

Africa, then after the war we imagine the profession will be very glad that there is such a thing as the T.N.A. to look after its interests."

It will be remembered that when probationers were appointed on the hospital ship *Kanowna*, the organized nurses' associations in Australia took vigorous action. We now learn that at the Council meeting of the Royal Victorian Trained Nurses' Association held on February 3rd, the Secretary read a letter from the Defence Department with regard to this question, stating that it was not intended to make any other such appointments and that the matter would be carefully considered on the return of the ship to Australia.

Miss May Humphry a member of the Australian Nursing Service, writing in *Una* on a Trip on a Transport, states, "While in London we visited Harefield several times, King George's, St. Thomas' and Wandsworth hospitals, taking the Australian papers for the sick Australian patients. Colonel Reay has an office in London, and supplies a number of hospitals where our men are with Australian papers, and you can imagine how welcome they are. We were the first Australian nurses whom some of our wounded had seen, and those whom we came in contact with all spoke highly of the kindness of the London visitors towards

them, especially the convalescents who are able to go motoring or driving. They wear bright blue suits and red ties, and it is a common sight to see them in motors, buses, and carriages having a good time.

Whilst we were there London was visited by an air raid. One evening at 11.30 a terrific bang, bang, was heard; we knew at once what it was and immediately went down to the basement of the hotel, as we were all directed to do in the event of an air raid taking place. What surprised me was everyone was so remarkably cool; there was not the slightest panic. Two of our staff were

returning home, and were put into a cellar by a policeman until the danger was passed. Some were at the theatre, and they spoke highly of the presence of mind displayed, everyone was so calm. The Zeppelin could be distinctly seen from the doorway of the hotel, and a considerable amount of damage was done within five minutes' walk of us.

September 25th was the date given us to be on board the *Kanowna* which is No. 2 Australian Hospital Ship, and we sailed from the Royal Albert Docks about noon. The ship looked well painted white and a broad green band round, and a large red cross on either side. We had on board

300 R.A.M.C., and some English and Canadian nurses and Sister Allander (Melbourne). These were going to Alexandria, Lemnos, &c.

October 18th. — Alexandria was our next port, and here we said farewell to the members of the R.A.M.C. and English Sisters. We stayed there six days. Alexandria we were not charmed with, it is so dusty and smelly; but we thought Cairo much nicer. We had the opportunity of spending the whole day there. We went from Alexandria by rail. The journey was very interesting, as the railway runs through land irrigated by the Nile. Whilst there we went to see Sisters Agnes Jackson and Ralston; then to No. 2 A.G. Hospital, to see Sisters Lehman and Simeons. They all

seemed very happy. We also met Colonels Ryan and Springthorpe. We visited the pretty little English cemetery, where Sister Bicknell is buried. Some of her friends have erected a tombstone to her memory, but her memory will always live in the hearts of those who knew her; she was such a splendid woman in every way. All round are to be seen small mounds with a wooden cross at the head with a number on it. These are the graves of soldiers who have died in and around Cairo. October 17th: We arrived at Suez, and very beautiful it looked, too; the purple-green of the mountains, and the peculiar green of the sea.



Photo]

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