

### ARRIVAL OF NURSES OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

A number of members of the Australian Army Nursing Service are now in London, waiting to be deputed to duty. When they left Australia they numbered 134, but 50 were left in Egypt. Of the remainder 21, including the Matron, Miss Cooper, are assigned to No. 1 (Australian) Hospital Ship, and 21, with Miss Strickland as Matron, to No. 2 Hospital Ship. The remaining 42 will be assigned to convalescent depots, including Harefield Park, near Uxbridge, where the convalescent depot is rapidly becoming a military hospital of regulation size.

Miss Cooper was trained at the Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, and Miss Strickland at the Melbourne Hospital under Miss Amy Burleigh at a time when Miss Gray was a Sister there.

She was afterwards promoted to be Sister and then had a private hospital of her own—Sandringham—which at present she has suspended in order to take up her duties in connection with the Australian Army Nursing Service, which she joined in time of peace.

The Medical Officers of the ships are Colonel Craig of No. 1, and Colonel Brockway of No. 2.

The voyage of the contingent was made in H.M.A.T. *Orsova* without exciting incident. She called at Fremantle, and at Aden. As she neared the English coast there were rumours of submarines, and she was escorted up the Channel by two destroyers.

The destination of the ships is at present quite uncertain. They may go to the Dardanelles, or backwards and forwards to Australia with wounded. Whatever the service they are ready for it, only desiring to be of use to the brave Australians who have given their services to the Empire, and are now sick and wounded.

The following Sisters are included in the contingent: Sisters Cronin, McKinnon, McSpedden, Le Messurier, Coonan, Christenson, McHardy, Toan, Wildash, Wearne, Byrne, Lewis, McGillvery, Grover, Parish, A. Uren, C. T. Uren, K. Walker, L. Walker, Kennedy, Vines, Burns, Trayhurn, Burkitt, Love, Smallwood, Bartlett, Hammersley, Leitch, Jenkins, Marchant, Ritchie, Begley, Harden, Bull, E. Jones, Ryan, Buchanan, Moffat, Moore, Clouston, Collins, Were, Fisher, McAnene,

Matthers, Taylor, Clarke, Dawson, Thompson, Gilham, Odgers, Ellis, V. I. Clarke, E. D. Smith, Roberts, Cockhill, Priestley, Lyme, R. S. Taylor, Munro, Symons, Nicholson, Moberly, Humphries, Mulholland, M. Jones, Axelson, Carnac, Kitson, W. J. Smith.

The Sisters are at present enjoying their stay in the Metropolis. For many it is a first visit, and all evidently are appreciating their visit and utilising it to the full. The military uniform of the sisters, if it is a reminder that we are at war, adds a touch of colour to hotel life which is both bright and picturesque.

Dr. H. S. Souttar, in the *London Quarterly Review*, has an interesting article on "The Work of our Doctors and Nurses in the Field of War." Writing of the work of the Belgian Field Hospital, in the Boulevard Leopold, Antwerp, he says:—

"We had scarcely got settled into the building when a heavy engagement occurred and the wounded began to pour in. In the space of twenty-four hours, over 150 patients had been admitted, and until the evacuation six weeks later there was scarcely an empty bed. Most of the wounds were slight, but some of them were terrible; and, indeed, it seemed in some cases little short of miraculous that the men were alive. They were all young men, and some of them must have been suffering severe pain, but one could not but be touched



MISS STRICKLAND,  
Matron in the Australian Army Nursing Service.

by the courage and quiet heroism which we met with on every side.

"The bulk of the hardest work fell upon the nurses, and one had an opportunity of seeing how splendidly a British nurse can work under really trying conditions. For, although our building was in many ways excellent, it had none of those accessories which go so far to relieve the work in a well-organized English hospital. There was no proper hot-water supply, there were no sanitary arrangements in connection with the wards. There were no lifts, and all the dinners had to be carried up from the basement. Physically, the work was very heavy, for all our patients were heavy, able-bodied men; and as every wound was septic, they had in most cases to be dressed several times during the day. But everybody was in earnest, and everybody put their backs into

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