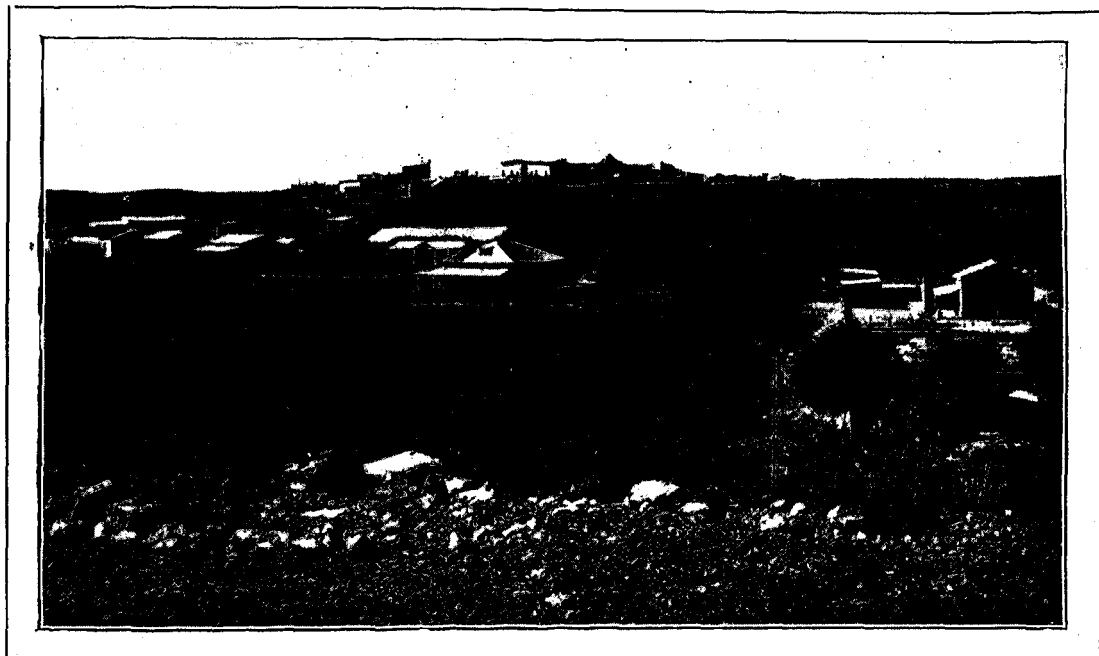


and the arrangement of work became almost normal after their arrival. One Sister I put on night duty, and great was the relief of all to feel that everything at night could be directed by a trained Sister. Things improved daily; rations were served out very generously; and about three times a week patients were sent off by motor to Kectmants; and the great day came at last, when the train was through to Gibeon. So we once more had orders to pack, and our remaining helpless patients were one by one motored very carefully to the station, a Sister being stationed with the orderlies on the hospital train, to receive them (Sister Cadlolo), and I, with doctor and sergeant-major, stayed at the hospital packing them off, the last motor and patient leaving at five p.m.

to help in the gigantic struggle going on at home. And now here we are recruiting at Potchefstroom, or should I say mobilising? I am hoping we may be sent with the first contingent of troops; but directly I know, I will write you our destination. I must tell you that, in spite of privations and hard work, we have kept perfectly well, and when there are a few moments of idleness I think of the glorious Kalahari desert, with its vastness and terrors and magnificent sunsets of indescribable grandeur seen every evening; and yet, with all its fascinations—the game, both great and small, and lovely birds—still the fact remains, that once you really get in the desert, a striving mad desire presses you forward to get out of it again; and one is conscious that it is the sight of the sea we



GIBEON, SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

All were aboard the train by night-fall. We left for Luderitz the following morning.

Arrived there two days later and the patients were transferred to the lovely hospital at Shark Island, a photo of which you published in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING a short time ago. To us all it was a great refreshment to get by the sea once more, and the week waiting for *Elban* was very beneficial. We left for Cape Town the following Wednesday, and in great comfort; our patients were conveyed to Wynberg, their arrival being announced by the ringing of joy bells to emphasise the fact that the struggle in German South West Africa had ceased. Peace was proclaimed the day we landed, and everyone's thoughts, even those of our poor patients, were inspired with a desire to go over at once to Europe

islanders prefer. Goodbye, dear Editor, I have kept a diary, and some day hope to shape it up; but it has been a full day's work from the start of campaign.

Yours, with love,

L. C. CHILD.

Miss F. E. Latham, who was Assistant Matron of the British nurses sent out to Antwerp, and served throughout the bombardment of that city, has now gone to Serbia with Miss Kate Shrigley and Miss Lilian Tiddeman to join the First British Field Hospital there. Miss Latham went to the Duchess of Sutherland's hospital in Dunkirk after returning from Belgium, and has been Matron of the Red Cross hospital at Warley for the last six months.

[previous page](#)

[next page](#)