

door, feeling sure that they would not hesitate to dash in with fresh supplies of water should they fancy we required it. Our appetites, sharpened by the unwonted luxury of a real bath, we sought the dining-room. Swarms and swarms of flies arose, as we entered, disturbed from a quiet meal on the piled plates of dark, sour bread, and from the spots of grease on the tablecloth—remainders of last night's feast. We breakfasted on what the flies had left of the black bread, and on milkless, sugarless tea. The quality of Serbian tea must be tasted to be realised! Private stores of biscuits and chocolates had, we now realised, been prodigally wasted on the journey up country. We were healthy and hungry, and the next meal at 12.30, would, we knew, be but a scantier repetition of last night's dinner."

By degrees the units sent to Serbia are finding their way home.

Thirty - three nurses, doctors and orderlies, forming the British Farmers' Hospital Staff who went out to Serbia last June and have been in the hands of the Austrians, arrived in London on the 17th inst. They had a warm reception at the station, and were evidently delighted to be in old England once more—their appearance in make shift garments spoke volumes of the hardships splendidly endured. No doubt they will be kept as historic mementoes of how they helped to win the War, and as evidence of the valour of British women.

Miss Simmons, of Nottingham, Matron of the unit, gave a thrilling account of their adventures. The unit was in Belgrade during the enemy's bombardment, and its hospital being near the city's electric light station, was in the direct line of fire of the German guns. The work of tending the wounded was continued as long as possible, and only when every window had been broken and the building was in imminent danger of being demolished were the wounded evacuated.

The hospital was removed to Vrnjatckka, which

town was full of Serbian wounded when the Germans took it over. The Austro-Germans treated the members of the unit most civilly. The Serbian wounded were cleared out of the hospital, and the staff were asked as a favour to nurse the enemy wounded. Although they refused they did look after a number of the enemy for a few days.

For three days the members of the unit were kept doing nothing. Food was very short and the Austrians themselves were kept on short rations. Considering the conditions, the English party had nothing to complain of, and on occasions

were fed even better than the Austrian soldiers.

When they were released they were told they had been detained in consequence of the arrest of the enemy consuls at Salonika, and when the officer informed them they were at liberty to go he added: "We are now giving you up, but you have not yet handed over our consul."

They were placed in comfortable railway carriages, supplied with good food, and their guards were specially selected on account of their knowledge of English. In fact, added Miss Simmons, one of the men was a Cook's interpreter.

Miss Simmons stated there were still in Serbia sixty or seventy doctors and nurses belonging to Mr. Berry's Anglo-Serbian Mission and other hospital units,

and she expected they were on their way home.

This will be welcome news to the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Berry, and the members of their unit, as the last news was that they were prisoners of war.

A correspondent writes, *re* the everlasting friction between the untrained commandants and officials and the trained Matrons of V.A.D. Hospitals: "The Vice-President here objected to the Matron (an excellent organizer) scolding a nurse for disobedience; she told the Matron she must remember that V.A.D's were ladies not nurses!"



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