

of the staff must return to duty and remain on longer at night, and as a rule the sisters are far too eager to do all they can for the poor men to mind this extra work in the least. When a convoy is in it is all hands to work!

From this arrangement of hours alone it can be seen that of late months the shortage of nurses is not so serious and that they can all have a reasonable time for recreation.

The chief amusements are of course the excursion to the Pyramids and Sphinx, which is usually made soon after arriving, very often the nurses can be taken out in motor ambulances which have intervals between convoys when they can be used in this way and so help to keep the nurses in good form. Dinner at the hotels in Cairo, Shepherd's and the Continental, is another recreation, and as it is in the open-air, is very pleasant, though rather expensive, being 5s. for nursing sisters. Tea or cool drinks, at Groppy's is another amusement. Trips up the Nile are delightful. One was arranged during my stay, for the sisters and doctors of the N.Z. Hospital, and was an excursion not to be forgotten. It was a lovely day—hot, but under the awning quite bearable, and the scenery all along the banks of the river made one

forget heat. The picturesque dahabeyahs with their lantern sails and pointed prows loaded with hay or melons were constantly passing us. We halted for an hour or so at the landing for Memphis, and some of the men got donkeys and rode to see the Colossal statues. A flock of sheep came down for water and Arab shepherds and children came to see us and made a delightful picture with their bright blue, green and yellow garments. The women with all black draperies, but rows and rows of bright coloured iridescent bead necklaces.

The return trip in the fast-fading Eastern sunset was lovely, cameras and one paint-box endeavouring to seize the quickly changing effects.

In another place I mention the rest home for nurses at Aboukir Bay, a truly delightful place. So, as the nurses went away thinking of hard work and probable hardships one can but feel that so far their lines have fallen in pleasant places. Notwithstanding if they can leave their comparative ease and comfort, they are ready, and many have their names down for transport duty to the Dardanelles which involves both risk and hard work. Some of our sisters have already gone on this duty and all I think are eagerly anticipating their turn.

### Christmas Presents for Nurses

With Christmas only two months away, the spirit of giving to those who are doing such good service for the Dominion and the Empire is much in evidence. It is not alone those who are in the fighting line that are being remembered. There are nurses and hospital orderlies in Egypt who have done and are doing noble self-sacrificing work, striving through long hours in a torrid climate to make the lot of the wounded at least endurable. In the rush of Christmas-giving the nurses are not being forgotten. A number of ladies have been engaged in the City Council Chambers par-

celling up goods in brown paper—one each for every New Zealand nurse who is employed in Egypt. The articles included in each parcel do not represent much in intrinsic value, but they will demonstrate to the recipients that they are far from being forgotten. Each parcel contains writing-blocks, cards of darning wool, packets of chocolate, and other trifles that are sure to be appreciated. They are not being addressed personally, but are merely inscribed—"To a New Zealand Nurse, Egypt."

(Extract from the "Dominion," Wellington.)