

and it is all very interesting. The weather has been bitterly cold, and inland plenty of snow has fallen; but to-day the sun is brilliant, so we are all basking in it. We go ashore in turn, so have a chance of seeing the beauty spots. The primroses are out in flower and the beautiful trees are budding.

S. CARRIE JONES.

N.Z. Hospital Ship No. 1, Aug. 15.

I have enjoyed my trip over on the "Maheno" so much; we have had exceptionally good weather. It has of course been most terribly hot for the last week or so; but we have been fortunate enough to have a breeze all the time in the Red Sea. We all enjoyed Adelaide very much; but Colombo! What a beautiful place it is. Both it and Kandy seem like one large beautiful garden. The flowers and the coloured leaves were just heavenly. I have never seen anything like the hibiscus, both single and double. I am so glad that I have been chosen to remain on the permanent staff of the boat.

BEATRICE C. McLEAN.

Just to let you know how very well I am now. We are busy on the ship, but enjoying it all very much.

LOUIE McNIE.

Colombo, August 15.

Sister Brooke writes to say that three nurses have been added to the staff of the Hospital Ship: Nurse Edmondstone, Wellington Hospital; Nurse B. McLean, Palmerston North; Nurse Cummings, Auckland; Nurse Garrard, Launceston, has taken the place of Nurse McCosh Smith, who has been transferred to the passenger nurses, and who has been very sea-sick and has not felt well since being on the boat. The other Trentham nurses are all well now. Nurse Watt has been in bed since we left Colombo, with appendicitis. She is better now and was up yesterday."

Writing later: "We have stopped at Suez. Thirty-two of the nurses are to go to Cairo by the 7 a.m. train to-morrow, the remainder come up with us to Port Said, to-morrow. The North Island nurses with the exception of Nurse Watt and Nurse Edgerley, who is staying to keep her company, go to Cairo. Sister Willis is going in charge."

AT A BASE HOSPITAL.

NO BEDS FOR 100 MEN.

GIFTS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

"We are right in the thick of things now, wounded and sick coming in faster than we can take them," wrote Nurse C. B. Anderson from the New Zealand Army Hospital, Cairo, on August 13, to her brother, Mr. W. D. Anderson, of Wake and Anderson, Wyndham Street, Auckland. The writer continued: "One hundred and fifty cases came in the day before yesterday, and 91 came in last night. Beds and mattresses are all round the corridors and verandahs. As every few patients go out a fresh batch is put in, and another surgical ward downstairs has had to be used for gastro-enteritis and dysentery cases. The men say it is just like Heaven to be here, and one feels that one cannot do enough for them.

Some that we get are absolute wrecks, but a few days' sleep and baths and feeding, books and papers and the chance of seeing some ordinary fellow mortals and a few women about soon set them right again, and they begin to look as if they had wakened out of a sleep. I go round and see that they are all shaved and tidy, etc., in the morning, and feel quite proud of my flock. When I went this morning I found men sleeping on mattresses on every available patch of the floor, 100 for whom we had no beds. I believe we are to make our accommodation up to 1,000 beds. We feel that we are doing what we came for, and are all putting every available ounce of ourselves into the work. Each sister has a black boy now to do the scrubbing and dirty work, and the orderlies can give all their time to nursing and helping us. When my patients reach chicken diet they get a whole chicken for dinner every day. They are small, but very tender.

"Boxes arrived from New Zealand last week with sheets and pyjamas, towels, and all sorts of necessaries for sick people. I am sure those who sent them will never realise how much they mean to us, for they can never realise in New Zealand how much we are in need of them. . . . We have 650 patients in the hospital, and