanded in May 1919. I was then detailed for duty at the 3rd Australian Auxiliary Hospital, Dartford, where I am now awaiting transport to Australia.
