

with false teeth, glasses, varicose veins, hernia, albumen, or any weakness of heart or lungs, is accepted. Twenty-six were examined one day, and only six of them passed.

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London.—Eight of us are at a nursing home in Norfolk Square. We have every consideration shown, hot and cold baths, latch-keys, etc. Meal hours even were altered to suit us and if out late biscuits and milk are left for us in our rooms. London absolutely fascinates us, with its marvellous traffic arrangements and order. It is so easy to find one's way about, and of course, when in doubt, ask a policeman—they are splendid. What you would have enjoyed most of all was the Chelsea Flower Show: it made me ache.—Carnations in masses, orchids, azaleas, auriculas, sweet sultans, sweet peas, and begonias—a living blaze of colour.—V. Maclean.

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“We arrived in Cairo on June 16th. Major Holmes met us at the station. Next day we started our duty of taking over the hospital from the Australian sisters; my part is the isolation block under Dr. Agnes Bennett. You can imagine how glad I was. Sister Wilson (theatre charge) and Nurses Anderson, Bennett, and Smailes (on night duty) and I are boarding at this place pro tem. We work thirteen hours one day and half day the next, but of course just now are seldom off duty up to time. The desert is like a furnace; I am sure its sands could never, never grow cold. We are now a New Zealand staff and this is the 1st New Zealand Base Hospital. Miss Nurse is our matron. We have 300 beds, and more to come.—V. Maclean.

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We dropped anchor at Malta at noon and immediately the ship was surrounded by small boats and cries of “Cigars, sir,” “Cigarettes,” or “Drop it, lady, for the small boy,” filled the air as vendors and divers sought for custom. Ropes were thrown up to the waiting “tommies,” and soon baskets were being lowered with coins, to be returned with cigarettes, etc., whilst splashes told of small boys diving for silver. If pennies were thrown a tale

of “Not see, sir,” was told. Permission to go ashore was granted the nurses, and presently boat after boat filled with grey-dressed, grey-hatted and red-caped nurses was rowed across the harbour to the Customs House landing. From there we were taken up in a lift 250 feet to the town level and there broke into parties. Some were way-laid and enticed into fancywork shops, where by dint of a little bargaining splendid lace and trinkets could be procured for very little money. Two of us set off to “poke round” on our own. Almost immediately we met two New Zealand “boys,” Sergeant-Major Skinner, of Christchurch, and Sergeant Beauchamp, of Nelson. The latter we knew and very delighted was he to meet a home face. They both belong to the N.Z.M.C. and had only arrived the day before us with a ship-load of wounded from the Dardanelles. We decided to see the sights together, and while we drove they told us of their experiences. Some of their stories would almost make one's hair stand on end; others made you feel proud that you were a New Zealander when you heard of the bravery and courage of our “boys.” We drove past fields where wheat—a miserable crop it seemed to us after seeing our home crop—was being beaten with flails. We went through the gardens where there were many strange gaudy flowers and on to the Governor's palace. Then back to town to see over St. John's Cathedral, where there were most glorious pictures and carvings by the “old masters.” We were fortunate in seeing the famous tapestries which are only hung once a year. Just before we returned to the ship we met one of our Maoris, they are doing garrison duty here. He said they were all well and “all good boys because we know New Zealand is looking at us.” Poor boys! they are very anxious to get nearer the fighting line.

As we were not sailing till noon, we went ashore next morning and went to the Hamrun Hospital—the Technical School which has been transformed into a hospital. It has a grand marble staircase which at present is covered with protective wood. The floors of the “wards” are also of marble—very trying on the nurses' feet. Two New Zealand nurses were here—Nurse Collins from Hawera and Nurse Higginson from Waikato. They