Record of Service with UNRRA

Aug.17,1944--Received telegram giving appointment as Chief Nurse Eastern European country mission.

Sept.14--Left Vancouver for Washington, D.C.

Sept.18--Arrived Wash.--told that my destination would in all probability be Poland. Met Dr. Holle the Medical Chief of this mission. Also Miss Stephanie Szloch who was appointed as Hospital Nursing Consultant. Very pleased with the appointment as it is starting out on something right from the beginning.

The first week in Wash. was spent in getting all the necessary details in preparation for transportation completed.

Sept.24--Went to New York--Stephanie on to Boston. Had a visit with the Standers and Dot Clark--came in to New York on Tues. the 26th. Appointment had been made with Miss Tennant for 11 A.M. Discussed nursing in Poland previous to 1939. Very well advanced there. Three good schools in Warsaw and a University school at Cracov. P.H. intergrated into the basic curriculum. Went to N.Y. Hospital to meet Miss Lobowska who was formerly the Director of the City of Warsaw School of Nursing(Jewish). In 1938 there were planning to add to their school and Miss Lobowska was on her way to America for a two months observation trip when war broke out. Is planning to return as soon as possible. (A question of T.B. lesion and therefore not able to come with UNRRA--learned this later from Miss Johnston) Visited I.C.N. office--Miss Schwartzenberg suffering from concussion sustained in a taxi accident. Her secretary gave us names of people to contact in England and in the European countries. We expected ~~tha~~ that we would soon be on our way to London but when we ta;ked with the transportation department it seems that it will be a little time yet. Waiting here is very irksome.

Oct. 1 - Did some sight seeing to-day afterchurch. Went to New York Avenue Presbyterian--cornerstone laid in 1859--thechurch Lincoln attended. Went with Ruth Johnson (Georgia) to theCapitol--Art Gallery--Jefferson Memorial--Lincoln Memorial--Pentagon Building. Latter covers 128 acres--one and one quarter miles aroun outside--five corridors--outside is one mile--three

stories above ground--used only by armed services.

Oct.8 --Came out to University of Maryland Training Centre on Monday, Oct.2. First impressions of the physical set-up not very favorable--rather dirty. Said to be our first mission and guaranteed, according to a Washington-Post reporter, to take the "slick out of the city-slicker". Have had some interesting lectures. Hugh Jackson's report on the Montreal conference was outstanding. Others were Prof Palteau on France, a Czeck on Displaced Persons, Mr. Kinney on his observation tour in Italy. Taking French and enjoying it very much. First time I really learned to pronounce properly. Considerable speculation as to what is to happen in the Polish situation. Warsaw forced to capitulate this last week.

Oct.15--Still at the University of Maryland. Started on Polish on Wednesday and really enjoying the stimulation of learning something new. A lecturer to the graduate class this week told them that when going into a foreign country there were three things that they must be able to say in that language, "please," "thank-you", and the other to be left to them. With everything else the tone of the voice and the smile was all that mattered and they would be able to get a long anywhere. Be out-going. Have had some very interesting lectures this week on Europe. The most outstanding was by Dr. Habicht who is a diplomatic advisor to UNRRA. Mary Craig MCGeachy spoke one night--she really seems like a very able woman and is quite unassuming. Miss Halpin of the British Ministry of Health spoke of the preparations made by the Ministry for evacuation, refugees, the blitz, the buzz bombs, and for invasion. The people in England have really had a lot to take and they have learned the hard way through experience. The most amusing thing around this campus might be labeled "preparations for departure". At almost any time you look out, or happen to be in the UNRRA lounge, you see people carrying luggage for weighing. This is a continuous process until one finally eliminates to 55 pounds. What to eliminate is the problem. One cake of soap, no fancy containers for toilet articles and sewing kit, one sweater instead of two, and so onn.

Nov. 25.-- London at last! Will go back to the time of the last entry and bring this up to date. Stayed at the University of Maryland three weeks in all. Was getting so fed up that when Miss Johnston said she would need someone in the H.Q. to do a job I was eager

to come and so established myself again at the Alturas. The second day I was in we were alerted and there was great excitement. We were slated to go by British Air and thought perhaps we might leave from Montreal. When nearly two weeks had passed and we were still waiting I went up to New York for the week end. I wanted to see Miss Fairley who was there. Had a grand talk with Miss Fairley and Miss Johns. Felt much better about the nursing situation in UNRRA. The American nurse leaders are regretting that they did not work it out as the C.N.A. has. Too much is being left to the U.S.P.H.S. and in my judjment too much is being left to one nurse within that group. It looks to me as though Miss Johnston is the one who will decide who the Chief Nurse will be. We will see what happens when she comes to London. A Chief Nurse for this office is coming on the first of December. While in New York I had a nice visit with Florence and Dot. Met Dot's Paul. We fought right from the start. He is quite a politician and was all for Dewey. Seemed to me he was anti-British, Anti-Rooseve and all he stood for and was an isolationist of the first order. As the election was on the following Tuesday we went at it hot and heavy. He is certainly not good enough for Dot.

The following Thursday we were giving our marching orders. Were to report tothe Cunard White Star Line in New York on Monday afternoon. I went up on Saturday A.M. and had another nice week-end with Florence. On Monday we got our sailing orders and on Tuesday at 8 P.M. reported to Pier 86. Dot and Delia brought me in.

The trip was an experience not to be forgotten. The ship was the Aquitania and was thirty-two years the day we boarded her. There were over 7,000 American troups on board, about 50 civilian passengers, and a few British officers. We were without escort except for a blimp for a few hours the first day out. We seemed to take a very southerly direction as it was very warm for the first three days. Rumor was that we were going so far south in order to avoid a convoy from Africa. We sighted our first land--the Isle of Mann--on Wednesday morning. It was foggy and rainy so all we saw was a little bit of the coast-line. The morning previously ~~and~~ a plane had circle d us a few times. Although we were not nervous on the voyage it was a relief to know that we were so close to ~~th~~ this side. We dropped anchor in the Firth of Clyde about 2 P.M. on wednesday.

We were very comfortable on board in spite of the

cramped living quarters. Stephanie and I shared a cabin with Hilda Gibbs, a colored girl from Grenada. Hilda was going to England to study medicine on a British Colonial scholarship. She wasa very nice girl and we really enjoyed having her with us. The rest of the UNRRA women including Mrs. Davidson and Miss Sviggum were not so comfortable. They shared a cabin with seven and one of those seven was Mrs. Pattison, Feed Co-Ordinator for UNRRA. Enough said! I expect we shall run up against her again. There were 11 UNRRA women and three women, the latter including Mr. Case who is very nice.

Life on a transport is very interesting. Of course everything is under the military and everybody follows orders. They are not too hard on the civilians however. Starting the very first morning we had to wear our life-belts, or rather carry them, every time we went outside the cabin. The second day we were given lights to attach to them. Only two meals a day are served and we ate in the officer's mess. There were four sittings for each meal. The food was good and after the first few days one got accustomed to the two big meals instead of the three smaller ones. Of course we took a bun and jam from the breakfast table for our lunch, the steward always giving us a paper serviette to wrap it in. Then we bought cookies from the canteen and so fared very well. The P.A. system was the hardest thing for us to get used to. It was used very frequently the first two nights and day when everything was being organized. Suddenly a voice would boom out:"Attention all personnel on board, All open decks are now out of bounds for the purpose of policing. All police and sanitary details to report immediately." or "Attention all officers and first class personnel, the third sitting is now ready in the officers mess. The doors will be closed in ten minutes." or "Reveille, 6 A.M., all troups out!" or "Blackout is now in force, all open decks are now out of bounds." Or "Captain Smith of Unit A 497865 report to Ship's Headquarter's ~~imm~~ immediately " and so on.

We dropped anchor in the Firth of Clyde at 2 P.M. on Wednesday, Nov.22. It was raining hard and foggy but we were able to distinguish several ships and an air-craft carrier. We had just heard that a submarine was following us and that it was hoped that it was friendly. Not long after dropping anchor it surfaced near by. There was great speculation as to whether we would get off that afternoon or not. However we were all ready and soon the customs men came on and we were cleared. We had been ~~giv~~ given K rations, breakfast, dinner, and supper, to do us

until we got to London. They also made up some sandwiches and gave us a parting gift of a bag with the sandwiches, an apple and an orange. Expect it will be a long time before we see another orange. We got off the Aquitania onto a tender and were taken over to Gourock where we took the train to Glasgow. Getting a ticket there was an experience especially since Mrs. Pattison was involved. No-one had enough British currency since we had not expected to have to buy our tickets. Finally by the use of both American and British money and after much lending and borrowing we got our tickets to London. It was the first experience of some of us with the English carriages and also with the confused way of handling baggage. We got into a compartment, five of us women and one of the Englishmen who had been on the boat with us--one we always called "Mr. Chamberlain" because if he had had an umbrella he would have easily passed for Chamberlain. It was finally too much for him and one or two stops further on he got out and went on to another compartment. Mrs. Davidson was in extreme difficulties with her bladder '. We kept thinking that the next station would be Glasgow and finally when we were quite sure and were all ready to get up when suddenly a sea of faces appeared at the window, opened the door of the carriage and poured in. They were people going to Glasgow for the evening. Dour Scots ! It was a mad scramble for baggage when we did arrive. We loaded our cases and trunks on a cart and a very genial lady porter took them to our London train. The tipping was a problem since nearly all our English money was gone. Ended by giving her part in both curriencies. Had a nice compartment which we shared with an R.A.F. Officer from Rhodesia and a British Nursing Sister from Scotland. Our group consisted of Stephanie, Hilda, Ona Bouragorskas, and myself. Quite an international group! The nursing sister turned out the lights at 10:45 and we all had some sleep. At 5 A.M. she had the guard bring us tea and after that was finished turned out the lights again. It was hardly light when we arrived at Euston, the station which only a week or so previously the Germans had claimed to have knocked out with the V 28s. We checked our luggage and went to the Euston Hotel for breakfast. Our first English coffee. Quite up to reputation! Egg dishes made of powdered eggs are also rather unpalatable. After much waiting we got hotel rooms at the Kingsley in Bloomsbury. We phoned UNRRA but they had not been warned of our impending arrival.

Early the first morning we heard a V w2 explode. We later learned that it fell only a little over a mile

from the hotel. The second morning at 5 A.M. there was an alert and we heard a V 1 whizz by. It exploded in King's Row. We never heard of the damage of casualities and such things are not published. There was no warning last night. They tell us that there are at least two V 2's every 24 hours but we do not hear them. On Friday we reported to the office. Dr. Holle seemed glad to see us but I do not think he has anything for us to do. As he says they take a "dim view" of the Polish situation. This morning we looked for rooms. Looked at one at 50 Cadogan Place in the home of a Polish Doctor. We did not like the room of her. Came to this one which we had seen advertised in the paper and decided to take it. 68 Ladbroke Grove in North Kensington. We went back to the hotel and packed our baggage and came out. The Irish housekeeper is a case and very kind. Wehave not yet met the Scotch landlady. A Polish Captain has the room next door and a Polish girl who works in the Ministry of Social Welfare of the Polish Govt. lives on the next floor down. It seems that we are destined to be with Polish people so surely we shall get to Poland.

Dec. 1. Been in London a week ~~this~~ yesterday morning. No further alerts this week but heard a V 2 explode this morning. Felt a slight vibration in the house. Seemed to be in a northerly direction. Nothing will ever be in the papers except perhaps a general remark that bombs were dropped on the southern part of England last night. Last Sunday Stephanie and I went to Basingstoke. Lorna met us at the station and we went to her quarters where she had had some lunch brought in to us. Six of the nurses live in what was once the library of the big mansion ~~whi~~ which is now a part of the hospital. Don't think that kind of life would suit me but they seem to be happy. Eileen was there and also Dr. Gundry. The latter is waiting to go home and will be doing psychiatry for the army in Canada. We had dinner there having been treated by Eileen and her boy friend to cocktails. Took the transport oto the station and after a cold wait of nearly an hour took the train and had to stand in the corridor all the way. Week end traffic from those places to London is apparently very congested. While at the hospital we saw some of the treatments for burns and some of the plastic surgery. Coming home we talked to one of the British soldiers who was standing beside us. Said he thought there was a good chance of the war being over by Xmas. Let us hope he is right. Was telling us how they watched the flying bombs from their billet in Kent. Said they called them Bob Hopes--first you bob and then you hope. Have found a good place to eat--the American

Canteen on Duke Street. Get a good meal and as many seconds of coffee and desert as you like for 2 and 6. On Monday we went to some lectures on Poland for the Displaced Persons groupp We don't know what to make of the Polish situation. The Govt. here in London seem to have elaborate plans but how are they going to put them into effect? At tea after the lecture we met Mrs. Bonnlander who intited us to dinner at the English Speaking Union Club. She had two other guests, Miss Powers and Miss Lewis, both members of the displaced persons division. On their invitation we went on a field trip on Wednesday to an army supply depot and to Aldershot on Thursday. The supply depot was most interesting.A young captain who was in charge explained it all to us. In the middle of his talk tea was brought in. In what army but a British one would tea be served early in the morning? At this supply depot rations were handled for between 12,000 and 26,000 men. One could not help but observe how important to an efficient organization small details are. Our visit on Thursday was to the Army School of Hygiene. It was a lovely bus ride of about an hour and a half. We went through Rummymede and past the place where the Duke of Windsor used to live. The school was very interesting. It is marvelous what the army can do ~~to~~ in the line of sanitation. I was able to contact Dr. Boyd and have lunch with him at his mess while the rest of the party were eating at a British restaurant.

We got our ration books this week and have been having fun using them. Have discovered that a weeks ration of bacon yields about three nice pieces of bacon and some fat; butter 2 ounces and margerine 4 ounces. Some ~~fats~~ lard is also allowed on the fats ration but we do not need that. Are allowed two pints of milk. Therefore between us we should get half a pint a day and one pint on Sunday. We got our monthly egg today. Just happened to ask the grocer when it was due and if we had not gotton it to-day or to-morrow we would not have had one until Dec. 31st. Nothing wrapped --carry bread, onions, or whatever you buy in your bag. The butcher did wrap the sausage in a newspaper. No paper serviettes or any other kind. Found a new place to eat to-day where we can get salads--The Salad Bowl at Lyons Corner Houses. Pay 2and 6 for salad to which you help yourself, roll and coffee.

This morning Miss MacTwan, who is waiting to go to Italy, took us to see a bathing centre and a minor ailment treatment clinic. It is quite wonderful how they have carried o n in the midst of blitz all around. It was in a very slummy section and whole blocks were

wiped out in 1940 and 1941. New slum clearance buildings gone as well as the old ones. These clinics did not seem much like educational centres and one wonders if they really get over much teaching or are really content with just treatments. In the first centre there are sometimes as many as a hundred children a day getting treated f for pediculosis and scabies. For the latter they soak in a hot bath for twenty minutes and are them painted with a solution of Benzoid Benzoate. This treatment is repeated on the second day and the clothing is sterilized. The clinics are under the L.C.C. and are a part of the school service. We were told about the nutrition clinic. All the advice seems to be given by the doctor, the nurses taking no part in the education. No posters evident. Apparently lay women visit from the schools. Am going to try if possible to visit one of the schools and see what the nurses do there.

Weather had been lovely. So much like Vancouver. Haven't yet experienced the famous London fogs.

Dec 3. Sunday, rainy and blowy a real day to be homesick and I have to keep busy to avoid giving away too much to the feeling. Yesterday afternoon Stephanie and I went to see Merrie England at the Winter Gardens. We tried to buy a stool but by the time we got there they were all sold. However when we came back after lunch the man said that if we gave him a "drink" we could stand well up in the queue. We gave haim a shilling and for 3 and 6 got nice seats in the amphitheatre. Enjoyed the music and the acting very much. Had tea in the intermission. I went to the Tavistock Clinic and had dinner and spent the night with Dr. Luff. This Morning came to Westminster Abbey. It is a beautiful building but is gray and dingy now. Did not stay for the communion which is very High Church. Want to go back some sunny day and really see the church.

There was another rocket last night and one this morning. Suppose that I'll learn to take them casually but I still have inward shivers when they talk about them. An announcement in the paper to-day that V 3's will be launched at the end of this month. It gave us a bit of a shock when we saw people sleeping in the underground. Most are people who have always slept there and like it. Others are those whose homes have been damaged and it is not safe for them to sleep at home. The Home Guards are being disbanded to-day. The King is broadcasting to-night--we are going to see if we can rent a radio to-morrow. It will make it less lonely, especially at this season. I haven't much hope that we will get to doing much in UNRRA for a while. Met Miss Udell yesterday. She'll probably find something for

us to do.

Dec. 10--Sunday. Stephanie and I just got ready to take the bus to Marble Arch, walk down by Buckingham Palace and on to Westminster Abbey for the three O'clock service. When we got down to the door we found that it was raining and as it was cold we decided to take off our coats and stay in. So an afternoon devoted to writing , knitting, and reading. If only we had a radio it would be grand. No chances, all the radio rentals are booked up for months Have seen quite a few things this week. One morning which was fine we walked down Bond Street to look at the once fine shops. They are still lovely but what prices. Went along Picadilly to Trafalgar Square and down Whitehall. Downing Street was guarded but the Bobby pointed out NO. 10. Very unpretentious- in a narrow street almost like an alley. Then we went on past the Houses of Parl. and Big Ben. Took a shot of the latter from Westminster Bbridge. Along the Embankment to Waterloo Bridge--there are signs of damage, such as windows cardboarded up, piles of rubbish here and there and at the end of Waterloo Bridge a section of some buildings missing. Everywhere there are valuable bits of statuary etc. bricked up for protection. This is especially true inside such buildings as the Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral which we saw yesterday. One night this week there was a twenty minute alert. We learned the next day that a flying bomb had been shot down before it reached London. There were a great many planes out at the time. Nearly every night we hear them going over and in the morning returning. It must be chaos in those parts of the enemy country which they are bombing. They must have some virtues to stand up to it or is it just a last desperate stand because they believe that if they give in a worse fate will befall them On Wednesday night just as we were going to bed at 11 we heard a big bomb, an explosion and then the long rumble. We knew it was not very far away and the next morning found that it had landed in Duke Street just outside Selfrige's. Of course we do not know thw number of Casualties. The paper just said that a bomb had landed in a shopping district of Southern England and had damaged a pub. That pub was the American Canteen. We went down the next morning about 10 o'clock. About three or four blocks away there were little piles of glass neatly swept to the side of the street. As we approache the scene these piles got bigger and there were more signs of damage to store windows and their contents. The East end of Selfrige's was badly blown. We went in to the store and except for this section which was roped off everything was going on as usual. It seemed to us that

the people had a grimer look of determinat ion. We noticed a sign in a window--"Open at 10 o/c"--only one hours delay." We were a bit sobered and did not go to the UNRRA library to read as we had planned. Coming past Penberthey's, which is next to Selfrige's, yesterday we saw a sign--"Our 5th Blitz'. We applogize for the inconvenience. We will be open to serve you in a few days". Such is their spirit. After we had walked away from the scene of the blitz we went on down to Tottenham Court Road to find a woollen shop about which Dr. Luff had told me. We each got enough wool to make a sweater for less than $1.00 That should keep us busy for a time. Then we met Lorna at Lyons Corner House and had lunch. In the afternoon we went to the Tower of London. We were a little early for the tour so walked across the Tower Bridge. This Bridge is over 50 years old and is the last bridge over the Thames down to the mouth. It is 40 miles from the Channel. We went on the tour with a great many army personnel, most of whom were American, and accompanied by a Beefeater in his war time costume which is less colorful than in peace time. The Tower is the most interesting place I have visited in London and I want to return some fine day and see it all over again. It reeks with romance and history. We saw the old Norman Chapel built by William the Conqueror. It is undamaged even though bombs have fallen quite close by. However there has been no direct hit. We saw the public square and the private execution block where the wives of Henry 8 and others were executed. The royal chapel where many of these are buries. There apparently was a royal commission during the reign of Queen Victoria to really determine who was buried there. The ~~more~~ remains of the more notable such as Anne Bolyn and Lady Jane Gray were placed near the altar where plates mark their burial place. The oldest organ in England is in this chapel, but is blocked in for protection. We stood in the Bloody Tower while the guide told us of some of the people who had been imprisoned there. We saw the room where Sir Walter Raleigh had been imprisoned for twelve years and where he married Bessie Throckmorton. This all tied in with "Merrie England" which we saw the week before. We saw the royal residence and the residence of the Governor of the Tower. The window of the room in which Hess was imprisoned for a time was pointed out to us. I shall not forget standing on the Square and looking through the trees to the Tower Bridge. I want to return to take a photographic impression of that. That evening we went to see "Blythe Spirit" at the Duchess. It was most entertaining. One of Noel Coward's which has been running here for four years. Lorna stayed all night with us and the next morning we visited

Madame Taussaud's waxworks exhibition. This was much better than I ever imagined it would be. The group of Ecclesiastics were particularily fine. Then we went to a News theatre near by and saw a film on "Picturesque Massachusetts"--from the old to the new. On Saturday we went to the office early because we had been in so little the day before. There is absolutely nothing to do . Will have to volunteer our services for something if the Dutch Refugees do not come through soon. I wonder if they willcome after seeing an item in the paper to the effect that the Army were taking so many of the Dutch women and children over to Belgium to look after them there. At noon we went to "The Chesshire Cheese" which is on Wine Office Court just off Fleet Street. This is an old pub frequented by Dr. Johnson , Oliver Goldsmith, etc. The approach is through a very narrow passageway off Fleet Street. The door-step of the pub is protected by an iron grating under which you can see the old worn st step. The pub was rebuilt in 1667, probably after the Great Fire in 1666. There is sawdust on the floor as ther used to be in the old days. Past the bar you go in to a little room where there are many old relics framed and hanging on the wall. One is what is believed to be the original copy of "The Tale of Two Cities" open at page 4 where Dickens refers to this very pub. There is a stuffed parrot--the famous Chesshire Cheese Parrot who died in 1926 being over 140 years old. She was apparently famous for her vocubalary of profane language and when she died some 200 newspapers all over the world had a write-up. The Saturday Review had a contest for an epitaph to her and while waiting for our lunch I copied the two which received the prizes.

The Chesshire Cheese Parrot.
"Non Omnis Moriar"

The pop of corks, the gurgle of wine,
Kissing and human speech were mine,
Accomplishments that could not save
Me from the dry and silent grave.

Enough! No maudlin tear be shed:
Not all of Polly shall be dead.
Though silent, here upon the shelf
I stand--in memory of myself.

and,

~~The Chesshire Cheese Parrot~~

The Chesshire Cheese Parrot
Psittarius, Evis- etc. Ovid.

Our talking parrot, native of the East,
Has now gone West,
Beloved by City men who took their ease
And lunched serenly at the Chesshire Cheese,
Long he presided o'er the daily feast
Well may he rest,
Not lost, but stuffed. So, in the poet's words,
Mourn him, ye roasted geese,
Pheasants, and fowls obese;
Mourn him, ye birds.

(I don't know why I waste so much time and space over a parrot when the place is so full off literary romance and atmosphere) We went upstairs and had a very nice lunch in the very room I suppose where famous people of the past years so often supped.

After lunch we went to St. Paul's Cathedral which is not far away. It is a beautiful building. Firstwe went down to the crypt where so many famous people are buried. The up some 600 or so steps to the Whispering Gallery. While seated with our ear to the wall the guide whispered some of the history of the cathedral. How it took 35 years to build and how Sir Christopher Wren lived to see it completed. Then we went up about another 300 steps and came out on a walk around the tower . We co could get a good view of London but it was somewhat obscured by mist. We could see the terrific amount of damage which this district suffered. Whole blocks out. One bomb hit a part of the church and now this part is walled off with viewing windows to see the crater the bomb made. It is a credit to the architecture that more damage was not suffered when you see what terrific blast there must have been. After St. Paul's we walked over to remains of the church, St. Mary-Le-Bow, which hasthe famous steeple considered the finest in the world. The church is almost completely damaged and the bells are gone but the beautiful steeple still stands amid the damage all around. A Bobby let me take a shot at it.

It is now time for tea--don't suppose I shall always have time to write such a full account of activities. Want to get Morton's book on London and read up some t of the history of the places we have seen and the places we should still see.

Dec. 13. Wednesday. This has been an interesting week so far. On Monday we discovered that a group from Washington bound for Cairo and Naples were in London. Noreena among them. We went to Guy's Hospital and had lunch with Miss MacMannus. It was a most enjoyable afternoon. Miss Whitbeck showed us around the hospital and showed us pictures of what it was like before the blitz. Their loss has been terrific. There must have been many displays of heroism during these awful days. The superintendents house opposite the matrons all gone, the big central stone staircase gone--rebuilt twice of wood, one night there were over a thousand incendiaries in the back courtyard. The patients are nearly all out in the sector hospitals and it is necessary to divide the training school and assign the nurses to these hospitals. Makes an educational program very difficult. Miss MacMannus is very much in favor of the assistant nurse group--the first time there has been control of this group. I have gathered from later conversation that there is little likelihood of the voluntary hospitals being rebuilt. The L.C.C.'s are getting so much better and with the likelihood of state insurance the voluntary hospitals will not have such a very prominent part in the picture.

On Tuesday we had lunch with Noreena and in the afternoon had a talk with Dr. Russell Ellis and learned something of her experiences with the Spanish refugees. Noreena came home with us. An alert in the evening as also one on Monday night. However we seem to be better able to appear more unconcerned about them now. We were sitting talking at 11 P.M. when suddenly there was a terrific explosion and a long rumble following. We knew that it was a V 2 and that it had landed not very far away. It was a very funny feeling. I knew that all was over but I started to tremble and just could not control myself. The girls said I also had a circumoral pallor. I was really not afraid because I knew that there was no more danger from that one. We put on our coats and went out on the street. We watched where the cars were turning and set out to see the incident. All along the side-walk there was broken glass. When we got there--about 10 min. walk, we found that the bomb had exploded in the air and we saw a group of people surrounding the remains in the middle of the street. It was just a mass of tin and wire. There was some chicken netting in it. Quite probably the reason for its explosion in the air was due to a defect and as it started to descend the friction caused the explosion. Apparently a number of them explode in that manner. We came back and instead of Noreena sleeping

in the vacant room we drew the beds together and all three of us slept together. We were glad to see the bomb so close and thankful that it caused no loss of life but we hope never again to be in such close cantact to one when it is exploding. It gives one some vague idea of what the people over here have gone through in the past five years.
The following clipping appeared in the morning paper.

V-BOMB FALLS NEAR TRAIN

A V-bomb fell in a field near a railway track in Southern England recently and blast shattered windows in a passing train. One passenger, an American soldier, was taken to hospital. A few houses were slightly damaged.

When another V-bomb exploded in a residential district in Southern England people were killed and injured and property suffered damage. Windows which had just been repaired were blown out. The damaged property included public houses, which were empty.

To-day we had lunch with MissMochnacka and were very favorably impressed. She is now with the Polish Military They have some 200 Polish girls to whom they have given a six months training at the three military hospitals in Britain. The training of Polish nurses at the Edwerski Hospital was for some reasons not a success. We told Miss Mochnacka that we would like very much to be of assistance to the Polish group while in this country and asked her for any suggestions as to how we might serve. She is most anxious to start a real school of nursing--one which can be transplanted to Poland as soon as they can return. She thought that we could help with that and is going to talk it over with her chief and we will meet early next week. We also have an invitation to spend Xmas with the Polish group at their hospital near Liverpool. After returning we talked these things over with Dr. Holle and he was willing that we have a meeting and see what is proposed. He feels that it should be all right for us to be used in a professional capacity with the Polish group while we are here.
Later in the afternoon we went to the Royal College and were most graciously received by Miss Goodall and her associates. It is a lovely place and I felt that I had renewed professional contacts.

Dec.16. Saturday. On Thursday morning we went to see Mrs. Maynard Carter of the Florence Nightingale International Foundation. They have just moved into new quarters on Glouscester Place. The old quarters and the residence were blitzed and will probably not be rebuilt. Mrs Carter is carrying on in Miss Bagsdley's place and has had a great deal of experience in Europe having been with the International Red Cross betweenthe two wars. She seems to have a very broad outlook and probably a much better understanding of European nursing than most people. She feels that the nurses who go to Poland should be American since they have established a place there after the last war and it would not be wise to introduce a different system such as the English would be. Spoke very highly of the Warsaw School of Nursing which was for some time directed by American nurses and which had a School of Nursing separate from the hospital with the instructors and supervisors on the faculty of the school. This school was functioning in Warsaw until quite recently. Is not sure that we should strive to maintain the three year training when the need for personnel is going to be so great. Said to use good common sense and not go in with fixed ideas of changing things too much and we would get along allright. Thought Miss Mochnacka's idea of starting a school here was sound and that our contribution would be in the teaching.

Saw the gang off to Italy in the evening. Made us feel that we were being left behind when the others were getting into action. However it might be a long time before they do much. UNRRA has had to almost fold up in Greece because of the fighting. Yesterday Churchill spoke re the Polish situation. Upheld Russia in approving of the Curzon line as the boundary for Poland. It is to be hoped that the three leaders can get together soon so that the important decisions which are necessary for the progress of the war may be made. Said the war might last through the spring and summer. Not a very hopeful outlook for us to get into Poland and to get on with the job.

Dr Baker called at the office on Thursday and we went to lunch with him and Capt. Bowditch at L'Apertif yesterday. Capt. Bowditch is a very nice American doctor who is Assistant Medical Attache at the American Embassy. She has invited us to have lunch with her and the nurse in charge of the American nurse corps next Thursday.

Today we had a very interesting trip to Windsor Castle. In the group I saw a Canadian Nursing Sister and spoke to her. She was Hazel Woods of Charlottetown. Her husband was Flight-Lieutenant Clark Noyes of Saskatoon and they are in London for waiting for passage home

We stayed with them for the rest of the tour and after had tea at the Cock-Pit in Windsor. This tea-room is 20 years older than Eton having been built in 1420. It was originally shops . There is a step down from the st street and the ceiling is very low and beamed with oak. Boys from Eton with their tails and high black hats were having tea there. The tour at the Castle was most interesting. The souvenir booklet gives most of the facts. St. George's Chapel is a beautiful thing. We saw the banners of the Knights of the Garter. Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary are companion Knights znd very soon Queen Whilemina's banner will also be hung. We saw the vacant places where the banners of the Japanese Emperor and the Italian King used to hang. When these were taken down the choir boys had a grand time. There are choral services twice every day. The choir boys live in the residences of the castle and are educated in a private school on the grounds. We were not permitted inside or up into the round Tower which is the first of the buildings and was built by William the Conqueror. The moat around this Tower has been converted into a Victory Garden. From the Round Tower there flies the Royal Standard when the King is in residence. The flag pole is of Douglas Fir and is five feet in diameter at the base. One cannot help but wonder if all the cermony and the expense of such a place should be in these times. But somehow or other you cannot scoff at it. This has been what has held the British together and helped them to carry on with this struggle.

Dec.22,1944. Friday. Just two days before Xmas Eve. Decided to bring my records to the office to-day and do them here henceforth. Last Sunday was very dull in the morning but in the afternoon we walked around Buckingham Palace and through St. James Park. The Palace seems like a barn of a place to me but then we did not see the front and the grounds. The part facing St. James Park and the Queen Victoria Monument has the windows nearly all ~~cardboarded~~ boarded up. We went to 3 P.M. service at the Abbey. I am afraid I cannot get enthused about it but it is because it is so dingy and the beautiful parts such as the Henry 8th Chapel are closed to the public. On Mon. We entertained Mr. Case and Mr. Armentrout. The latter is a sort of pessimistic individual. I think they feel our chances of getting into Poland are very slim. In fact they do not think that many UNRRA personnel will get into any country.--- On Tues. we had a further interview with Miss Mochnacka and also met and talked with Col Fiumel who is Head of the Polish Army Medical Corps. I think Miss M. must have a rather difficult time putting across her points. He seemed interested in nursing but I think his chief interest at the moment is in service. This is natural as they must have someone to look afteer the patients but he did not seem to give Miss M. much chance in the conversation to put over her points. We will see following out tour what we may contribute but if is no

more than he suggested---giving a few lectures to their assistant nurse group then it will hardly be worth our fare. Maybe helping with the Dutch children is what we will find most worthwhile. Last night Eleanor Hickey and Roma came out for dinner. We have not gone out this week but must do better and try and get in at least one play a week. Yesterday we had lunch at Sherry's with Capt. Bowditch and Miss Green of the American Army Nurse Corps. May through the latter and her Matron when she returns see something of the nursing set-up in American Army nursing. To-morrow we set out for Liverpool, Edinburgh, and Perth.

Jan. ~~10th~~ 9th, 1945. This is being written at the Netherlands Government "Children" Committee Hostel at Baginton Fields near Coventry. We came up here yesterday A.M. to help with the 500 Dutch evacuee children who are expected in a week or two. It seems that this is the contribution we are to make while awaiting our passage to Poland. It promises to be very interesting even though our first job was helping to clean the linen cupboards in the units. This afternoon I graduated to doing some typing of forms. Had to supply the pager myself. Now to go back to our Xmas trip.

During the period from the 23rd of December to the 31st of December we paid a visit to three Polish Military Hospitals. Miss Mochnacka accompanied us to Taymouth Castle where we spent one night and came by car the next morning to Dupplin Castle. Our visit to Ormskirk was over the Xmas holiday. It was a very nice time to meet the nursing personnel and was very interesting from the point of view of Polish Xmas festivities. We were met in Liverpool and driven to the hospital with Col Fiumel, ~~to the hospital~~. We had dinner in the officer's mess and met the Doctors. They were busy trimming a Xmas tree. This was one of the notable features, every room and every ward had a beautiful Xmas tree. The decorations were nearly all hand-made. The Polish people evidently think a lot of the Xmas tree and I have never see more artistically decorated trees. The day before Xmas is very important in Polish traditional Xmas celebrations and it being on a Sunday this year and the Polas being nearly all R.C. it was particularily important. Of course there was midnight Mass on Saturday. I did not go but I heard the very beautiful singing. At 5 A.M. on Sunday we heard the air-raid sirens. For the first time in years there was an alert. Several flying bombs were dropped and some damage done. We learned later that 42 of the 50 bombs launched at that time landed. Bombs in this part had not been expected and consequently there was not adequate defence. On Sunday afternoon we went for a walk through the town of Ormskirk and went in to the Anglican Church there. It is one of only two churches which have both a

spire and a tower. We were accompanied on the walk by Mr. Lachowich, the husband of the matron. They had just been married for three weeks. He is a teacher of educational psychology at the University of Edinburgh. "ason leave from the Polish army for two years. He was a Lieut. and his wife a Major! He was very nice and he, like the majority of the staff at this hospital was one ofthe 2,000,00 0 Poles who were taken to Russia. He was one of the 140,000 released to the Middle East. He had many stories to tell and between the lines we gleaned much. Anyone to whom we spoke on this trip was very doubtful that we would ever be allowed to Poland if and while it was under the influence of Russia. Just this last week the Lublin Committee have been recognized by Russia as the legal Government of Poland. Britain and the U.S. have not so recognized it and it is probable that there will be no change until after the meeting of the Big Three which is planned for sometime after Jan.20th. --In the evening at 8 we assembled for the big meal. A meatless one. There were about 500, staff and guests. After Col. Fiumel had said a few words there was the breaking of the unleavened braad and the three kisses in Xmas greeting. Finally they got around to eating. The meal consisted of jellied fish, beet root soup with useka,fried fish and salad, comport , and sweets. I liked everything very much but the jellied fish. There was some splendid singing of carols. They have lovely voices. Played bridge after until time for midnight mass. The Poles seem to be excellent bridge players. They have a different system of counting.
On Xmas afternoon we were invited for tea to the house where the 65 Polish A.T.S. live. When we went in they were singing carols. Later on one of the girls recited a poem. It was very moving and one could sense the sorrow. Many had tears running down their cheeks at the end and two or three of the girls had to leave. . Alltogether I left with the impression that the Polish people are very gay and full of laughter. At times one felt however, that much of it was a covering up. There would often be sudden sobriety.
At Taymouth Castle they are working in the beginning of the Highlands. I was intrigued with the scenery--the nearest thing yet to B.C. There was a full moon and we went out for a short walk at bed-time. It was beautiful with the moon shing on the river Tay and the moon over the surrounding hills. It did a lot for my soul--as much as going to church does for Stephanie. I told her that when she made fun of my walking in the moon-light. The ride to Dupplin the next morning was lovely because the moon was still shining and was lighting up the whole valley. Would certainly like to see some of this country in the spring.

Neglected to describe the scenery from Liverpool to Edinburgh. We left Ormskirk at 10 A.M. It was very cold. The country from Carlisle is very beautiful--some snow on thedistant hills--stone fences--smoke curling from the gray stone houses--some white houses--farmers ploughing--aheep--cattle--geese--rolling hills--valleys--lovely green fields--winding streams--stone bridges.

Edinburgh is a beautiful city--shall never forget our first glimpse of the Castle as we came out of the station. And Princess Street, with its nice shops on one side and the open space on the opposite with the Castle always in the background. The Walter Scott Memorial is outstanding; and the scotch are very proud of the National War Memorial at the Castle. I am afraid my reaction was not very favorable--all that money spent on what really is a beautiful work of art, but only five minutes walk takes you to some of the worst slums in Great Britain. The Royal Mile is really through the slum area. You pass St. Giles Cathedral, Torn Kirk, (the following is the inscription on theoutside of the Torn Kirk: "

"Christ's Kirk ofthe Torn"

The Torn was the public weighing place which w as situated in the centre of the High Street justoutside this Kirk. It was an erection consisting merely of two or three stone steps on the top of which was fixed a weighing beam, It was a well known land mark of the City for here from time immemorial not only was all the merchandise that came to the City weighed but on it also those who had been found wanting in their behavior werewont to be exposed to the derision of honest people. The foundation stone of the Kirk was laid on March 4, 1637. The congregation originally worshipped in St, Giles but were displaced by Charles 1 in 1633."

John Wesley's House(It was closed so we did not get in) and on down to Holyrod Castle. The view is lovely and thehigh hills look very inviting. Arthur's sea t is seen beyond the Castle.

Edinburgh has a very fine Zoo which we visited on Sunday afternoon. As you wind your way up the hill past the various cages of the animals you come to the top and command a beautiful view of the City and the surrounding country and hills. I saw an elephant eating for the first time in my life. The closes of Edinburgh are very famous and I am sorry I did not explore some of them. Want to go back to do that and climb the hills beyond Holyrod.

Visited the Royal Infirmary. Was shown throughthe new Simpson Maternity Block bythe Matron Miss Fairlie. Was very surprised that she took me right into the nursery.

Don't care fortheir technique too much. She said that 85% of the mothers breast feed their babies. However in talking to one of the Health Visitors afterwards she said that many do not continue after they leave the hospital. She also spoke of "th e eyes" with which they leave hospital. Apparently quite a bit of the Health V's time is occupied in following up such cases. I take it that P.H. in Edinburgh is rather backward.(Miss MacLaren the H.V. with whom we had dinner told us that. She is very keen and would be a grand person to go on exchange to another country.) At the Royal Infirmary it was a thrill to see the room in which Lister first practised antisepsis. The Sisters and nurses are very poorly paid--90 pounds a year I think for staff nurses. A real choice place for a union to get footing! Hours too are long. I was surprised that the Sisters have a little sitting room off the ward and here they stay for 10 hours a day. They eat their meals there also. There is a kitchen for each ward and a good bit of cooking is done by the nurses.
At first we stayed in a boarding house on Chalmers Street. It was very nice but we nearly froze. Then we got into the Caledonian and although it was expensive we were comfortable.

To return to the Poles. Miss Mochnacka went with us to Taymouth and Dupplin and in talking to her we learned quite a bit about the nursing in thehospitals here and also in the hospitals and P.H. in Poland before the war. Following is a summa ry of notes made:

Ormskirk: 600 beds
Matron: Mrs Lachowicz
Commander- in - Chief: Col. Orlowski
Staff: 5 qualified nurses
57 unqualified

Taymouth: 600 beds
Matron: Miss Zazwinska
Commander- in - Chief: Col. Pedzich
Staff: 10 qualified nurses
60 unqualified nurses

Dupplin: 200 beds
Senior Sister: Miss Widera (Cecylia)
Commander-in-Chief: Col. Henryk Mazanek
Staff: 4 qualified nurses
18 unqualified

Nursing in Poland:
President of Polish Nursing Association, Miss Romawska, Warsaw School of Nursing
Secretary, Miss Mochnacka

In Poland 3,000 registered trained nurses, plus 7,000 registered but not qualified. this later group consisted of women who worked as nurses in hospitals without training and then after six years experience they were allowed to become registered. the registration of this group was stopped by law in 1940. This group was an outgrowth of the last war.

Schools of Nursing:

Warsaw)--
City of Warsaw)- Warsaw
Red Cross)-
Cracow (University)
Poznan
Wilno (University)
Lwow

In the Schools of Nursing all nurses having to do with the teaching of students were on the school faculty. The school controlled a certain number of wards and clinics and therefore could control the education of the students. Staff were responsible to thehhospital for administration only.

Included in the students training was about six months in the Health Centres of the city.

Health Department--Warsaw
14 centres in Warsaw
300 centres in Poland
Insurance in the City
about 300 nurses of whom 65 were fully qualified
T.B. dispensaries all over. About 14 or 15 rural centers set up by Red Cross in addition to the 300.

In Warsaw 1 p.h.n. to 5,000 population exclusive of ins. nurses. Did general program in their districts. School nurse was attached to the centre but did only school work. Other nurses worked in special clinics in the center in the afternoon (T.B., V.D., Mat., and Ch. W.) and in the morning visited in their own district.

After we returned to London we had dinner with Miss M. It does not look as though there is much immediate prospect of starting a school of nursing. One wonders how practical it would be. It looks as though Russia will control Poland, (Just this last week) and if so then the Polish group who are in this country will probably not return. In fact one authority said that under those circumstances 90% of the military personnel would not return. What a prospect for world peace! We were therefore glad that the coming of the Dutch children seemed imminent. In addition I was very glad to get out of London. The last Saturday we were there 17 V 2's

there 17 V 2's dropped on the London area. On the Fri. night a loud bang awakened me and I could not get to sleep until 5 A.M. In the meantime I heard two more. I am afraid I shall have to admit myself a bit of a coward.

Jan. 22. Over two weeks here and no Dutch children yet. The first date of postponement was Feb. 1st and now it is Feb. 8th. there have been many trials and tribulations. After the first week during which we did a bit of char work we sat ba ck and more or less implied that it was not our intention to do that type of thing. Since then we seem to be getting away with it and there seems to be a better understanding of our place in the scheme. We have the hospital unit ready now. The Dutch nurse who came has a past history of mental illness and will have to go back. She has done hardly anything here, and is really to be very much pitied.
The firstweek-end I was here I went to Wolverton to visit the Tompkins. It was most enjoyable. I enjoyed very much the walk and cycle ride on Sunday.--Old Wolverton; The Galleon where we had a drink of cider; the Grand Union Canal with the bardges; River Great Ouse; Stony Strafford; Passenham village; Calverton with its three Wealds; Calverton Church with its hand lever for the organ; its modern clock; its beautiful blues, greens, and reds; the Cock and Bull Inns in Stony Strafford where originated the phrase "a cock and bull story"; Shoulder-of-Mutton Inn in Calverton; Watling Street whose foundation is the old Roman Road.
When I returned I went to Coventry and bought a Raleigh Sport's bicycle. With allthe equipment it will cost less than ten pounds. I had one ride and since then there has been snow and I have had a cold so it is sitting in its stall which is the men's shower in our sleeping unit. Last night for six solid hours the big bombers were flying overhead and to-day also. It is a wonderful sound, but it is terrible that we should think it wonderful. Have an invitation to go back to the Tompkins for the week end of the third of Feb. and hope it is fine so that I can take my bicycle. Stephanie says that everytime she turns around I am admiring the vehicle.
Coventry has been badly blitzed. It is pathetic to walk down Cooperation Street and look at the little temporary shops in which they are attempting to carry on.
Have just bought from the publisher's Morton's book "In Search of England". Am thoroughly enjoying it and do hope I can see some tof the beauty spots he describes before UNRRA orders our return passage to North America. This last week Russia has made a mar vellous drive on Poland and to-day practically all of Poland is liberated. What this will mean to us remains to be seen.

Feb.11. The big day has arrived. To-night at 5 P.M. the 500 Dutch children will arrive. There is great activity around and Stephanie and I are keeping out of the way as much as possible by keeping ourselves employed as much as possible in the Sick Bay. About two weeks ago Dr.Daubenton came up and told us what we would be expected to do. Stephanie is to have the Clinic, I am to be responsible for the general public health and watch the nutrition, and the Dutch nurses are to have the Sick Bays. That certainly seems to be the wisest arrangment since they have altogether different ideas of the duties of the nurse than we. They are working on a 9 hour basis with 10½ hour nights. Perhaps we are being a bit stiff but we do not see the necessity of working such hours. Just saving a little bit of money for the Union Lever. If there is an emergency we will certainly do our share and it will probably be more than our share in the end. They certainly do a terrible lot of squabbling among themselves. If these women truly represent the Dutch female then I do not want to have much to do with them. Our snow and cold weather lasted until over a week ago when it suddenly thawed. On the Tuesday I was almost dispairing of riding to Wolverton for the week-end but by Sat. the snow was all gone. It was a beautiful day, one of the nicest since our arrival in England. I left here about 20 past 9, having had a grand send-off of four letters from home and a box with fudge in it from Mother. The birds were singing, the sun shining and the slight mist made everything very beautiful. About 12 o'clock I stopped by the roadside to eat my lunch and read my letters. I arrived in Wolverton about 2, and found they had waited dinner for me. We went for a ride in the afternoon, and on Sun. went on about a 50 mile ride. Had our lunch by the side of the road which was very good for the fourth of Feb. We passed through several very pretty villages, Helmdon being themost attractive. We reached Sulgrave Manor which is the birthplace of George Washington. We were all tired and very saddle-sore when we got home. It was fine on Mon. so I came back by bike in just over four hours. Have been on the premesis ever since as there seems to be a feeling that everybody should be at Mrs. Moeton's beck and call. We are anxiously awaiting the results of the discussions of the Big Three in relation to Poland. If there is no call for us from UNRRA after we have had about a month of experience with the children I am going to London to talk things over with officials of the Health Division and see if something can't be done whereby we can get some experience on the Continent. The Russians are only about 30 miles from Berlin and the Canadians have

opened an offensive in Holland and have crossed the German border. It is reported that the resistance of theGermans is very apathetic but it may be some time yet before the fighting is over. There will no doubt be some reserves and they will fight like fanatics.
Eddy Creelman came up on one of his leave days. I met him at thestation and we went to Leamington for lunch and went to a cinema there. Double Indenmity. He stayed here all night but after an experience which one of the staff here had with a visitor I would certainly never have anyone else here.--- We have moved our rooms again and now all the medical staff are in one unit, part of which is to be used as an emergency Sick Bay.
Feb.26. The children did arrive. All flocked in about 6 P.M. Stephanie and I buttered about 1200 slices of bread in thekitchen. Then we helped serve the meals. Worked until nearly midnight. The appearance of the children was much better than we expected. They did not look too badly undernourished. They are small in stature for their years. They were accompanied by leaders and teachers and domestic personnel. It seems that the group coming from Holland expected to run their own show and were a bit perturbed when they found some personnel here, especially a Jewish matron. The group are 75% R.C. and are quite anti-semetic. The result was that in a couple of days Mrs.Moeton left. The new matron, Mrs Van Iersel, seems quite nice but we have had very little to do with her. Theee are very great evidinces of lack of good management both on her part and I am afraid also on the part of Mr. Blakey. The way the kitchen is run is deplorable. The British are exceedingly generous in having these children and certainly the food which is so precious in this country should be prepared and served to the best advantage. The kitchen is full of inexperienced help, mostly navy men unfit for the sea. The chief steward has not had dietetic experience and does not know enough about child feeding or using the points to the best advantage. The nutrition team, headed by Dr. McCreary of Toronto, came to do a survey the first week. They were quite surprised at the whole thing. Their first recommendation was that a person with dietetic experience be put in charge of the kitchem. Before we came here I asked Dr.Daubenton if someone like that would be in charge. It is amazing that when they bring these children over here for good feeding they do not see the importance of that person. Just since starting this we have learned that there is a fully qualified dietitian working as an ordinary workerin the kitchen. I think thereason for a great many of these misplacements must be due to the committee in London. They have

apparently no idea of qualifications when engaging personell. There is a great deal of difficulty with the English group who have been engaged for cleaning. They are just the dregs and take absolutely no interest in their work. The Dutch group who came overr came with the understanding that they would have long hours and little time offf and so they are much better workers. After several attempts at a satisfactory cleaning service for the Sick Bay and Z3 they finally gor two Dutch girls and it is my responsibility to look after them. A combination housekeeper, nurse, and general information bureau seems to be what I have turned out to be and now there seems to be some possibility that I may be assistant chauffeur! On Friday Dr. Tauber was in London and while he was away a case of mumps developed and a little boy reported that he had swallowed a pin. X-Ray showed nothing. We took ~~hi~~ him to the Coventry -Warwickshire Hospital after phoning Dr. Mitchell. That hospital had a beautiful new wing before the blitz. It is terribly battered now. A great loss of life. --- The Dutch Dr. who accompanied the children,Dr.Gelderman, was an interesting but strange individual. She was rather abrupt and a little difficult to get to know. She felt unnecessary here and did not seem too happy about the prospects of going on to Hull. She was very undecided as to what she should do in regard to the camps. Apparently she had been asked to stay two years. That would mean giving up her private practise. She does not know what there would be to offer after the two years. Quite probable that the present gov't will not be in power and the people to whom they have given jobs may be ousted. She would be left out if she had given up her practise. If she keeps on private work she feels it will be hard work also. Does not know what security she will have from her insurances due to the instability of the monetary situation. All an example of the insecurity which the peoples of these countries must feel. Anyway she has gone to Hull along with one of the nursing sisters Miss Mansvelt who came from South Africa along with Miss Newman.-- We have formed some rather decided opinions about the Dutch people. Wish some really cultured ones would appear so that our decisions might be tempered.

Have been having some nice cycle rides. On Tues. the 20th it was a beautiful day so I went to Stratford-on-Avon. Rode through Leamington and Warwick, and arrived about 12:30. Had dinner at the Swan's Nest. Felt a bit embarassed going into such a swanky place with my dirty coat, and carrying a musette bag and bicycle pump. Walked through the rose gardens beside the Memorial

Theatre. Then along the street by the river to a l rge church. It is the one in which shakespeare is buried. From there to his birthplace. The thing that interested me most there was the high desk at which he sat a t school and the old char struggling to put a bust of W.S. back into place and muttering,"Come 'ere, old boy, ba ck into your place!". Then a mile and a quarter to Anne Hathaway's cottage. Very lovely. Interested in the trencher, on one side of which the main course is served and after that is eaten the trencher is turned over for the desert. The big old fireplaces with the love seat and the two chairs for the parents by the fire. The big bed and the arrangement of the rooms so that the girls had to pass through the parents rooms to get down stairs;therefore eloping through the window. It was a nice ride down and back.---Was in Kenilworth the Sunday previously. It is a nice little town and I found the ruins of the Castle very picturesque in the sunshine. Had tea at a delightful little tea-house just opposite the gates. The next Sunday I took Dr. Gelderman back there for tea. We went to Kenilworth via Stoneleigh.

March 4. Last Tuesday on my day off I went to Warwick. Tried some new roads. Explored the little village of Ashown on the way. There is a niceold church there on the banks of t e River Avon. Got to Warwick about lunch time and ate at the lunch room across from the entrance to the Castle. Went into the grounds and walked around through the Italian Gardens, with the peacocks; saw the Grecian Vase which is said to be over 2,000 years old; walked up Elfreda's Mound from which one views the Rivor Avon flowing through the 10,000 acres of park land; cycled down Mill Street with its row of quaint cottages almost under the walls of the Castle and from which one obtains a good view of the remains of the old Saxon Bridge; saw the castle from the main bridge of Warwick, this is the view which Morton describes as the most beautiful in England. --- On Wed. went with Miss Simpson and Miss Tarrant to see a play "The Love Racket". N t very brilliant. Saw two light operas the two weeks previously and one evening saw "When Irish Eyes are Smiling" and had dinner at the Chace after. Have had several dinners at the hotel. the meals here are not so good and the noise of the children is terrible.-- Last night Miss Simpson andI joined Steph and Miss Tarrant in Kenilworth and we had dinner at the Abbey Hotel. Waited for a bus, three passed us and the fourth and next to the last bus took just three people ahead of us in the queue. Caught the last train to Coventry and manzged to persuade a taxi driver to

bring us out. About one o'clock theair raid sirens went. All clear not till ten to two. There were lots of planes buzzing around and I listened to every one for a cut-out which would indicate a V1. To-day we heard from a fairly reliable source that it was a real air-raid and not bombs at all. Three planes are supposed to have been shot down. I am cross now that I did not ge get up to see. About six there was a loud explosion w which everyone who heard it thought was za V2 but we have not had that verified. I really feel more relieved to learn that it was a real raid rather than the bombs. --To-day Dr. Tauber and I set out for a ride. Went to Stoneleigh and had a closed look at the church there. Saw theold Norman door. Then on to Kenilworth for tea. My third Sunday in succession for tea at the same place. On to Warwick and Leamington and home. Was a dull day and rained part of the time but was enjoyable all the same. Dr. Tauber is very good company. Is a Czech and Jewish but does not display their usual characteristics. We like him very much. He is with UNRRA in Displaced Persons but is trying to get into the American Army. Undoubtedly the purpose is to obtain citizenship. One cannot blame him. He does not want to go back to the Continent and it quite likely Britain will not keep her war-time refugees.
Want to try to make some entry in this every day so will bring the war news up to date to-morrow. Have gained weight here. Am aiming now to loose two pounds each week until I can get on the scales and only have to put on the ten stone weight.

March 7. We have crossed the Rhine at Dusseldorf and last night it was reported that Cologne was in American hands. Have not yet seen a paper this morning. Yesterday Dr. Cady of UNRRA came to do the dental survey on the children. He is very nice but he is not very encouraging in regard to UNRRA. It looks as though this "record of service" would be a bit of a farce. He says that he thinks that Dr. Holle has given up all hope of getting into Poland but he wants to hang on while there is any glimmer at all. Dr. Crabtree is going back to Washington and he is going to see if he can get some influence to get Stalin to say definitely what the score is. We will wait about six weeks and then surely if ther is nothing definite then plans will be made for the Polish Mission. Stephanie had a letter from Major Shaffer re her test which had to be repeated and in it she said she would be able to make arrangements for her to work in an American Army hospital in the interim.

March.8. Dr. Cady finishes his survey to-day and will be leaving this afternoon. Now we have no more visitors of that type to look forward to. I have to get four blocks weighed before three o'clock to-day. Plans were made to take all the children to Coventry this afternoon a as guests of the Salvation Army. Dr. Tauber stood his ground and would not let the weighing be dispensed with even though he thinks it silly that they be weighed every week. --Dr. Cady says the teeth are no worse than the teeth of a similiar group of American children. Boys have more fillings than the girls. They thought UNRRA was going to supply a dentist. Want everything handed to them on a silver platter! A little scene I enjoyed yesterday over the afterdinner coffee. I went in with Dr. Cady. The matron who was sitting there when the coffee was brought in was told that it was for head staff only. Therefore three matrons sat without coffee while the rest had it.-- Went to Coventry yesterday afternoon and Miss Ward, Deputy Supt., in the Health Visitor Division took me to see two child welfare centres and a day nursery. I think they could take a few pointers from us. The weighing scales are terrible. There are queues for conferences. Impossible to give a good conference under such conditions. One of the centres wassbetter organized than the other. Day nursery quite interesting. Have 80 children. There are 30 midwives on the staff of the Health Dept. Of 4,000 births last year 3,000 were in homes. They still have diphtheria, about 150 cases per year. 80% of the school children and 45% of the pre-schools are immunized. Do not do any other immunizations in the centres.

March 9. A big day--the Queen visited the camp. Everything was shining. She arrived about 10:30 A. M. and visited the Blocks and the Sick Bay before lunch. We lined up at theSick Bay door to meet her and we were the first ones she shook hands with. She was dressed terribly an old hat which they say she made herself, a shabby blue coat, and tan shoes and cotton stockings. She talked with the children and sat at theend of one of the children's tables for dinner. One story--She was being shown around one of the blocks by a little girl. they came to the bath-room and the Queen asked her if che got in the bath often,to which the reply was, "Oh, yes, every day with Vim." They say the Queen is very afraid of communicable diseases because in the first year of her marriage she contracted syphilis from her husband.-- These people seem to take everything so for granted. Yesterday not one of the head staff went to the Salvation Army tea. Apparently there was a big spread. Rations saved for weeks and the ladies there at 4 o'clock yesterday morning to

COVENTRY REMEMBERS—OPENS ITS HEART

Sunday Pictorial Feb 11/45

By BILL ROLAND

Coventry, Saturday.

SOME time tomorrow a train will steam into the railway station at Coventry with a load of pathos. It will bring to the Midland city that gave to the world a new term for frightfulness—to Coventrate—the first 500 of a batch of 2,000 homeless, orphaned children from the battlefronts of Holland, some who once lived in Rotterdam, first city to know the horror of Nazi murder bombing.

I can't tell you what time they'll arrive. It's a secret, just as their whole journey across the Channel has been a secret—for security reasons. But the Mayor of Coventry, Alderman Hodgkinson, knows, and he'll be there on the platform to welcome them with an official delegation.

And, in her little back-street sweet and tobacco shop in one of the worst-bombed parts of the city, a diminutive crippled woman will ask her customers again and again—"Are they in yet?"

For little Miss Wilson, stricken all her life by infantile paralysis, is one of the hundreds of Coventry people who have applied to give the Dutch kiddies a home.

Out in Holland her brother Frank, a craftsman in the REME, wrote to her: "It's heartrending to see the Dutch children on the verge of starvation. We held a dance in a local hall to raise funds to give the children a bit of a party. . . ."

And when she heard the children were coming to Coventry little Miss Wilson decided that although she does all the work of the shop and cooks and cleans for herself singlehanded, she could find room in her heart and home for two little Dutch girls.

So she wrote in, and now she's waiting, and hoping—like all the other would-be foster parents of Coventry, for it will be some time before the children are allocated.

First they'll go to an empty industrial hostel at Bagington Fields for a period of quarantine. There they will be fitted out from Coventry's stocks of spare clothing—some left over from that you gave to the blitzed city four years ago.

They will get special food to build them up and they'll be taught a smattering of English.

There may be hardly a square inch of room in Coventry. Five thousand families may be waiting for houses.

But they're going to find room for the Dutch kiddies.

COVENTRY RECEIVES 500 WAR WAIFS

Cov. Ev. Telegraph 7 Feb 1945

Tired but Cheering School Children from Liberated Holland

COVENTRY afforded a welcome to a tragic party of school children who arrived in the city by rail yesterday afternoon. They were 500 undernourished Dutch boys and girls, the first contingent to be brought to this country under the Anglo-Dutch rehabilitation scheme, waifs from a battle-scarred land, here for "a food, rest, and medical cure."

The children had arrived earlier in the day at a British port. They were taken to Baginton Fields Hostel, where they will remain for a time and billets will be organised for them as soon as possible.

With their indomitable spirit shining through the pallor of five years of undernourishment and the fatigue of four days almost continuous travelling, the 500 boys and girls arrived from all parts of liberated Holland. As their train steamed into the station the children leaned from the windows, shouting and waving little red, white and blue flags, trying to shake hands with everybody and obviously only too glad that their long journey was over.

THE RECEPTION

On the platform to meet them were the Mayor and Mayoress (Ald. and Mrs. G. E. Hodgkinson), Mr. J. W. Nieman (chairman of the executive of the Nedehland Government's Children's Committee), Mrs. Councillor Pearl Hyde, and a deputation from the W.V.S., Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Harrod and representatives of the Ministry of Health.

Two 13 years old Coventry girls also there to greet their Dutch friends were the Misses Joan Williams and June Baird, while outside the station a group of members of the Odeon Children's Club waited with a banner bearing the words, "Welcome to our Dutch friends."

Outside the station 'buses were waiting to take the children to Baginton Fields Hostel, where they went to bed after a hot meal.

The evacuees were mainly from five large towns, Maastricht, Eindhoven, Nijmegen, Middelburg and Tilbury, and commenced their journey on Thursday morning. Forty teachers and social leaders and a number of nurses travelled with them. Those who came from the Nijmegen area left several hours after the new British attack began. The noise was described by Miss Anne Marie Schoon, a physical training instructress, as "terrific."

Many of the children were wearing caps and badges given them by British soldiers, and some had flashes sewn on their shoulders, presents from the Tommies. One boy, waving a khaki beret over his head, proudly exclaimed "Souvenir Nijmegen."

RAGGED AND UNDER-NOURISHED

All of them showed signs of their long experience under Nazi rule. They were thin and obviously under-nourished, pale faced, with dark, wistful eyes. The rosy cheeks, for which Holland was once famous, had vanished. Many of their clothes were ragged and in poor condition, and some had little underclothing, although their parents had given them their best to bring on the journey.

Mr. Nieman told Press representatives of one family of nine children, two of whom were selected to come with the party. When the offer was refused an official was told that if two children went they would have to take two of the only four coats the children possessed, leaving two coats to seven children.

Coventry W.V.S., however, have made arrangements for each child to receive a full set of clothing. They have also played a large part in preparing the hostel for the children's arrival. Typical of the thoroughness of this work was the placing of cards above each room bearing the English and Dutch names side by side.

CROSSING SCARE

Sea-sickness was general during the Channel crossing among both teachers and charges. Further alarm was created by the explosions of depth charges during a U-boat scare soon after the voyage started, stated Staff Sergeant J. Coomens. The children were a little frightened, but soon calmed down. There were some cases of train sickness yesterday, but no real illnesses, and as they lined up to walk to the 'buses the children sang a Dutch national song, "It is the duty of every boy to do all he can for his Queen and his country," in high spirits.

OFFER OF BILLETS

Already over 130 offers of accommodation have been received from Coventrians, and it is hoped that all the children will be billeted when they have spent about two months in the hostel and learned the rudiments of the English language. More children are expected to follow in due course.

Another group of Dutch children take their first peep at Coventry through a railway carriage window.

Civic Greeting

The Mayor and Mayoress greeting some of the refugees at Coventry Railway Station.

Time - May 14/45

What of UNRRA?

With victory in Europe, men turned their eyes to UNRRA. What had this unwieldy, $2,000,000,000 United Nations Relief & Rehabilitation Administration accomplished to date? And what would it do now? The answer to the first question was: not much. The answer to the second UNRRA began to write last week.

UNRRA, despite its international character, is predominantly American. The U.S. contributed the lion's share (40%) of its funds. Its main office is in Washington, in a converted apartment building on Du Pont Circle. Its director general is an American: balding, easygoing Herbert H. Lehman, onetime Governor of New York.

Thus, while any future success of UNRRA may possibly be credited to international cooperation, its failures will almost surely be laid at the door of the U.S. And in its 18 months of existence, UNRRA has been called a failure numberless times, by friends and enemies alike.

It has not yet been a complete failure. But to date it has proved almost completely inadequate; it has only chipped away at its enormous problem. Its record:

Greece. On April 1, UNRRA took over the overall relief job from the British military. Some 250 UNRRA personnel are at work in Greece.

Yugoslavia. UNRRA took over the relief job on April 15, under an agreement with the Tito government. Work done so far: negligible. Controller: Tito.

Middle East. UNRRA camps in the Middle East are now caring for 100,000 displaced Greeks, Yugoslavs and Poles. Of these, some 43,000 will be repatriated as soon as ships are available, possibly within the next four months. The rest do not want to go back home.

Poland and Czechoslovakia. The first shipment of supplies for Poland and Czechoslovakia—10,000 tons—has arrived at a Black Sea port. Control of distribution: Russian.

Italy. Supplies averaging about 15,000 tons monthly are arriving in Italy—to supplement the deficient diet of 2,000,000 mothers and children. The program is operated by 200 UNRRA workers.

Western Europe. Very limited quantities of emergency food supplies (flour, coffee, chocolate, sugar, salt, etc.) have been shipped into France, Belgium and The Netherlands. But since all three of these nations are "paying" countries in the UNRRA pool, they will receive no regular UNRRA supplies. Some 60 UNRRA teams of 13 workers each are now in Western Europe, helping to repatriate foreign workers. UNRRA does not feed the displaced persons (the U.S. Army does that).

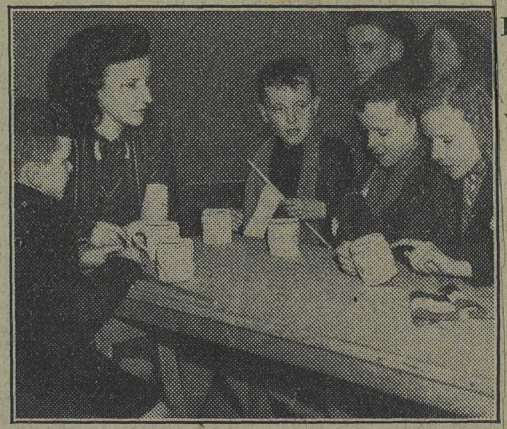
What's Missing? Considering the fanfare with which UNRRA was begun, and the vastness of its treasury, this record is small potatoes. One thing UNRRA does not lack is cash. But it woefully lacks: 1) prestige, 2) management, 3) efficient personnel.

As long as the war was on in Europe, UNRRA was the rankest stepchild at the combined United Nations food-&-supply table. It got only what the military and Lend-Lease did not want, and it had to fight to get that. Its allocations from the various combined boards in Washington were merely "hunting licenses" to get the allocated supply if UNRRA could find it lying around loose.

The military snubbed UNRRA: not until last November did General Eisenhower sign an agreement permitting it to come into liberated areas. The Russians cared little for it either—unless they could control it.

The Russians have not paid their allocation in full; they have refused any cooperation in Poland, except the belated opening of ports to receive supplies. UNRRA has not yet signed an agreement with the Lublin Government.

"The Hell with It." In Washington,



DUTCH CHILDREN ARRIVE.—Some of the first batch of 500 children from the front-line areas in Holland on arrival in this country yesterday. They have with them their own teachers, doctors, nurses, and a pastor, and they are going to a country hostel near Coventry for a "rehabilitation holiday."

DUTCH CHILDREN SENT TO ENGLAND

WAR-TIME HOMES FOR 20,000

Looking tired but cheerful, 500 Dutch children between the ages of eight and 15 arrived in England yesterday. After a meal of Irish stew and milk pudding at local schools, they boarded special trains for the Midlands, where they are to be put in hostels.

The children had been travelling for four days. Some, but not all, are orphans. They are the first of about 2,000. When the whole of Holland is liberated it is expected that about 20,000 children will be given war-time homes in England. Offers of hospitality have been received from all over the country.

A member of the reception committee stated that the selection committee in Holland was often faced with difficult problems. Out of one family of nine two children were chosen, but the mother said it was impossible to let them go. She had only four overcoats between the family. The committee was able to provide some overcoats, and the children have now arrived in England. The American and Canadian Red Cross have provided enough clothing to give each child a full new outfit.

The children all say they are delighted to arrive in England. One girl, aged 13, learnt some English from a British soldier who had tea with her family near Nijmegen. A little boy, proudly waving a sailor's hat, said that it had been given to him by a sailor who rescued him from flooded areas near Breskens.

Some of the 500 Dutch children, orphaned or homeless through the war, coming ashore at a British port, on their way to Coventry, where they are bei ng housed at Baginton Fields Hostel until they are placed in private homes in the city. (Pictures of arrival in Coventry on Page 5).

Memorable Event for Dutch Children in Coventry

When Queen Wilhelmina visited the refugee Dutch children at Baginton Fields Hostel she posed for this official picture, released for publication to-day. The happy children were thrilled to be with their Queen, though several of them said they expected her Majesty to be wearing royal robes and a crown.

Copy of an article appearing in the British Medical Journal. April 7, 1945.

NETHERLAND CHILDREN IN ENGLAND

by

J.Tauber, M.D. Prague, U.N.R.R.A.

Four hundred and ninety-six Netherland children reaced this country on Feb. 11, 1945, and were accommodated in a large hostel in Coventry formerly occupied by immigrant munition workers. Preparations for their reception had been made some time in advance. We had little previous knowledge of the condition of the children except that they had been living for a long time mainly on bread, potatoes and cabbage, and that in the first contingent there were to be no severe or hospital cases.

There is little practical inform tion in medical literature about the feeding of malnourished, weakened, but not really sick persons. It was known that persons who have had practically no fat in their diet for years become very sensitive to it, and that they are liable to react to fat with severe gastric disturbance. In "feeding up" a large group of children, with only a short time available for treatment, it is nevertheless essential to ensure that the fat content of the diet is not kept too low. It is necessary to find the optimum level of tolerance. "Carbohydrate poisoning" is a term which has been used to describe the effects of the type of diet these children had had. It was decided to limit the initial daily fat intake to 50 grammes per child and t the initial daily carbohydrate intake to 400 grammes (to include 250 grammes of bread). The first menues, however, were prepared with an itial daily fat intake of about 28 grammes.

The children were mostly between 7 and 15 years of age: three were 16 years old. On arrival they presented a somewhat different picture from what was expected. The main feature of the malnutrition was not so much wasting as the general undersize. Pallor was notable, and many children were rather weak. The apparent age of many children was well below the actual age. Gross symptoms of avitaminosis were not found. Some children had local thickening, cracks, of dryness of the skin. No trophic changes of the nails were observed and no diseases of the hair. Some 5% ofthe children had somewhat swollen gums. The dental state in general was not satisfactory.

The children's clothing was old, worn, and torn. Their shoes were in a worse state. Several of the children had dresses and suits made from Army blankets given them by soldiers of the liberating armies. Many had all-wooden clogs only. Their socks were very ragged. Within 24 hours the Women's Voluntary Service had started the distribution of complete outfits of new clothing (including handkerchiefs, towels, face-towels) supplied by Red Cross. It was most pathetic to see the children's pleasure with their new belongings.

Despite the severe shortage of soap on the Continent, the children were very clean on arrival: care had been taken of this before they left the Continent, and the few cases of infestation with lice as well as cases of scabies were treated.

The amount of food was increased each week as tolerance was established. At first many children complained of hunger, which is not surprising. The initial diet had a daily caloric value of 1,800. This was increased on the third day to 1,900, on the fourth to 2,000, on the fifth to 2,200, and at the end of the first week was 2,400 calories. It was difficult to control the diet strictly because well-meaning visitors to the hostel gave sweets, biscuits, and cakes to the children unknown at the time to the authorities.

Acute gastric disturbance occured in 17 cases during the first week, 27 in the second week, 24 in the third, and only 7 in thefourth. Most of the cases were easily controlled, although 4 cases developed jaundice. Sores on the feet and hands and impetigo were the commonest visible lesions. It was noticed that many cuts and wounds had turned septic. There were 5 cases of bronchitis and 6 of nocturnal enuresis.

The approximate average gain in weight ofthe children is shown in the accompanying Table.

While living in occupied Holland the children- the older ones at all events- had often been encouraged by the parents to defy German authorities and to perform small acts of s abotage--such as, for example, the puncturing of tyres of enemy military vehicles. When transferred to the hostel in England the children suddenly found that law and order had to be observed, and at first they found the change somewhat bewildering. During the first week or so "sabotage" tendencies were noted in a few boys of the 13 - 15 years age group. All

soon conformed happily to the necessary routine and rules of hostel life.

This first contingent of Netherland evacuee children on the whole presented few difficulties. The main problem was to determine and control the diet, and to graduate it according to growing tolerance. An interesting but lesser problem was the disciplining of the older children, who had for a long time cultivated disobedience to the German authorities in occupied Holland.

(I would like to thank the M.O.H. of the City of Coventry (Dr.A.Massey) for his valuable help and advice in connexion with the medical work at the hostel, and Col. Daubenton for his kind permission to publish this report.)

Girls

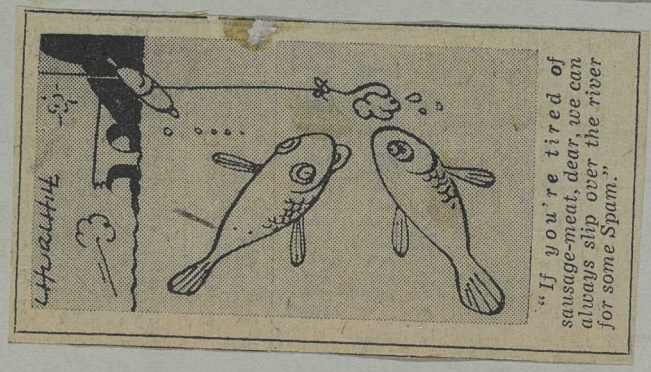
	7-8 yrs.		9 yrs.		10 yrs.		11 yrs.		12 yrs.		13 yrs.		14 yrs.		15-16 yrs	
During	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz
1st week	0	15	3	15	3	1.8	1	13.1	2	0	1	12	1	3	2	10.7
2nd week	2	14.4	0	12.7	1	9.1	1	8.5	1	1.5	2	0	2	8	2	1.1
3rd week	0	6.7	1	10	1	2.6	1	8.4	1	8	0	14	2	3	1	14.2

Boys

	7-8 yrs		9 yrs.		10 yrs.		11 yrs.		12 yrs.		13 yrs.		14 yrs		15-16 yrs.	
During	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz	lb	oz
1st week	—		0	5.3	1	13	1	1.5	1	3	2	1.6	1	6.4	1	5
2nd week	—		2	0	1	6.4	1	14.5	2	5	1	11	2	3	0	6
3rd week	—		0	14	1	0	2	6.4	0	5	1	1.6	1	6.4	1	4

"If this new attack on the Western Front means the end of the war, I suppose we shall be losing our little evacuee friends, your lordship."

Sunday Express
Mar 17/45



"If you're tired of sausage-meat, dear, we can always slip over the river for some Spam."

UNRRA—'Dumbarton acorn'

London, Daily Express. Dec 7/44

EUROPE'S FOOD BOTTLE-NECKED

LIBERATED Europe's food crisis has grown worse since D Day, it was disclosed in the House of Lords yesterday by the Earl of Selborne, Minister of Economic Warfare.

Referring to criticisms that U.N.R.R.A. supplies were not reaching the people, he said: "When ports are smashed up, bridges broken down, locomotives destroyed and trucks burned, and junctions obliterated by bombing, the problems are magnified many times over."

There was a world shortage of milk, boot leather and one or two other commodities, but there were ample supplies of wheat and other cereals.

There had been undoubtedly terrible famine in Greece. In the rest of occupied Europe there was very serious distress and malnutrition, but nothing that could be properly called famine conditions

'MUSCLE-BOUND'

There were about 14,000,000 people who had got to be taken back to their proper homes. "The economic problem during the next few years will be as grave as anything ever known in history." said Lord Selborne.

The **Marquis of Reading** said: "There is a suspicion that in the huge U.N.R.R.A. organisation there has been created a colossus on so vast a scale that it has been from the outset muscle-bound and paralysed by its own weight."

Criticising the recruitment of U.N.R.R.A. staff largely from the Civil Service, he added: "It may be that U.N.R.R.A. is being used as a forcing ground for an international Civil Service later on—a sort of Dumbarton acorn."

The **Bishop of Chichester** said: "Unless U.N.R.R.A. or its equivalent is in a position to deliver some goods and services soon, the hard-hit Governments of the liberated countries will be compelled to write it off as an effective agent."

U.N.R.R.A.

HOW are institutions to be judged? By what they set out to achieve, how they go about it, and what they manage to do.

Any one of those three aspects can be discussed and criticised without reflection on the other two, for no institution is so perfect that it cannot be improved.

Take U.N.R.R.A., which has recently come under discussion. At its foundation in November 1943 it set out to feed and clothe and tend the needy peoples of Europe when they were liberated. Britain allotted £80,000,000 to the pool, with another £375,000 towards administration expenses in 1944. An admirable and necessary objective, undertaken in good time.

Top heavy

HOW has U.N.R.R.A. gone about the job? It has set up bureaucracies—with high salaries for many officials — in Washington, Cairo and London. Between them they cost £1,100,000 last year.

And what has U.N.R.R.A. achieved? It is now looking after some 50,000 European exiles in camps in the Mediterranean. Very little more than that to report.

Those are facts, and to draw attention to them does no disservice to the stricken people of Europe, or the nations which are contributing in cash and in kind to U.N.R.R.A.'s resources.

Rather, by focusing criticism on this top-heavy organisation which has so obviously lost its way in the bureaucratic maze of its own creation, the publication of the facts can help to purge U.N.R.R.A. and make it more efficient.

"WEAKNESSES" OF UNRRA

The Sun Feb 16/45

DR. EVATT'S BLUNT WARNING

CRITICISM OF DELAY

From Our Correspondent

SYDNEY, FEB. 15

Delegates at the opening session of Unrra at Lapstone received a blunt warning from the leader of the Australian delegation, Dr Evatt, that the organization had to contend with grave weaknesses.

"Something of a crisis is emerging in relation to Unrra's affairs and functions," he said. "In short, the question arises whether Unrra will in fact get to grips or be permitted to get to grips with the task for which it was created." More than 70 delegates are attending the session, representing Australia, China, France, Britain, India, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, and the United States. Four delegates have been delayed by bad weather.

Dr. Evatt said there were three weaknesses in Unrra, particularly apparent from the point of view of the Far East and the South-West Pacific, that should receive urgent attention. They were: (1) the many delays in beginning Unrra's activities in liberated areas; (2) over-centralization of Unrra administration; and (3) the need for wider national representation at all levels on Unrra administration and staff.

"Unrra," Dr. Evatt said, "is not able to operate in any country except with the consent of the allied high command and the Government of that country. But at what stage and with what firmness is Unrra to press for this consent to be given? Already Unrra has declared that relief must never be permitted to become a political weapon. It is vital that this declaration should be made fully effective.

SIGNS OF FRUSTRATION

"It must be admitted by any candid observer that there are signs of frustration and disillusionment. This is due to the fact that, despite much elaborate organization, Unrra has not yet functioned to any extent in the actual work of relief and rehabilitation in Europe. Doubts have arisen whether Unrra will perform all the duties intended under the terms of its charter. We must see to it that there will not be the same delays in the Far East that have occurred in Europe. The peoples of the nations represented on Unrra will not be satisfied with resolutions or paper promises. They are demanding action now. Many Unrra officials have told us they are growing tired of shadow sparring. They want to get into the ring and get on with the job."

Dr. Evatt referred also to the statement made last September in Montreal by Mr. Richard Law, the British member of the council of Unrra, in which Mr. Law said the work of Unrra has been clouded with a kind of fog of unreality.

Dr. Evatt's statement was a surprise to the delegates, but their opinion appears to be that it was a courageous approach.

Dr. Tsiang Ting-fu, the chairman of the Far Eastern Committee of Unrra, commenting on Dr. Evatt's speech, said that it was the first and most vital call for real action by Unrra, and had his full support. Dr. Evatt, he said, had earned the gratitude of the whole people of the Far East. Dr. Tsiang added that the technical sub-committee had to-day decided to urge that it was of the utmost importance that aid should be given quickly to those countries which could produce surplus rice. The sub-committee had urged that such countries, if possible, should be liberated earlier than others. Rice was the core of the whole problem of relief in the East.

The acting director of Unrra in the south-west Pacific, Mr. Frank A. Gaines, said that Dr. Evatt's statement was welcomed and recognized as most constructive criticism. The reason for delay in getting Unrra going in Europe had been the fact that the war time-table had gone out of gear. Unrra and the army had been in the closest touch, but Unrra had been unable to give relief in some places because military operations had not gone ahead as fast as had been expected.

Van. Province

UNRRA Operations Held Up

From Daily Province Ottawa Bureau.
(Copyright, 1945, by Southam Co.)

OTTAWA, Jan. 16.—The uprising in Greece and the uncertain situation on the European war fronts have turned back the clock of U.N.R.R.A. activities for some months.

The organization a few weeks ago was all ready to step into half a dozen European countries and commence work. It started by sending a number of field workers to Greece. A number of these were wounded and are now in hospital. The organization has decided to mark time for a while until things cool down a little more.

Organization work, according to C. P. Holmes, chief recruiting officer for U.N.R.R.A. in Canada, has temporarily fallen off, and as a result he is returning to his former post with the civil service commission.

One of the departments of U.N.R.R.A. which seemed destined to get right down to work was the displaced persons division.

The work of this division was to make it possible for displaced persons to be returned to their own countries as soon as possible. While this work has not been abandoned, it is obvious it can not be proceeded with as soon or as fast as first planned.

Daily Mail, London
May 7/45

TOPIC IN THE NEWS

Polish jigsaw

WHAT Mr. Churchill has called the "grim, bare bones" of the Polish problem are again exposed by the arrest of the 16 Polish delegates by the Soviet Government.

Who were these men, and what were they doing?

It is a long story, going back centuries if we care to trace it so far. But let us begin at a more recent date—say, 25 years ago.

1920. That was the year of the Curzon Line, the famous boundary between Russia and Poland proposed by Lord Curzon, then British Foreign Secretary.

It would have made Poland little more than half the size she afterwards became.

The Russians and Poles were at war at the time, and the Poles won. As a result they succeeded in obtaining a lot more territory to the east of the Curzon Line. According to the Russians this was not Polish land at all, but part of the Ukraine and White Russia.

Illingworth, April 27.

They did not forget. When Germany marched into Poland from the west in 1939, Russia marched in from the east, occupying the country approximately up to the Curzon Line.

She was driven out by Germany, but she has recovered this territory and has no intention of relinquishing it.

☆

This slice of Eastern Europe is the great stumbling-block to complete accord between the United Nations. It has been the subject of several Notes and replies, declarations and counter-declarations, in which both Russia and Poland have maintained their "unchangeable attitude."

When the Germans were occupying Poland they professed to have found a grave containing 10,000 bodies of Polish officers who, they alleged, had been murdered by the Russians. The Poles, to the indignation of Russia, appeared to accept this story when they demanded an investigation by the International Red Cross. On this issue, Russia broke off relations with the Polish Government in London.

British Government made repeated inquiries of Moscow to discover the truth, but were given no information.

In the meantime—on April 21 — the Soviet Government, as if to make known to the world that the Lublin Committee was the real Government of Poland, signed with that Committee an alliance similar to that already concluded with Britain and France.

At the same time M. Molotov continued to negotiate for Lublin's admission to San Francisco as the one real Polish Government. He tried to bargain for a seat for Lublin against the admission of Argentina.

Now comes the news that the mysterious Polish delegates did, in fact, set out at the invitation of the Soviet Government and under a safe-conduct, and have been arrested.

The charge against them is one of "diversionary activities against the Red Army."

As a result all talks among Britain, America, and Russia aiming at a settlement of this long-standing dispute have been suspended.

G. M.

Russia's stand

There is reason to suppose that on matters which do not directly affect her proposed "cordon sanitaire" of security, upon whose structure she will take no advice and yield no point, she is prepared to fall in with any majority decisions that may be made here.

So far as Eastern Europe is concerned, Russia will have nothing to say here, for she does not consider it to be the concern of any other Power.

So far as the future of Poland is concerned, we are no nearer a solution. All rumours to the contrary are false. I understand the Russians have not abandoned one inch of their ground and do not propose to.

Russia considers the Polish problem settled already.

☆

When Russia recovered all Poland from the Germans she set up a provisional Government in Lublin, known as the Lublin Committee, as a rival to the Polish Government in London.

This was the situation discussed by the Big Three at Yalta. At that conference it was agreed that the Lublin Government should be reorganised on a broader basis to include democratic leaders from Poland itself and others from abroad—meaning London. This Administration was to be called the Government of National Unity.

☆

It was also agreed that for the loss of territory east of the Curzon Line Poland should be compensated at the expense of Germany. She would receive Danzig, the greater part of East Prussia, Upper Silesia, and other German lands east of the Oder. Thus she would be well established on the Baltic and possess first-class ports.

As the San Francisco Conference approached, Russia asked that Poland should be represented by the Lublin Committee. Britain and America refused, and urged that further attempts should be made to set up the Government of National Unity agreed on at Yalta.

☆

About the same time—that is, in March—it was reported that many party leaders from Poland had been invited by Russia to discuss this new Government, but nothing more was heard of them.

Nobody really knew whether they had gone or not. The

r for the delay in informing the
llies about the arrests, rather tha
r the arrests themselves, althoug
ese would seem to have been
one in bad faith.

On the other hand the Britis
nd Americans are accused by
me of having prejudged the case
y stressing the "democratic"
ualities of men whose names the
nnot be altogether certain the
now.

And there the matter rests. I
no longer in the hands of eithe
r. Eden or Mr. Stettinius.

It has been returned to th "highest levels" and is once mor back in the hands of Churchil Truman, and Stalin.

Mr. Eden is taking the day off to
y, and has gone to the country
hile M. Molotov is remaining i
wn.

The *Tass* statement, which has no
een fully studied yet, is on a firs
eading unacceptable as an ex
lanation here, where two points ar
eing stressed to-day in junio
ritish and American circles:

—That it ignores the delay, o
which we particularly com
lain; and

—That it does not answer th
charges that men who wer
vited to confer were clapped int
ol instead.

No U.S. comment

In some quarters it is though
ossible that there were indeed con
erences, and that those of the 1
oles who were consulted failed t
gree with the propositions put for
ard by Lublin and were therefor
rested on the charges now pre
rred.

I must emphasise that althoug
is theory comes from a sourc
ose to official quarters it is
urely personal one of the man cor
erned, and must not be officiall
tributed to the British.

The matter is raising less intere
the moment here than in Britai
is prominently reported, but s
ir is hardly an object of commen
lthough that may come later.

More Soviet delegate

SAN FRANCISCO, Sunday.—Th
krainian and White Russian d
egations to the San Francisco Co
erence arrived by air from Russi
Reuter

EXPERTS SAY GERMANS NEED MORE FOOD

Nov 10/46

SAAR CHILDREN STARVING

WINTER STORES INADEQUATE

From GEORGE FYFE,
Daily Telegraph Special Correspondent

FRANKFURT, Friday.

The gravity of the food situation in Germany is plainly indicated in a report made by British, American and French nutritional experts who have just completed a 10-day tour of the three zones. Russian representatives declined to participate.

British members of the mission included Dr. Peter Meiklejohn, of the Rockefeller Foundation Health Commission, who is nutritional consultant to the European regional office of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration; and Dr. G. Jameson-Carr, chief medical officer, British Control Commission in Berlin.

The report states that it is essential to increase the minimum ration in all zones to 1,550 calories, if a rapid and serious increase in the death-rate is to be avoided. Stores of essential foods—especially wheat and potatoes—must be established immediately.

In emergency cases the basic ration should be increased to 1,750 calories, and hospitals should have a uniform rate of 2,350 calories. Displaced persons not engaged in active work should have 2,200 calories instead of the present 2,400.

The most serious state of affairs is in the French zone, where there is a critical shortage of stores. Daily rations for normal consumers are between 900 and 1,000 calories.

In one Wurttemberg school 84 per cent. of the boys had lost weight during the past three months. The Saar children are not only failing to gain weight but are slowly starving.

Infant mortality has seriously increased, and expectant mothers receive only 1,200 calories daily from the official ration.

In the British zone the average ration is 1,350 for normal consumers. The position is not at present alarming, but there is a serious lack of supplies.

In the American zone it is expected the daily 1,550 calories will be maintained.

Thurs. and Sat., 2.30.
COLISEUM. Tem.3161. Evgs. 6.30. Mats Mons., Weds. Thurs. and Sats., 2.30. Emil Littler presents a Robert Nesbitt production **THE NIGHT AND THE MUSIC.** VIC OLIVER
COMEDY. Evgs. 6.45. Sat., 5.15, 7.45 Mat., Tues., 2.45. (Whi. 2578.) George Gee in **SEE HOW THEY RUN**, with Beryl Mason
CRITERION. Whi. 3216. 6.30. Tues. Sat., 2.30. Edith Evans in **THE RIVALS**
DUCHESS. (Tem. 8243.) 6.30. W. & S. 2.30. Noel Coward's **Blithe Spirit.** 5th Yr
DUKE OF YORK'S. (Tem. 5122.) 6.30 **IS YOUR HONEYMOON REALLY NECESSARY** R. Lynn, E. Randolph. Wed., Sat., 2.45. 2nd Yr
EMBASSY. Pri. 2211. Evgs. (ex. Mon. 7.0. Th., St., 2.30. (Sun. Club 7). Hug Burden, Mary Merrall in **The Gambler.**
GARRICK. Tem.4601. Evgs., 6.15. Wed Sat., 2.30. Robertson Hare, Alfred Drayto in **MADAME LOUISE**, by Vernon Sylvaine.
GLOBE. Ger. 1592. 6.30. W., S., 2.3 Rattigan's "**WHILE THE SUN SHINES.**
HAYMARKET. Whi.9832. 6.45. W. & S 2.30. Wilde's "**LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN.**
HIPPODROME. Ger. 3272. 6.15. Wed and Sat., 2.15. Tom Arnold presents Ivo Novello in "**PERCHANCE TO DREAM.**" All Star Gala Mat., Fri., Nov. 16th, at 2.15 In aid of The French in Gt. Britain Fun
HIS MAJESTY'S. Whi. 6606. Evgs. 6.3 Wed., Th., Sat., 2.30. Jack Hylton present ARTHUR ASKEY in new musical, **FOLLOW THE GIRLS**, with EVELYN DALL
KING'S. Riv. 5094. 7.0. Mat., Sat. 2.30. **REBECCA**, by Daphne Du Maurier.
KING'S. Next Wk. 7.0. Thu., Sat., 2.30 **WHILE THE SUN SHINES.**
LYRIC. Ger. 3686. Evgs. 6.30. Mat Wed., Sat., 2.30. MARY MORRIS a P. GLENVILLE in **DUET FOR TWO HAND**
LYRIC. Hammersmith. Riv. 443 Evgs. 7 (ex. Mons.), Sats. 3. Marie Ney **The Trojan Women**, also **The Happy Journey** Trenton and Camden. (Suns. 7. Mems. only.
MERCURY. (Par.5700.) Evs. 7. Th.,Sat. 2.30. **THIS WAY TO THE TOMB**
NEW. OLD VIC THEATRE COMPAN To-day, 2.15, 6.30. **HENRY IV. PART** Tues. next at 6.30. **UNCLE VANYA.** Als Nov. 16, 27. Dec. 1.
PALACE. Ger. 6834. 6.30. Wed. & Sat. 2.15. **GAY ROSALINDA.** Ruth Naylor (Evg.) Tara Barry (Mat.), Richard Dolman, Iren Ambrus, James Etherington. Cdtr. Rchd. Taube
PALLADIUM. Ger. 7373. Daily, 2.30 & 6.20. GEORGE BLACK'S **HAPPY AN**
GLORIOUS. TOMMY TRINDER. 2nd Year
PHŒNIX. Tem.8611. 6.30. Wd., St., 2.30 Last 2 weeks. **A BELL FOR ADANO**
PICCADILLY. Ger. 4506. 6.30. Wed. & Sat., 2.30. Cyril Ritchard, Madge Elliott i Noel Coward's "**SIGH NO MORE.**"
PLAYHOUSE. (Whi. 7774.) Evgs., 6.30 Thurs., Sat., 2.30. Sophie Stewart, Richar Bird in **LADY FROM EDINBURGH**, by Aimé Stuart & L. A. Rose. Prod. by Chas. Hickma
PRINCE OF WALES. Whi. 8681. Dail 2.30 & 6.30. TOM ARNOLD'S Revue, **FIN FEATHERS** with JACK BUCHANAN.
PRINCES. (Tem. 6596.) Evgs., 6.3 Wd.Sat.,2.30. Jack Waller's **MERRIE ENGLAN** Heddle Nash, Linda Gray, Dennis Nobl "3 hours of enchantment."—Daily Expre
Rudolf Steiner. (Pad. 8219.) Com We 6.30. Edgar K. Bruce, **Meet Mr. Micawb**
SADLER'S WELLS. Ter. 1672. To-da 2.30 & 6.45. **FORRIGAN REEL.** Bric Comedy. "A pill to purge melancholy in Engli playgoers."—Observer. Last 2 pfs.
SAVILLE. Tem.4011. 6.30.Thu.,Sat.,2.3 Biggest, Best, Funniest Musical. "**BIG BOY** FRED EMNEY, RICHARD HEARNE.
SAVOY. (Tem. 8888.) Evgs. 6.30. Mat Wd., Sat., 2.30. **THE FIRST GENTLEMA** ROBERT MORLEY and WENDY HILLER
ST. JAMES'. Whi. 3903. 6.30. W., S 2.30. Valerie Taylor, Emlyn Williams, "**THE WIND OF HEAVEN,**" by Emlyn William
ST. MARTIN'S. Tem. 1443. Evgs. 6.4 Mats., Tues., Fri., 2.40. Keneth Kent Edward Percy's **THE SHOP AT SLY CORNE** Cathleen Nesbitt, Victoria Hopper, Ada Reev
STOLL, K'way. Hol. 3703. 6.30. Weds Th., Sat., 2.30. Jack Hylton presents "**FO CRYING OUT LOUD.**" Nervo & Knox, Will H
STRAND. Tem. 2660. 6.30. Th., S., 2.3 Fifth Shephard's **ARSENIC AND OLD LAC** Lilian Braithwaite, Mary Jerrold. 3rd Yea
VAUDEVILLE. Tem. 4871. 6.30. Tue Sat. 2.30. FAY COMPTON in **NO MEDAL** By Esther McCracken. Prod. by Richard Bir
VICTORIA PALACE. (Vic. 1317.) Evg (exc Sats.) 6.30. Wed. and Thurs., 2.3 Sats., 5.15 and 8. LUPINO LANE in "**ME AND MY GIRL,**" with GEORGE GRAVE
WESTMINSTER. (Vic. 0283.) Evenin 6.30. Mats., Thurs., Sat., 2.30. **THE CUI FOR LOVE**, by W. Greenwood. W. Pickle J. White, M. Rhodes, C. Victor, R. Ray.
WHITEHALL. (Whi. 6692.) 2.30 to 9.3 PHYLLIS DIXEY in "**PEEK-A-BOO AGAIN.** with her Varga Models. Last Perf. 7.15 p.
WINTER GARDEN. (Hol. 8881
Tues. at 6.30.

prepare everything. All home cooking and the best linen. --We were told to-day thatthe raid on Sat. night got York very badly. A troop train badly hit, not one came out. The Jerries followed the Canadians back.-- there may be hope for UNRRA yet. Dr. Tauber got a phone m message to-day that he has to be in London next week to prepare to go to the continent. A Dutch Dr. is arriving on Monday. Wish we could make a move too.--Yesterday I got a cable from the C.N.A. asking if I would advise any further intervention if there were discrepancies in the salary question. Rather put me on the spot. Sent a cable back that in view of the present indefinite situation and unless further recruitment. I would not advise them doing anything. Will only stir up bad feelings and not get them anywhere.

March 14. Just six months to-day since I left Vancouver- All the money that has been paid to me for doing nothing. The new Dr. arrived on Mon. He is also Displaced Persons of UNRRA. Think he will be very nice but not as conscienscious as Dr. Tauber. Felt very down yesterday. Had a good cry. The meal hour is terrible. Stand in line with all the sub-staff and then when you get to the table there is probably not a clean place to sit at. I asked Dr. Tauber if nursing was a profession on the continent. The way they ignore us here one would not think so. Weighed two blocks this morning. About 30% have lost weight. Probably all the excitement of last week. Miss Tarrant has gone to hospital. Miss Simpson feels terrible about it as the hospital is a very poor one and noone seems to know what it wrong with her. My diagnosis is T.B. The big bombers were going over all day yesterday and just know we have been watching swarms of bombers returning each with a glider attached. I hope there has been a paratroop invasion somewhere. They have a new caterer-manager here. Seems to have good sense and as soon as he gets the staff straightened out he has promised to get down to the menus. The staff meals are certainly poor.

April 7, My diagnosis of the Dr. was definitely wrong. He is certainly not a person who should be in UNRRA. After Dr. Tauber left things certainly slipped. I took sick on the 19th of March and he failed to diagnose me. Said I had the flu. After my temperature going from normal in the morning to 104 in the afternoon I got up and on the fourth day asked for a consultation. Dr. Walthius did not like that very much but called in Dr. Wilson of Coventry. He gave me a good examination but said it was the grippe. On the Sat. a little jaundice appeared. However I did not say anything about it and

did not tumble myself as I shoud have since there were cases among the children. Dr.W. took sick himself on Mon, and was not at all interested in me when I showed him how jaundiced I was. Miss Comen and Stephanie went to London that day and I guess told the office plenty about what was happening here. Dr. W. had not seen t the weighing when I was sick nor had he given the rest of the toxoids. Much to our surprise Dr. Holle came out for a week. Dr. Walthius went back to London to get treatment for his hands. I was certainly relieved to have Dr. Holle. Put me on the proper diet and told me how long it would take to recover. I miss going to Scotland. Still in bed now, will be three weeks on Mon. but hope to be up by then and by Fri. to go down to London. I do so much want to be in London for V-Day. S6ephanie goes to Scotland on Mon. We have had at least 16 cases of Infectious Hepatitis. Quite a little epidemic. 496 childr3n in came and over 100 adults. Dr. Holle returned to London on Wed. and Dr.Gelderman is here for a week and then another Dr. comes for a week. They should have planned properly for the medical service and not have all these changes. Dr. Gelderman is now Dr. Daubenton's deputy. She has been working very hard this week. Says noone else did anything and she does not want to leave things in a mess. It was her own countryman who undid everything in the short time of less than two weeks that he was in control. Monchin ran riot in that time and as a result she will probable get the sack. Dr. Gelderman wrote a letter to the Committee about everything here. They are a very strange people. The priest is poisoning the minds of the children against the English so that the children think English families are terrible and not fit for them to stay with. The dominie has been in several times to see me . He is very nice. Is afraid of Communism in Europe. Says Holland is going down. He wants to get his family over and remain in England. Will become a Presbyterian minister. Europe is going to be in a sad state for many years to come. Just now the war news is excellent. There has been no enemy activity over England since Thurs. night before Good Friday. One of the last bombs dropped on a factory in London just at 9 o'clock in themorning and killed over 120 people. There was a mass funeral on Easter Sunday. The Canadians are advancing far into Holland. It is beliedved that the Germans donnot inter to evacuate Holland and there may be some stiff resistance. The other armies have advanced far into Germany. Montgomery's crossing of the Rhine was spectacular. The Germans must have been taken by surprise because they have been unable to make astand anywhere.

On March 17th Stephanie and I went to Oxford. Travelling off of the main lines is certainly difficult in England. We had to change at Leamington and Banbury. We arrived in Oxford in time to do some shopping in theafternoon. Nice to see the shops again but when you really examine the goods there is not much to them. Everything very poor quality and very expensive. We stayed at the Mitre Hotel. Had room 44 called "Queen's Room". It was most charming. We were so delig ted with it. All old style doors with iron hinges, quaint platticed windows, a large double bed with panel at theback and a suggestion of a cannopy with indirect lighting. Also a day bed. 42 shillings for the two of us for bed and breakfast. Charlotte Wood had dinner with us and then we went to the room of Professor Julian Rzoska. He is a Polish refugee that Charlotte seems to have taken under her wing. He is much older and has a wife and girl in Poland but Charlotte almost seems to have an infatuation for him. He was very charming. Had coffee ready for us and talked a lot about Poland. He is very pesimistic a out it all. On Sun morning Charlotte and he conducted us around the colleges. But first while Stephanie was at church I took a long walk down High Street, across Magdelen Bridge, through St. Clemens and around as far as St. Clemens Church. It was a lovely morning. In our tour of the colleges we saw Christ Church College which is the largest in Oxford. About 400 students. Merton is the smallest with 40. We walked along the Broad Walk to the Cherwell and then through Magdelen, which is the most exclusive of the colleges, and along Addison' s walk for a little ways. We saw two of the college dining halls. Very formal with the sombre paintings hanging around and the faculty table on a dias at the front. We also peeked into a Senior Common Room. We went to Charlottes boarding place for lunch. A very charming and informal English family. Had dinner at a round table with a lazy Susan. Before dinner we went to the Nutrition Survey and saw through the building and had a chat with Dr. Sinclair. We learned thathe is a bachelor and rather eccentric. Is Dean of Magdelen college. Works all thetime. Isonly 33 and should be a good catch for someone. After dinner we went for a walk along the Isis. It was cold and windy and I was not feeling well so did not enjoy it very much. I could not help but feel sorry for the Oxford people that they did not have somewhere to go where there were not so many people.

The prospects of getting to Poland have become somewhat brighter recently. Gregg resigned as he could not get a

Russian visa. His place has been taken by Mr. Michael A. Menshikov who was head of the Bureau of Areas in the Wash office. He is expected in London soon. In the cabl that was sent announcing this Wash said not to have anything to do with the Polish Gov't in London.

April 8. A lovely day and still in bed because there is a little yellow in my eyes. If this keeps up it will soon turn to red. Dr.Gelderman is very disturbed about the medical service in the camp. To-day a Dr. comes from London for a week and then an English lady Dr. will take over. This morning two boys who had asore throat yesterday were diagnosed as Diphtheria. Wonder what p.h. measures will be taken. Still advancing on the front and the Germans are almost trapped in Holland. (See news clipping re conditions there).

April 10. Stephanie left last night. Has been lonesome without her. Dr.Gelderman laft yesterday morning and left Dr.Kypper in charge for a week. She is a queer specimen. Rather untidy, homely, fat,and not too pleasing a manner. Is the granddaughter of a very famous Dutch statesman. Is married to an Austrian, and has three children. The eldest 8 and 4, are in boarding school and the youngest, less than a year, is taken to a Day Nursery each day. She works in a hospital laboratory. Don't know how much she knows about jaundice but the first thing she said was that they keep them all in bed for six weeks . Don't think she liked it when I said I was going to London on Mon. Have an idea she just said to herself that she would show me. I decided I would stay in bed until to-morrow and then maybe be my own advisor. Put on Diet 2 to-day which means the addition of lean meat and butter.
The p.h. measures taken is quarantine of the camp to the extent that the children are not allowed out or others in. To day however the Dr. found two leaders coming in with a couple of boys. They had been over to the Chace! To-morrow is Mrs. Van Iersel's birthday and there are to be great celebrations. She is returning this afternoon from afew days absence and a ll the children are lining up with flowers in their hands to greet her. To-morrow special mass and shows. It would not surprise me if there were a special edition of the Times!

April 11. The celebrations continue to-day although I have not heard much noise. Mrs. Van Iersel brought back her young niece with her. She did not know the camp was in quarantine and so could not be blamed for

that but she defied the doctor's instructions to keep her in her own room and has let her come to meals and to the gatherings in thetheatre room etc.

Up for the first time to-day, that is officially. Dr. said 5 minutes in the chair but I remembered that Dr. Holle remarked that there was little difference between sitting in the chair and sitting in bed so extended the time to one hour. Wrote a letter to Margaret this morning for publication. Now have four cases of mumps in Z3 and one suspect Diphtheria. The one who was suspect a day or so ago is O.K. Lovely spring day. Have to keep both my window and door open to allow for circulation. Yest rday Miss Omen brought me some hawthorn. It isin leaf but not in bud. About two weeks ago I had some black thorn--loaded with tiny white blossoms but no leaves. Lasted until a few days ago, just seemed as though the blossoms were pasted on. A note from Roma yesterday said the Polish Mission was perking. Lets hope it soon starts to boil.

April 15. President Roosvelt died on Thurs. (April 12.) It was a great shock as there was no warning. Cerebral-haemorrhage. Truman has succeeded him. Not a big man for the job but he might be better than expected. The House of Commons in London adjourned for the day on Fri. the first time such an tribute has been paid to a foreign statesman. And for the second time in its history the New York Philharmonic cancelled its performance. The first time was when Lincoln was assaniated.
Dr. Lillicoe of UNRRA arrived yesterday to take charge for a week. He is very pessismistic re prospects of getting to Czechoslovakia and Poland. Says orders have come through for UNRRA to wear mufti. Dr. Holle broken hearted. Says SHAEF wnt to evacuate 200, 000 children from Holland. Conditions very bad in the cities, feeding many intravenously. Re discipline Dr. Kypper says Dutch children always have been destructive so guess we should not expect too much here. Am feeling much better and may go down to London to-morrow. Tues at the latest.

April 19. Arrived in London Mon. P.M. Tired but glad to be here. Have a nice room at 20 New Cavendish St. Very central, and very famous area. On way to office cross Wimpole St. and Harley t. and walk behind the B.B.C. Very lonesome as I still have to rest a lot. Hope next week to get out more. Polish Mission brighter. Mr. Menshikov and party are planning to leave shortly and to come via London. Only eight members in the temporary mission. Dr. Gass very gloomy about UNRRA. General Draper is having all the UNRRA men attached to the army withdrawn. Says he can't depend on them because their assignment is always being changed by the London

Office. The elaborate plans made for D.P. were based on the assumption that there would be capitulation and that the people could be ordered to stay on the spot, This has not happened. The Army are trying to clear the people from the front line and bring them in to the assembly centres by the truck load or whatever means are available. They stay a few hours and then have to be sent out in order to make room for more. The health program is very difficult to control. Can't even be sure they have all been dusted with D.D.T. before they leave. The D.P.'s will go out and forage for their food, kill animals, and raid the German cellars. Common sense tells one that this should have been expected. Dr. Holle wants us to all hang to-gether to see what is going to develop re Polland. He seems to be rather optomostic about it. I am going to wait till the end of June if necessary and then if nothing is settled will see if I can get in somewhere so that I can get some experience until such time as I can claim passage ~~h~~ home which will be the end of Nov. Might even make it for Xmas yet. The weather is delightful. Wearing light dresses and no coat. Took a bus to Kew Gardens last night. After an hour's ride got to the gates just at closing time. Will try it all day Sunday.

April 21. Colder to-day so am afraid my plans for a sun tan tomorrow will not materialize. Londoners look different from what they did when we came. Not as worried and tired looking. It must be a relief to be reasonably sure for the first time in nearly six years that you can feel free from enemy air activity of any kind. I sat for a little while in Hyde Park just inside Marble Arch on Thurs. Such crowds of people. A number Jewish. Man collects twopence for chair. Much prefer grass but most people looked too sedate for that.-- Miss Vanterwell of Toronto, who arrived in Wash. the end of Oct. arrived in London about a week ago. Is going with D.P. She stayed at Maryland for two months, then was in Emergency room at Dupont Circle for two months before coming over. What a waste. Nothing is definite about the Canadian uniform. She can wear the British, which is what the Canadian nursing sisters wear when going to the front, or the American. Might even be able to wear the Canadian CWAC uniform. Am going to write to the C.N.A. and ask them to have a ruling made but will wait till I have a further talk with Miss Udell. There is some talk of there being no identifying insignia apart from the UNRRA flash. But I don't think the USPHS people can take theirs off. Dr. Goodman says there is a new UNRRA uniform in process. A lovely slate or gray blue. It will probably be ready for use when we are on our way home. Lorna came in last night. Nice to see her as it is very lonesome. On Fri. night went to see "Henry V", Lawrence Olivier, in Technicolor, at Marble Arch. Very good. Good seat at cheapest price of 4 and 6.

April 23. Lorna in on Fri. night and Sat. Went to see the Lunt's in "Love in Idleness". Very good. Yesterday went to the Royal Albert Hall to hear the London Philharmonic. Basil Cameron conductor. Eva Turner soloist. Music mostly Wagner but good. Short stroll in Kensington Gardens. Laburnum, hawthorn, lilacs, horse chestnut, and rhodendrum out. Colder.
This morning the Polish situation looked less hopeful with the

signing of the 20 year pact between Russia and the Lublin Prov. Govt. Coming on the eve of the San. Fran. conference it looks as though Stalin is deliberately declaring that that is to be the Gov't of Poland. Dr. Goodman who has just returned from Wash. says that after being over there and considering the various things that have happened in the last two months it looks as though the Russian are doing all these things deliberately. Went to the staff meeting this morning. Mrs. Hampson looked horrified when I appeared at the door. Did not think I should go in. They have a lot of difficulty in placing me here. Just an ordinary Dr.'s meeting such as I always attend at home.

April 26. Day before yesterday Dr. Holle received a cable calling him back to Wash. immediately. the cable also included Mr. Hays. Mr. Teesdale and Dr. Findlay. These fom are the members of the temporary mission who are in London. Presumably shortly after arrival in Wash. they will proceed to Poland via Cairo and Terahan. Dr. Findlay resigned, his resignation becoming effective the day the cable arrived aso that makes only three to go back. Two others resigned in Wash. at the same time Mr. Gregg resigned. Fed-up. the cable also requested them to take books and files with them. It is all very fishy to me. Why could they not meet in Cairo? Why have to take all books and files. The Balkan and Italian Missions have been transferred to London office. It is reasonable to expect that the future Polish Mission would also be centralized here. I don't think they will get farther than Wash. Dr. Holle and Mr. Hays expect to leave a week from Sat. Mr. Teesdale will follow by boat with all the paraphenalia. That means it will probably be about a month before they are all assembled in Wash. Dr. Holle said that he would see how things are there and if there is wa ting to be done he will recall us. I am getting about tired of waiting and I know that if I had to return to Wash. to wait I would just resign and go home. They would just manufacture some clerk's job in Johnstones office for me. Had enough of that last fall. Had lunch with Miss Udell yesterday. Had a very frank talk about the whole thing. She would like me with D.P. and could probably find a supervisory job or even better for me. Johnston is coming over after Arnstein goes back, to be the Chief Nurse for D.P. in Germany. (Miss Udell and Dr. Struthers both say I could do a better job!) She will need a deputy and I think I could get that. The question is whether I should keep on waiting for Poland. I ~~think~~ think Miss Udell will at least give me the refusal of the first good th ng that comes along so it will be time enough to decide then. Poland does not seem to be any nearer settlement. This is the second day of the San. Franc. conference and they are still talking and congering abou t the Polish situation. It looks as though Russia's mind is already made up. Stalin says he and Roosevelt had verbal agreements and of course no one knows now what they were. I don't think we will get to Poland. If we do I think there will be little satisfactionin the work. It will be most disheartening if they will not take our advice. And that is what would happen. I would much rather do a job with D.P. they are

taking them on for a year over here and even if it meant resigning from my present position I think if it comes to a show-down that is what I shall do. Miss Udell told me in confidence that she had suggested that I help her in the office. Dr. Holle said no, I belonged to the Polish Mission. I was most disappointed to learn that. I can't quite see why he needs to feel that he can't recall us when we are needed for Poland. I don't think he needs to worry about that any more because I don't think he is going to need us. I had a talk with Dr. Struthers yest. He is as fed-up as I am. He said he had made up his mind to stick it for a year and then if there was nothing worth while for him to do he was returning home.

Col. Hon looked at my Kodachromes and admired them very much. Thinks I am a good photographer. He is very nice. He is going back to Germany to supervise the work with D.P. The idea is that Johnston will work with him. I know he has told them not to bring her over here until there is something for her to do, that is until she can have some authority to do the work. Makes me boil to think that she would be brought over here when I am sitting here doing nothing. That seems to be the way things are done in UNRRA.

Dr, Gelderman is coming in to-morrow and wants to see me. I'll have nothing to do with the Dutch unless there is something very definite in the administrative or supervisory line and I can have the proper authority.

Am going to see "The Duchess of Malfi", John Gilgud, with Lorna and her friend to-night.

April 30. Himmler has made an offer of unconditional surrendr to Great Britain and the U.S. but not to Russia. He has been given until Tues. to make it to include Russia and to-day he and a Red Cross official are conferring in Denmark. Hitler is dying, may even be dead, Mussolini has been shot and is hanging hear down beside his mistress in Milan for the public scorn. It looks as though the end would come in a matter of hours. Another deadlock over the Polish question in the San. Fran conference. Molotov has made his agreement to have representatives of Argentina at the conference conditional on the Warsaw government being represented. On Sat. Miss Udell called me in. Said she had spoken to Dr. Topping re me and that he had suggested that I be loaned to her office until we see how things shape up and that would pave the way to taking the position of Deputy to Miss Johnston if the Polish position does not develop. Roma has just had a chat with a welfare official. He says that Menshikov has to see each one personally and if hersays O.K. then we can go. However I don't think that personal interview will have to extend as far down the line as us.

On Sat I went to the Sadler Well's Ballet with Roma and Eleanor. Enjoyed it very much. Yesterday Lorna phoned and said she could be in London shortly after four and wanted to go to Kew Gardens. Her train was forty minutes late but I enjoyed being in Waterloo Station and watching all the farewells and greetings. We went to Kew but unfortunately it was dull and rained some. The Gardens are beautiful. The trees are well kept and landscaped. There were rhodendrums and lilacs but the most outstanding was the azelais. Have never seen such large ones and such an assortment of colors. Lorna went shortly after nine to catch her train. She made

an error in the time and missed it. Came back and slept on the flo and left at 5 this morning. On Sat after the Ballet I went to a lecture at the Royal College of Nursing. It was the inaugeral lecture of a two weeks refresher course for health visitors and school nurses. Given by Professor Macintosh, on "Social Medicine" as excellent. Was highly amused at the discussion of central heating and whether or not in the new houses there should be a fireplace in the bedroom, and whether or not the toilet should be in a sepatqte room from the bath. The lecture itself was on a much higher plane than this.

May 2. Back from Oxford. Enjoyed the train ride over on Mon. aft. Goes nearly all the way along the Thames. Lovely green fields and lots of white hawthorn. Was surprised that it was white, expected much more red. Browsed around a few of the book stores in the afternoon. Bought two wood-cuts. Lorna arrived shortly after 6. Charlotte and Dr. Rocjka came for dinner. He is very depressed about the Polaish situation. On Tues, May-Day, we went to hear the choir boys sing from the roof of Magdalen Tower at 7 P.M. the bridge was lined with people and it was cold. Singing very sweet and short. After for about an hour six men, dressed in white shirts and flannels and with colored banners and little bells fastened on their legs danced old English folk dances. What a wonderful thing is English tradition! After breakfast we took a lot of pictures and did some more browsing around in the shops. A frien of Lorna's cousin came in for lunch. Pat, a nice girl in her third year at Oxford. Ride home equally enjoyable. Sleepy but not too tired. This morning all the papers say Hitler is dead and that Admiral Doenitz has become head of the Nazi party. To be no surrender. Probably a different story tomorrow. -- Cable from Washington yesterday. Want the Polish group to get there as soon as possible and say that any material sent by boat will probably arrive too late. Miss Udell spoke to Dr. Holle yesterday. Dr. Holle willing that I be loaned but wants us for the Polish M. if it develops. Has promised that we will not be recalled to Wash. unless it is pretty sure. If it falls through it will be up to us to make our own arrangement with UNRRA.-- Still cold to-day Went to a lecture at the Royal College on the prevention of Diph. Measles, and Wh. Cough. Very elementary so left before it was over.

May.6. This week has been a spectacular one as far as the war is concerned. The Germans in Italy surrendered to Field Marshall Alexander, The Russians took Berlin, (Hitler reported to have 1. died of cerebral haemorrhage, 2. to have died while fighting with his soldiers, 3. to have committed suicide along with Goebels.) the armies facing Montgomery have surrendered thus freeing Holland and Denmark. There remains only Norway and a few pockets that face the Americans. Norway is expected to surrender soon. The German armies to the East will not surrender to Russia. VE Day is expected this week. Everyone is on

the alert for it. In San.Fran. the Conference is proceeding. The reports re the Polish situation looked more favorable all week and we were becoming more optomistic re our chances of going to Poland. Eden and Stettinius suspended talks until the Russians would say what had happened to the members of the Polish Gov't who had disappeared. Finally Molotov informed them that they had been taken prisoner because they had been engaged in activities which incurred the death of 100 soldiers of the Red Army. Britain and America take a very grave view of the whole situation and all talks on Poland at San.F. have been suspended for the time being. The Russians seem to be almost childish in this matter. All this has taken so much time of Eden and Stittinius which they could have used in so many other ways at the conference.
On Thurs. I went in the afternoon to see the news reel of the atrocities in the concentration camps. It is had to believe that any group of people could be so sadistic but seeing is proof. On Sat. saw "The Sign of the Cross" which portrays the persecution of the Christians in Rome at the time of Nero. The same sadistic tendencies are shown. I could not help but compare those times and these. The spirit of the people of the underground movement must have been much the same as that of those early christians. On Fri. Dr.Holle left for Wash. He will let us know as soon as possible what the score is. Said we could count on it that if he resigned it would be because he did not feel it worth while to go to Poland. He will not go if he just has to do as the Russians say. Fri. night I went to Gay Rosalinda with Margaret Creelman. On Sat. Janet Vanderwell and I went to Young's in the Soho and had a Chinese dinner and then went to the "Sign of the Cross" after. While waiting for the cinema to open we went to the Royal Academy on Piccadilly. To-day, Sunday, we went to the market in Petticoat Lane before 10. It is world famous and extends for blocks much like Orchard St in New York. Can buy anything. Mostly Jews. In the afternoon went to Albert Hall to hear the London Philharmonic. Violinist, Ida Haelpin, was soloist. Will not go back there unless there is something very special.
Started reveiwing French thefirst of this month. Got a book with exercises and the key to them. Am endeavoring to do one lesson a day and also read a bit in a French newspaper each day.

May 12. The great days have been and are past now. It was a glorious time. All day Monday everyone was expecting an announcement but it did not come. Then in the early evening it was announced that an announcement would be made on Tuesday and that that day would be VE Day. Lorna and the girls came up Mon. night. We went to the White Tower on Charlotte St., a Greek Restaurant, for dinner. It was good. Then we went to the front of the Palace hoping the King and Queen would appear. There was a fairly large crowd, I thought at that time but after experience of the next two days realize I never before knew what a crowd was. A policeman told us that His Majesty wouod not appear that night but still the people kept on and called for the King. Of course he did not appear. The girls managed to get their room for another night so stayed over for Tuesday.
As there had been some confusion over the days UNRRA was to have I came in to the office. We all left about 11. There was a Thanksgiving Servise at St. Paul's at noon which we attended. It was jammed. Lots of people lining the street as they expected to see the Lord Mayor who was to attend in official costume. They were disappointed in this. The service was nice. The choir boys were back, for thefirst time I think since their evavuation to Truro. Their singing was beautiful.
From St. Pauls we proceeded to Ye Olde Chesshire Cheese for dinner. Had to wait a little while but the girls had drinks. To my great sorrow I could not celebrate in that manner. There were a lot at the pub and the holiday manner was evident. We walked along Fleet St. and the Strand to Trafalgar Sq. Thousands of people there already. Flags and noise makers and streamers. On the whole the crowds are not as noisy as at home. We sat on the grass in front of the Gallery but when Churchill started to broadcast we found we were not in a good position to hear and so did not get his message clearly. It was short and just an announcement of how the surrender took place. From here we made our way through the crowds with great difficulty and found a seat on the curb opposite the Ministry of Health where it was announced Churchiol and his chiefs of staff would appear at 5 P.M. It was very warm and the crowd got very dense. About every 5 minutes someone would faint and have to be carried out. The party did not appear until after 5:45 but when they did seeing them was well worth the wait. Churchill looked very pleased and acknowledge the applause of the 50,000 people assem led with his famous V sign. The Chiefs of Staff were also applauded. Churchill's daughter Mary in her ATS uniform was also there and

Herbert Morrison and others whose names we did not know. Then we made our way out of the Mall and down Bird Cage Walk to Buckingham Palace Road in an endeavor to find something to eat. Everyplace was sold out. Finally found an Italian joint where we got an atrocious salad, a bun, and a cup of tea in a cup which was cracked and whose cleanliness was very questionable. Then back to the Palace for the long wait. I sacrificed distance for a seat on the curb so parted from the rest and arranged to meet after. The broadcast was at 9. There were about 100, ooo people assembled and during the broadcast you would almost have heard a pin drop. About 9:30 the Royal Family appeared. They looked lovely and graciously acknowledged the applause. The Queen seemed almost reluctant to leave the balcony. We were told that afterwards the Princesses came out and mingled with the crowd. The floodlighting was not yet on but we were too tired to stay to see it. On our way home through Green Park I overtook Agnes McLeod. The girls came in for tea. All very tired. Tuesday was the best. Was glad to have to go to the office all day as my feet were very tired. About 9:30 Janet Vandervell and I set out to see the lights. Walked down to Piccadilly. Crowded but no lights. Boys up the lamp-post hanging the washing on the Seigfried Line. One of the items Hitler's Pants. Austin Reid's beautifully lighted. Along Piccadilly to Leicester Square. Theatres lighted and looking very festive. Flags everywhere. On to Trafalgar Square where the floodlighting was put on at 10:30. Admiralty Arch, National Gallery, St. Martin's in the Fields, and South Africa House. And a spot light on the magnificent figure of Nelson on top the high column. Turning and looking down the Mall saw Big Ben lighted. Walked down the Mall and just as we approached the Ministry of Health building Churchill appeared. We had not been expecting such luck. He spoke to the Londoners and visitors. Recited a verse from Rule Britannia and lead the crowd in singing the chorus twice. Thought his voice sounded a bit thick! This was the highlight of the whole two days. The jam going out of the Mall was terrific. Just carried along. Bobby said, "You've missed the last train to Brighton to-night, you'll have to walk home!" Walked part way across Westminster Bridge to see Big Ben and the Houses of Parliament. Guild Hall beautifully lighted. Through St. James Park. Colored rockets going off at intervals. Palace beautiful. Waited ¾ hour and King and Queen appeared at 12:30. Dark walking home. Walked through Piccadilly Circus. Not many merry-makers left.

One man who was feeling very gay was standing on Regent St. opposited the brilliantly lighted windows of a night club singing very lustily,"The moon is shining, the stars are bright, love me Senorita!" On the whole there were not many who were over gay. The crowds on both days seemed to lack a certain spontaniety which our crowds at home have. The announcement was somewhat of an anti-climax. There is still fighting going on. On Tues. night I got home about 1:15. The tiredness and sore feet were well worth experiencing. The wait of 8 months, if such were nesessary in order to be in London at this time, was also worth it. On. Thurs. when I went to the office I remarked to the elevator man,"Well it's all over now". "Yes", he said, "carry on London!"
Miss Udell left on Thursnight One of my first jobs was to answer two inquiries from B.C. One a nurse of uncertain qualifications who came to my office in Vancouver wanting a job with Metropolitan. Got a bezutiful box from Charlottetown. Enough tooth-paste to last many months. This afternoon Oomen, who came down yesterday, and I planned to go to Hampton Court. Discovered Dr. Case was gojng too so went with him. Very hot. Paintings lovely. Did not have enough time for the garden. Shouod return in about two weeks when the roses should be out.
Dr. Case thinks Poland mosrt unlikely. Thinks if I approach Commander Jackson I should get transferred O.K. Jackson is going to make sweeping changes. Already many changes made in Wash. Some bitter feelings about them. Jackson seems very sound and must be an able administrator Going to-morrow morning to sit on the steps of St. Paul's from 10 o'clock in order to see the King and Queen.

May 15. Celebrations over, no more standing for hours to see important people! Worth it on Sunday however. Arrived at St. Paul's shortly after ten equipped with lunch, writing material and a book. Joined by Janet Vandervell after the morning service. Time passed very quickly as there was always something to watch. Warm in the morning but much cooler later and sometimes cloudy with a few drops of rain. About 1:30 people started to arrive. This continued till 2:30 when Churchill, Mrs. C, and daughter Mary arrived. Got a big hand. Later Queen Mary, all in blue with her customary style of hat, the Duchess of Kent and her two children, and then the Royal Family in a coach drawn by four lovely horses. Four white horses mounted by the Horse Guards in their resplendent red coats. When the catriage stops the two Guards in fromt turn their horses to face the carriage.

Others we saw going to the service were King George of Greece, King Peter of Jugo-Slavia, Princess Julianna and Prince Bernhard. ONe very nicely dressed lady was most embarrassed to have her stocking start to fall as she mounted the steps. Just couldn't do a thing about it. The service was very nice and was heard by the outside crowds through loud speakers. The carriage was brought up to the front and about 4:20 the Royal Party left. We sta rted for the Underground at 4:30. Went home and changed and met Janet at the Cumberland. Couldn't get in and big queue at Lyons so came up to Polish Inn for dinner. Food does not seem as good as it used to. Listened to Churchill's speech to-night. He seemed very tired. At first his speech seemed quite ordinary but when you thought about it you realized that it was very powerful in its simplicity. Said some biting remarks about Ireland. De Valera has not said anything yet but is to broadcast to-night.

May 20. Just back from two days at St. Leonard's. Found Freeman very well. Has a nice wife and family. Went over to see Con's family. Very nice. Mr. &Mrs Curtis and daughter Gladys and her husband and two children. Very nice people. Easy to see why Con did not adjust well to the situation in which she found herself. On Sat went to the opening of Swimming Pool at St. Leonard's. First time it has been open to the public since Sept. 3, 1939. This morning went for a walk through the parks with Freeman and then sat on the beach (White Rock) for a while. Freeman appreciated my visit very much and I promised to go again if at all possible before I went home. I am the only relative he has seen since coming back to England 24 years ago. Felt very much at home along the water. The scenery going down was very pretty. Coming back along a different route saw some of the downs. All lovely this time of year. But all too crowded.-- Miss Arnstein arrived last Wed. Hope Miss Udell is back on Tues. Surely before very long we will know what is going to happen to us.

Forgot to mention that on Sat. went to see "This Happy Breed" with Terry at the White Rock Pavillion. A Noel Coward play portraying the life of an ordinary middle class family from 1919 to 1939. In the evening after Freeman and I came back from the Curtis' we watched the V Dance in the street opposite their place. The people were having a very jolly time. The only dance I recognized was the Lambeth Walk.

May 22. Wolverton yesterday. Brought bicycle home. First ride in London down Euston Road at midnight in the pouring rain!--~~Miss~~

Miss Udell back to-day but she was busy with Miss Arnstein so don't know if she has noticed any opportunities for me. Will have to be patient a while longer but listening to her and to Miss Arnstein going over things made me feel very blue. Can't really take it very much longer I am afraid.--Rode around Regent's Park this evening. It is a huge place. Nearly every building to the east of the Park has been bombed. Hardly one occupied now. Many trench shelters in the Park. Noticed one sign pointing to one which said, "Trench Shelter for 7,000."--Papers full of election now instead of war. Should postpone an election at this time and get on with the war against Japan. Labour Party is causing the trouble.

May 26. Went to Royal Academy this afternoon. ON way home stopped in antique shop. Fatal. Bought Buckingham china shoe and brass box with ivory top. Also two cut glass salt cellars for wedding present for Eleanor Hickey. Last night went to see "Pimpernel Smith". Leslie Howard. Had seen it before. Stood over an hour in queue.--- Miss Arnstein probably leaves to-day. Miss Udell told me some of the plans. Miss A wants to come back to London office to be deputy to Miss Udell. Miss Johnston will come to take Italy, which she seems to want, or else Germany. If she does not take Germany I can have it. If not then Austria. Miss Udell would like me to get over to Germany at the very first opportunity, even if Miss Johnston will eventually come to take over. Told Miss Udell this morning that I would rather have Germany than go to Poland.--Still cold . Rainy to-day. If fine to-morrow going to Brighton with Dr. Case.

May 27. Got to Brighton. A nice trip down. Sat on the beach when suddenly a big wave came up and almost soaked us. Brighton very much as I expected to see it. Long promenade along the beach. Hotels line the water front but all taken over for other purposes now. Took bus ride to Rottingdean in afternoon. A nice, exclusive village. Had tea there and walked along the promenade. To the east could see the white cliffs. Very beautiful. If the cliffs had been red instead of white would have thought I was standing on Cavendish beach P.E.I.--Most of the beach at Brighton is still fenced off, land mines. Interesting to see the precautions this Island made again invasion. Barvbed wire, wires across wide highways so airplanes could not use as runways, big cement blocks on open beaches, ~~cement~~ poles in large open fields, etc. Dr. Case a very interesting companion.

June 3.
Little new at the office this week. Dr. Topping was over to Paris for a consultation. Have not heard the result yet but there are rumors that UNRRA will be taking over the D.P. Camps and if so we should soon get going. New group of nurses, including Hazel Dobson, in from Wash. on Sat. They say everybody is enthusiastic about Germany and Miss Johnston and Miss Snyder are both coming over. I will just have to take the leavings I guess! For many reasons I would like to go to Austria but it will not be opening up so soon. Maybe they will let me start in on Germany in some capacity to get experience. Will try to be patient to the end of this month. On Tues went to hear Tom Drieberg, one of the M.P.'s who went to Buchenwald He was very good. Said it was worse than they expected and the newspapers did not stretch the truth. They went to great pains to verify some of the stories and found them true. Camp was approximately one half Jews. Other two groups, forced labor and political prisoners. Basic food ration was one bowl of watery soup and one hunk of dry bread per day. Those who were forced to work got slightly more. Could only work for two or three months and then had to go on basic ration. To got the ration had to present a small metal disc which was issued. For some things this disc was taken away and them could get nothing. Emphasized the mental and spiritual degredation of Nazism and Fassism.--- Yesterday went to Eleanor Hickey's wedding out at Pinner. In the Methodist Church. Very simple and nice. At his uncles after. Nice to see so many Canadians even though they were mostly from Montreal --To-day took bicycle on train to Slough and then cycled around Stoke-Poges and Burnaham Beeches. A little disappointed in the countryside. More trees than other places I have been in the vicinity but mostly level so no good views. The Beeches are lovely but do not cover a very large area. Must be lovely in autumn. The old church where Grey wrote his elegy is rather attractive. Parts of it 800 years old, the rest 600. The Manor House was where William Penn lived.An interesting window in the rear, called the "bicycle " window. Dated 1642. Shows the first type of bicycle then in use. Yew tree in yard mentioned in Elegy is over 1000 years old. Two New Zealand soldiers shown around at the same time as me.-- Will have to do something to take away this loneliness. Last night had dinner with Norma MacDonald. She lives at the International Club. She says she would not recommend it but it sounded like something I would like. Am going to investigate it and the English Speaking Union.--- Letters from Trenna, Miss Fairley and Marg aret this week. (M.E.Kerr) There is so much doing at home that I am missing that I seriously doubt thst this experience is worth it.

June 11. Election day at home. Last Mon. at the election in Ontario the Progressive-Conservatives made a big sweep. C.C.F's took a slap in the face. The results there may make a difference in the Federal. Big speculation about it in the press here.--Dr. Topping thinks things will open up soon. He is off again for two weeks. A letter came from Dr. Sawyer. Reading between the lines Miss Johnston does not want the Germany position but rather wants to help Miss Udell in the supervision of the Balkans. After that letter came the decided to let her do that and give me Germany! However Dr. Sawyer's letter was written before Miss Arnstein had returned. She will make a different arrangement if she can because she wants to come over here herself. The two Australian nurses arrived. Recruited for administrative posts and do not want to go out with teams. Salary 600 pounds! Miss Udell has gone off for the first week of her leave but will probably have to come back the end of the week to go to Ireland. I am going to see about getting a uniform this week. Want to be ready when t the opportunity comes to go over. ---Jim came in on Wed. I got tickets for Vic Oliver's "The Night and The Music". Quite good. On Thurs night we went to the Zurich for dinne and then took the bus to Richmond. Beautiful view of the Thames from the hill. He was returning on Sat. so did not see him again. A very nice looking fellow and seems very steady. --On Friday night Hazel Dobson and I went to hear the Alexander Choir at the Royal Albert Hall. Very good. Sat. afternoon we took the bus to Richmond. Walked up the hill and looked over the Park and the Thames. Then we went down the hill and found our way to Petersham and t the churchyard where Capt. George Vancouver is buried. The vicar happened to be going into the church and showed us around. The grave is not in a prominent part of the yard. It has a nice arbutus tree from Vancouver Island growing at the head and some douglas fir at the foot. None of these trees are yet very large but if they grow as big as they do in their native habitat some of the brick wall will have to be removed. I took a picture of the grave and also one of the church. The church is very quaint. It has one of the nicest pieces of iron-work I have seen in the railing up to the pulpit. The vicar removed the carpet to show us the name of a noble lady buried in the church. Made some amusing remark about the lords etc butied in the churhes in England, "But this one happens to be a lady". Said one vicar in a church had wanted the bodies removed. Objecte to the smell every time he went up to the pulpit. Mr. ~~Mile~~ Miles said he never "sniffed" them! Then he took usto see the ~~church-where~~ house where Vancouver boarded. A very attractive place and well kept now. Is occupied by a man

who has just returned from being a prisoner of war. Took a picture of the house. Mr. Miles wanted to b4e remembered to Major Matthews. Says he still has some of his tea. -- From here we took the boat to Hampton Court. A pleasant ri ride but the weather not too good. Went through the lock at Teddington. Thought of "Three Men in a Boat". Had tea at the hotel and then went throughthe gardens of the Palace. Saw the grape vine. It is called "Black Hamburo Vine" and was planted in 1768. The girth of the stem is 6 ft, 9 in. It is beautifully trained along the side and roof of its own conservatory. A penny to view it. The roses were lovely. Took bus home. Hazel stayed with me all night. Caught the 9:50 train to Dover. Train very late so a long ride but through beautiful country. Kent. Lots of orchards and cherries ripening now. Must be a lovely parto of the country. Go throught the North Downs which also very beautiful. Raining when we got to Dover so got a taki to show us around. Went through one of the caves where thes people slept and lived during the shelling This one accommodated 550 people. Had a first aid room whe where any casualties from the town were brought. Had a store room in which they had enough food for 300 people for three weeks. Stoves etc for canteen. One tunnel was made to go to the centre of the town. These caves were supposedly made by the smugglers 150 years ago. Dover had normally a population of 40,000 and during the war 9,000 remained.--From Dover we took the bus to Canterbury-- lovely ride. Went through the Cathedral. Very nice certainly but somehow was unimpressed. Had fish and chips ther the first I have had in England. Long wait for the train back and had to stand mostof the way. A nice day in spite of the rain.--

Dr. Mikeljohn told us about Belsen last week. 1,500 cases of typhus according to the Germans but found more like four times that many. 40,000 living people in the camp, built for 8,000. In addition 10,000 unburried bodies. Had had no food or water for 6 days. 25,000 needing hosp ital attention; 1,000 per day dying. In four days had a hospital for 7,000 ready, Believed Germans deliberately intraduced typhus--introduced Hungarian internees and put them in various parts of the camp. Knew they had typhus bu but no attempt made to isolate them. Ration had been ½ litre of soup per day and 1 2 kilogran loaf of black rye bread for 12 people per week. German personnel refused typhus vaccine, said the fatherland had looked after them. Large percentage took typhus.

June 12. Stephanie came down last night. Went and ordered uniform to-day. Canadian style. Measurements too big. Will diet between now and first fitting.

June 15. Must have been intuition about the uniform. On "ed. Dr. Topping called me in and told me I have been assigned as UNRRA's Chief Nurse for the Brirish Zone of occupation and will be attached to the 21st Army Group. Sir Raphael-Celento to be the Dr. To go as soon as can get ready. Dr. Goodman had given me an inficaction of this in a brief conversation in the morning so was not too takenbby surprise. To be a Dr. and Nurse in the American and French zones but this is the first to get going. Very thrilled! Ordered a British Warm. Will be one part of the uniform I can wear when I get back to civilian life. Just hope nothing happens to change this assignment. Yesterday found out that a car was going right to the spot so on less than an hour's notice rushed home and packed the heaviest things I could find including typewriter and stationery. Hope I catch up with it. Will be flying so will be limited to 100 lbs. This record to date will have to stay behind. Miss Udell off this week but expected back to-day as she will probably be going to Ireland on Monday. I shall be ready to go next week-end but may have to wait a little longer for her. Have a feeling that this is going to be a great adventure and hope I can do the job satisfactorily and be a credit to Canada.

June 16. Yesterday talked qith Sir Raphael under whom I am to work. Was very impress ed. He has an ideal--this isn't just a job to be done now and be over with--building for the future, may lay the foundation of a future International Health Organization. More vital than the one formed under the League of Nations. He made me feel that it was a real challenge and quite the most worthwhile job in UNRRA nursing. Even though it isn't it was nice to feel that way after all the months of waiting. This seems tohhave been the job I was intended for all along. Wash. was going to assign me for Albania, but London got in ahead. Now it seems that no nurses will get in there. Then Poland and that seems even more hopeless than Albania.
Yesterday went with 11 others to St. Thomas' Saw the ruined F.N. Home. F.N.'s carfiage safe and interesting to see. Marvellous how they have adjusted and carried on O.R.'s in the basement. Also ward in basement which was used as their Casualty Clearing. Saw one ward which had the bricks out of the windows. Quite a contrast to the ones still bricked in. Had 60 beds in London in war time. Pre-war 640. Beautiful location -just opposite Big Bem and Houses of Parliament.

June 17. Lunch with Miss Brackett of Rockefeller Foundation. Cycl ride, Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, Big Ben, Abbey, Victoria Embankment, London Bridge, Tower Bridge.

June 21. Miss Udell away to Dublin this week but should be back to-morrow. No "signal" through from 21st Army Group for us yet. However they phoned yesterday to find out why we were not there. Had a talk with Dr. Hon. Says our job will be grand--they really want us there which means a lot. The USPHS Drs. seem to be all

going home. Also the sanitary engineers. American does not seem to be opening up to UNRRA in the same way. Feel very sorry about this--looks bad to see them going off like that, as though in this office it were a British show. -- Have uniform nearly all assembled now. -- When Miss Udell went away we were worried re Johnston and Snyder coming here and what we would do with them. Yesterday a cable from Wash. saying Snyder going to Greece, Arnstein resigned and Johnston remaining at H.Q's in Wash. For field jobs that have developed in UNRRA Miss Baggaley and I seem to have the pick. -- In the May 26th Progress Report the following item, the only one, under the heading "Poland" appeared:

> "Arrangements have been made to ship to U,S. the excess baggage of three members of the Polish Mission from the European Regional Office."

FINIS!!

June 27. Maybe I spoke too soon! On Thurs. or Fri. last a cable appeared on my desk from Wash. "Re-assignment of Creelman, Szloch, Kalinowski satisfactory pending possible formation of Polish Mission in which case Holle has first claim on them if required." A few minutes lated Dr. Hon came in to say good-bye, said he had had a letter from his wife in which she said Dr. Holle had been promised his visa by the 1st of July and was coming via London. Now the race is on to get me out of here before Dr. Holle returns.-- The "signal" has been held up somewhere but yesterday Dr. Cilento saw a Col. from the 21st Army Group who wanted to know what had happened to us. Have an office all ready. Been given authority to go ahead and get car and driver, by boat to Antwerp and drive in. Sir Raphael says this can be done in two days. I hope so. He is afraid the Polish Mission will hold me. So am I. There have been several talks about the Polish situation. Apparently there is utter chaos inside Poland. The new Premier is clamouring for the Mission but it is not yet clear what they want them to do. I have an idea it is just to look after the D.P's. I can do more for the Poles in that case by going to Germany. The majority of the letters arriving from the nurses refer to the looting and fighting carried on by the Russians and Poles. If that is what it is like outside Poland what must it be like in, and what could we accomplish in nursing with all that going on.

Hazel Dobson and I spent a quiet Sunday. Were planning on Brighton but heard about the terrific crowds. I got up early and went for a cycle ride around Hampstead Heath. Then Hazel came in for "brunch and we went to Kensington Gardens. First we listened a bit at Orator's Corner. Saw one man setting up his 'soap box'. He has been there every Sun. since after the last war. His sign for the day was, "The Left is Never Right". Came home, went to hear Dr. Wetherhead, Zurich for dinner. Steak and apple fritters!

Miss Udell returned Sat. Recruited 25 in Ireland. Most of the girls off to France on Mon. Hope I see them in 21st A.G.

July 6. Been waiting all this time. Through a series of errors mainly in the War Office, apparently our signal did not get through.

Sir. Raphael has been after it hammer and tongs, all this time. This morning something more definite seemed to be coming. It finally turned out that an order fo the whole party to go off tomorrow was received, but without vehicles, and with only the luggage one could carry by hand. Could not do that. So after a lot of fuss it was decided that Dr. Layton and Miss Doherty are to leave to-morrow morning. The rest of us will go as soon as priority for the car can be obtained which may not be before the 13th. However Sir Raphael is going to work on that and see if it can be put through sooner. I had planned to leave this afternoon for Evesham and have a long week-end in the Cotswolds. Wish I had planned a week-end earlier and we might have been off. Yesterday it seemed that from information via the grape-vine that there is to be a top organization in Germany after all. If so, I shall probably have the Chief Nurse's job. However many a slip can happen so I shall not look forward to anything further than the job in the British Zone. No doubt it will be sufficient to occupy my time and I shall be quite happy. However I must confess taht if there is to be a top job I should like to have it. Time will tell. Last Sunday visited Lorna at Taplow ,11th Can. Military. She is organizing the Neurological Unit there. A beautifull spot. Walked through the Park by the Thames. Going down the hill reminded me somewhat of Wreck Beach.---- No word of Dr. Holle or of any further development in the Polish Mission. Stephanie will be down soon to go out with a D.P . team. Election day yesterday but will not know the results till the 26th.

July 9. Have just been typing the items written since June 15 as they were written in long hand. It seems like a mad story. Away back there I was all fired with enthusiasm about going out to a grand job. Now with all the waiting that it somewhat dulled. I can't see beyond the immediate problem of getting out to Germany. Then I can begin to think of the job to be done if there is one. Certainly the merican Drs. did not think there was going to be anything wothwhile when they went home.
Sat. night went to the open air theatre at Regent's Park. Saw Merchant of Venice. Acting excellent. Could not help compare the setting with Vancouver's. Longed for the tall evergreens with the moon riding high over them, and of course the company.
Yesterday took my bicycle to Windsor ,had morning coffee at Nell Gwynn's house. Built for her by Charles 11. Said to have an underground passage to the Castle near by. In 1938 the house was to have been demolished but the citizens would not permit it. Set out for the Great Park and on the way overtook a girl on a bicycle who happened to be just out for the ride. Her name was Ida Stokes and she took me thro ugh the Park and home via Eagem and Runnymede. Forgot to mention that on the way from Slough to Windsor as I approached Eton, the street in front of the Chapel was swarming with Eton boys with their hats and coats. Almost thought I was in another world and age! Saw the equesterian statue to George 111. A figure on a copper horse mounted on stones on Snow Hill just at the end of the Long Walk (3 mi) from the Castle.

A story id told that the designer said that if there was anything he had forgotton he would hang himself. He forgot the stirrups, and George sits there with his feet dangling! He did hang himself. We walked a little ways behind the monument and could see across the fields to the private residence of the King and Queen, Cumberland anor. On the way through the Park there was a most beautiful field ctop all with a blue blossom. don't know what it was but the coloring was most effective. No camera because films all censored. Rode on, past the private flying ground of the Prince of Wales at Fort Belvedere, picked some heather from the edge of the field by the ludricously camouflaged monument(equesterian) of Prince Consort; on past Virginaa Water and Falls. As we approached Windson on the return via the opposite side of the Park we stopped at Runnymede; went through achet which is nentione in "Three Men in a Boat", then I went back to Nell Gwynn's house for lunch. After that I rode towards Dachet and sat on the bank of the Thames until time to catch the 5:38 train. There were crowds there in the field which had just been cut and the hay was lying on the ground. Although there was a sign to the effect that swimming was strictly prohibited there were many in. Watched the pleasure craft on the River and wondered what stories they could tell of Dunkirk.

One day over a week ago Miss Udell and I had tea with Miss Lawson and Miss Heany who are going to the British Zone with the Allied Control Commission. When they learned through my reports that there was to be an UNRRA Chief Nurse at the same H.Q's they were naturally a little alarmed. fter discussing our function with them I think their fears were somewhat allayed. do not think they w will be going in until after this week at least.--- iss Heany is a sister of Kay Heany's of V.G.H.--They will be dealing with the civilian population whereas we will be with the D.P.'s. hat same evening I had dinner with Miss Heany and Miss Merry. he latter is with the Queen's and has just returned from a three months trip to the U.S. and Canada. as very interested in our nursing educat i A few days later Miss oherty and I saw Miss Merry in her office and heard something of the Q.I.D.N.S.--- It seems this afternoon that we shall not be getting off till Friday. Think I shall take two days and go to the otswolds. Miss Baggaley is coming in to-mor row and it might be to my advantage to stay around and have some tim with her. Will see to-morrow.

July 12. Last night in London. A lovely evening but too tired & too much to do to go outside. Last night went with Mrs Henry & Mrs Lindsay to see "I'll Be Your Sweetheart". three Canadian armed to-day (Marion Melz one) in Can. uniform. Just written to Miss Munroe to ask her to protest to Wash. Cable came in to-night from Wash. to the effect that all commissioned U.S.P.H.S. people to be regarded as on active military service & to be granted full army privileges. Just doing the very thing to cause dissatisfaction! Not a very nice note to end this part of my diary on. Its very insignificant but has immense implications. Yesterday afternoon had a trip to St. Albans. & St Raphael in the New Austn. Roman relics most interesting.

To be continued, or rather, started afresh from Jersey

Diary of Service with UNRRA in Germany

July 17,1945.--This is the start of another series of entries regarding work with UNRRA. I trust it will show more progress than the previous record. To start at the beginning our party consisting of Sir Raphael Cilento, Miss Shelley, Secretary and the two drivers, Miller and Spindler, and myself, in two cars, a Ford Station Wagon, and an Austin, with all our luggage, left London about 1 P.M. on Friday the 13th of July. I hope it was a lucky choice of date but having waited for so long any date would be a lucky one. We arrived at Purfleet about 3 P.M. Miss Shelley and I were placed in No 1 Women's Transit Camp for the rest of the day and night. It was quite comfortable. There were a number of Danish girl drivers waiting for the same boat. They were taking over to Copenhagen a number of ambulances loaded with supplies from the Red Cross. Many of them were using this as an excuse to get back to Denmark, they certainly did not look like very efficient drivers. Their leader was a Danish countess, a real battle-ax in appearance. However she seemed to be able to handle the situation fairly adequately. The next morning the countess awakened us at 4:30. Breakfast at 5 and off to the parking lot at 6. It was a long process getting onto the boat, but finally we got loaded just in the spot to come off last instead of first as we had hoped. The boat was a transport and built for carrying troops and vehicles, consequently there were few conveniences. I was given a cabin along with the countess, an admirals wife and a doctor who were with her party. There was so much bickering and jealousy among the girls that finally the Dr. slept down below decks with the girls where conditions were not so good. We sailed down the Thames and about 1 P.M. anchored off Southend. Stayed there till 11 P.M. Watched the heavy lightening Londonwards as we pulled off. Next morning about 10 A.M. docked at Ostend. Harbour only cleared enough for two boats to go in at a time. Could see where the concrete walls etc. had been blown by the Germans. A lot of destruction in the city. Got through security with apparently no papers missing. Were told where to report for the customs but we conveniently missed the street. The first part of Belgium was very flat and not too interesting. We very soon reached more wooded and rolling areas which were most attractive. The grain crops were magnificent and such verdant growth all around. Have not seen such since leaving B.C. It was Sunday and no laborers were out. Suspect there was a shortage anyway as the grain was certainly ready to cut.

There was a notable absence of livestock. Very few cows and hardly any horses. Arrived at Brussels about 3 P.M. Finally got a billet in the Palace Hotel which is taken over by the military as officer's billets. Very comfortable, just like one of our good hotels. Paid 10 francs, (about a shilling) for room and the four meals one could have in a day. Sir Raphael spent some time in vain in trying to find the UNRRA office. Apparently there had been a succession of moves and no-one knew quite where there were located. A typical UNRRA show apparently. On Sun. evening Sir Raphael and I took a stroll in the streets. Lots of people. Open-air beer parlors filled to capacity. Music and vaudeville. Lots of fruit in pedlars carts on the streets but all very expensive. Drivers were supposed to come for us at 15 to 9 on Mon. A.M. but they did not arrive till 10. No adequate excuse. Set out to find Mr. O'Driscoll UNRRA liason officer. Located. Did not go in. Sir R. said a terrible dirty office and a most incompetent person. Set out north for Hatert where we learned Mr Schlee would be. Called in at Louvaine on the way. An UNRRA advance camp at which there were several waiting to go out on teams. Capt. Pearce in charge. Use a nice appearing school building. Clean but most unsatisfactory for the purpose. Went on to Hatert. Holland very nice and some lovely homes on the way. People buxom looking but we were told that there is a very great shortage of food. Arrived at Hatert shortly after 5 P.M. This camp was a D.P. concentration camp up until July 1st and it was readily seen that conditions were most undesirable for such a group. Great dissatisfaction among them. Met by Mr. Schlee who immediately was on the defensive. Wanted us to pick out the Drs. and nurses we wanted for Belsen so that he could get the rest out to teams immediately. We were shown around the camp by Squadron Leader Morton, (a Canadian who is an employee of the Sun Life Insurance in Montreal, look him up when return home). He was head of the training branch in Western House for awhile and had now come out to the field to see what it was all about. Was pretty disgusted. Morals in the camp terrible. Fraternizing. Had dinner in the big mess. Not very good conditions. Then Sir Raphael met the Drs. and I the nurses. He saw 12 of the 23 drs. who were supposed to be in camp. Some had only their ~~clinic~~- theoretical work and no clinical. I saw 14 of the 25 nurses. Was agreeably surprised having expected the worst. One was definitely not fit, having only had TB training and no State Diploma. The Belgians seemed a much better group than the French which substantiated our opinion in London. Had the one nurse kept there and have reccommended that her appointment be terminated.

Aug. 18. I have been hoping for a secretary but as none has yet arrived I had better get busy and bring this record up to date from the few sketchy notes I have kept.
To continue with out trip. We stayed at the Atlantic Hotel in Nijemegen that night. I had to share aroom with Mrs. Logan Lyall who turned out to be Mr. Schlee's driver and ? She was the most vile woman I have ever met and last Monday our driver took her to Frankfurt where it is hoped for the good of UNRRA she will be immediately dismissed. Our room was very nice, two beds and two wash basins with running water--the cleanly Hollanders. Before breakfast the next morning went for a walk with Sir Raphael to see the bridge the Canadians so gallantly defended. Great evidence of severe fighting. The center of Nijemegen is flattened. Theis was done in error by the R.A.F. At breakfast, which in spite of the food shortage in Holland was adequate, we were served by a waiter in tails. We also had a paper serviette. We went back to the camp at Hatert, met Dr. Bidstrup, and then went off. Schlee expected us to go in convoy with him and because we did not was very cross with us. Mrs. Lyall never spoke to me again until after Schlee left.We very soon came to the border of Germany near Cleve. Got through without custom's papers. Just after we crossed the border there was a big sign,"You are now in Germany", followed closely by another, "You have been warned". Along the way for at least five miles across the border there were signs saying that anyone seen walking more than 20 ft. off the road would be shot with out warning. And all the way along signs saying how far from the road mines had been cleared, -- from 6 to 20 ft. usually. The German crops were good and harvesting was then beginning. Now all the grain has been cut but none is in. The very heavy rains of the last week have damaged it considerably and it is a very great loss because every bit of it is going to be needed this winter. The shortage of farm implements and of labour was very evident. Many of the fields were being cut by schythe with women and girls binding the sheaves and stooking them. There has been more labour lately with the return to the land of many P.O.W.'s. All along the road that day I only saw three machines binding. We arrived at Bad Oyenhausen about 5:30 P.M. Spent the first night in a house across from H.Q. Still the remains of the last German occupant. Moved out next morning to another vacant house which Sir Raphael claimed as the Medical House. Later on the Welfare group moved in with us and we had our own mess. Got two Lithuanian D.P'S , Amelia and Alexis whom we have brought to Spenge with us. They waited on us hand and foot.

July 18th was our first day in B.O. (Rose Water!) and it started off for me with an argument with Schlee over Hatert. He thought it a good set-up--good discipline. Good God! Is that the kind of people we have at the head of UNRRA. Later met Brigadier Kennedy, Col. Perry and Major Thomas and got out office space and furniture. Brigadier had plans to disassociate me from Sir Raphael and take me to Bunde where he has already moved with the A.C.C. I suppose I would have worked with Miss Lawson and Miss Heaney.

On Thursday the 19th we left for Belsen. A very nice drive up. Did a rapid survey. Found Dr. Layton conducting a mastoid clinic for Belgian students! There were 162 patients in the large room in the Round House. Nursing very poor. We have visited three times since. Dr. Layton muddles things with the military. Miss Doherty is not much better. Worried too much about the small details. Got from herthe number of nurses she wanted, and started to send out signals for thwm. Have managed to secure 14 for her but they are certainly slow in coming forward. Also the American Zone opened up and all the nurses seemed to go there from Granville. When we were there last Sun. we went through the Hospital. The military have been doing a little bit of re-organization at the last moment before they hand over to us. there has been no segregation of patients, T.B.'s mixed in with all the rest, The Q.A. have not done a very good job. Have shown no interest. The work is done by 117 German and Latvian nurses who sleep in a large attic room over one wing of the hospital. The are really prisoners but conditions are terrible for their living. If a little more consideration is shown to them I am sure they will respond and will carry on the nursing job with very little supervision from us. Miss D. says she wants 20 nurses but I think she will find she can manage with 11 or 12 at the most. That is for tthe hospital When our activities expand we will have to have more staff. There are reported to be 500 pregnant women and girls in the camp of 14,000 people. It is hard to know whether this is an under or over-statement. I went through the maternity hospital which was reported as being very deplorable. It was not nearly as bad as I expected and in this Miss Stenhouse agreed with me. The trouble is people expect modern standards. True the babies were in the same room with their mothers, were wrapped in much too many clothes, but tose are the customs of the people. Also the Roumanian woman Dr. took the babies in her arms and loved them, but perhaps that is not as bad as we think. Incidentally she is said to run a huge abortionist business. She was forced to kill some 5,000 babies at A----? the terrible horror camp. After coming through such an experience one

could hardly expect her to be very normal. Dr. Wheatley arrived last Sat. just when Sir Raphael was most discouraged following his discovery of some of the things Dr. Layton had done. Five nurses also arrived on Sun. so we came away feeling much more cheerful. Had a lovely trip back. -- On our return from our first trip to Belsen we were escorted by Major Davis of the Rockefeller Found. Typhus Commission. He took us to call on a lady friend of his who had been a typhus patient in Belsen. She was supposed to be a Hungarian Dr. Was also a journalist. Had Major Davis completely fooled. Just the other day she wrote a letter to Sir Raphael asking for a job with UNRRA. On the way home we got stuck in the mud in one of the diversions off the Autobahn. ~~Sir~~ Had to be pulled out by the jeep. Sir Raphael told the story several times in the mess and was called over the coals for being out with me unarmed! He had since obtained a revolver. The next day Major Davis took me to tea at the Major's mess. Always intended to return but never had the time.

On Saturday the 21st of July we made our first visit to Iserlohn to contact 30 Corps. Met Major Harvey of the military. Miss Thorne and Dr. Harper-Nelsen were not in so just met Major Cowley at UNRRA H.Q. They occupy a lovel big house on a hill. The owner of the house cooks for them and they are certainly well looked after, That afternoon we went on to Essen to see Dr. Bowdler who had deserted his team and whom Sir Raphael was prepared to fire. Did not find him, left a note. No further action yet taken. Essen was pulverized and a sad sight to behold. It is reported that two thirds of the normal peace time pop. live in the city. 90% of the buildings must be down. The same story all through the Ruhr Valley which is very beautiful. I drove the car the last 85 miles along the Autobahn and got a great thrill out of it. Since then I have been driving the Austin a lot. Anyone who cannot drive is certinly at a disadvantage.

On Sun the 21st went to Steinhude with Miss Pearse and Sir Raphael and ate our supper on the car on a hill over looking the lake. Looks like an artificial lake and not very beautiful.

All the time there were discussions and negotiations going on re lack of accommodation for UNRRA and trying to find some place. Col. MacPherson a fussy old grand father. Finally after many attempts Sir Raphael took it into his hands and we moved to Spenge. More about that later.

On the 23rd. Col Perry wanted a car to go to Lubecka and Sir Raphael and I went along. Met Mr. Boucher and Mr. Wolfe-Murray of the Allied Control Commission . Both very nice. Hope we have close working relationships with them. That afternoon also I got a truck and went to the furniture

dump at one of the Kurhause's to get more furniture for #16/ Furniture stacked high and much of it damaged through rough handling. Have since seen the military take over houses and just through out of the window furniture and paintings they did not want. The other day they took over the house of a German scientisttand through out v vast wuantities of laboratory equipment. Rescued a lot of it for Belsen.

On Tuesday the 24th we left for 30 Corps and Nienburg. I drove as the drivers had to get the station wagon repaired and were supposed to help with the furniture. Met Major Cleminson who has great plans for the hospitals. Has Dr. Glaubeck andAmerican UNRRA doctor attached to hime inspecting the hospitals. The military seem to go ahead with plans regardless of UNRRA but that is all changing no Sir Raphael has obtained their confidence and soon the D.P. program will be handed over to us. We really called their bluff. They did not think we could do it. Dr. James was there.Very ineffectual. Has returned to England. Ate our rations beside the road--think the spot I choose was near a cemetry. Sir Raphael seems to enjoy these picnic lunches and suppers. He is a marvellous diplomat, I am sure no one else here could handle the situation as he is doing.

On the 26th we returned to Iserlohn taking Dr. Lesley Bidstrup with us. My first impression of Miss Thorne was not too favorable. She knew I was coming and yet she did not present herself until we had had dinner and were going back to the car to go down to the Dr's for the night. However she seems very nice and has done a reasonably good job. She is not strong enough to move to another Corps to organize itand it would seem that the best contribution she can make is to remain in 1st Corps.

On the way to Iserlohn saw bands of German refugees working their way westwards. They travel in all sorts of vehicles, on foot, by bicycle, and even wheel their luggage by wheel-barrow. It is said they are attempting to break through the Russian lines over a 300 mile stretch. Many are being shot. See train loads of Russian D.P's with theRed Flag. When these poor wretches go back, those who went to Germany voluntary or have no prove that they went otherwise are shot on the spot. The rest are stripped and given work clothes and sent to Siberia. One does not know how much truth there is in this but there must be some. They say that 80% of the Poles want to return to Poland. These are mostly the illiterate peasant class. Certainly the majority of the intellectual class do not want to return.

At Iserlohn I attended a conference of the social welfare workers. It was quite interesting. Suggested to Miss T.

that she get some organized but have not heard of any. On Sunday the 29th we went again to Belsen. That was the trip that made us very discouraged. Were told that all the German drs and nurses were being taken away from us. Got them back again, with 29 in addition.

On the 30th we went to Iserlohn and the next day, Tuesday went on to Frankfurt. It was a beautiful drive through t the Hartz Mts. Beautiful old houses. Felt very much like home but missed the blue lakes that would have appeared every once in a while in our country. We got billets in Frankfurt through the army. I had to go to a different hotel because I was not of Colonel's status but ate in the same mess as Sir Raphael. Frankfurt is a sad sight. It has been a beautiful old city with lovely buildings which were the seat of the German culture. The Americans did a lot of indiscriminate bombing and they have all been destroyed. It is interesting that the I.G.Farben buildings are intact! After our dinner which cost 3 marks, we went to see Cyril Pickard who is Rathigan's right hand man. Thought him a very conceited pup but on further contact with him here liked him better. He lost his only child, a little boy, in Cairo not very long ago and was very broken up about it. At night there was a lot of noise, typically American. In the morning I took a short walk along one of the streets which had been badly bombed. I finally had to ~~gi~~ turn back. I could not face the crowds of people coming up out of their cellars and going to work picking their way over the rubble.

The next morning we met Mr. Kettle. Sir Raphael accomplished his purpose and got full authority to go ahead with his plan. Asked Mr. Kettle for Miss Cross and he sent out for her. However she has not arrived yet. Had lunch with Marjorie Bradford. ~~Hs~~ Decided there would be no position at H.Q. in Frankfurt for me. With recent developments would not go under any consideration.

On Aug. 3rd went out to Red Cross H.Q. Met General Lindsay, Col. Agnew and Miss Hills-Young. Next day went to Belsen again taking Stephanie along with us. I drove.

On Aug. 6th Schlee was recalled to London and the same cable which was sent to Sir Raphael asked him to take over. He has been acting director ever since and has been doing a grand job. We have had staff meetings and all have helped to plan the organization. We were not sure until last night whether or not her would continue. A Brigadier Jackling was supposed to have been appointed to succeed General Goldney who was to take Schlee's place but re-nigged. Jackling and Air-Commodore Wharburton came last night. Jackling very bumptous. He apparently has been appointed as Chief of D.P. Operations for German and Sir

and Sir Raphael gets the job here. Wharburton is the representative of the war office and is very solid. He is seeing to it that UNRRA does not fail. Pickard said that Dr. Balfour-Kirk was coming to Frankfurt to be the M.O. These people said he had not arrived yet and intimated that there would be no such position.
On Aug. 7th we moved to Spenge. Did not enjoy evicting the Germans. On the whole they were very good sports and they are really very lucky that it is UNRRA and not the military who are taking over. The pastor who speaks perfect English and was educated at Princeton, was very helpful. Moved into two more houses last Monday. Now if Sir Raphael is to be Director we will have to move back to 618. He insists that I move with him and certainly it will be a very nice house to live in. The Social Welfare got a peach of a house but rather spoiled the plans by taking in their secretary and drivers. They also have Alexis and Amelia.
Tuesday was my birthday. Got some lovely flowers. Had a most interesting drive to Bad Oyenhausen with Sir Raphael the day before, and havehad some interesting ones since. On Thurs night we took a short run in the evening and suddenly came on a beautiful scene--a church with a rainbow over it. I knew then that the interview with Jackling would come out in his favor.
The election results in England which were announced on the 26th of July were a surprise to everyone. Labor got in with a big majority. It was in the midst of the Potsdam conference and Churchill did not return to its finish.
Two atomic bombs were dropped on Japan and on Aug. 14 th she surrendered.
Made plans to-day to visit some teams in 30 Corps in order to choose some field supervisors but may not be able to carry them out.

15th December, 1945.

Since there has been no entry in this Diary since the middle of August, a summary of the happenings since then will have to be made. The latter part in August went out on first Field trip to visit three Assembly Centres in 30 Corps, accompanied by Dr. Robinson, District Medical Officer. We went first to Hamelin and stayed there the night with Team 13. The Director is Mr. Bailey from Canada, Dr. Hahn the M.O. and Miss Stephens, the Nurse. Dr. Hahn is a very accomplished pianist and entertained us that night. Miss Stephens is a British nurse and I had hoped that she would be good material for a position as Field Nursing Supervisor. I was not satisfied that this was so and did not mention anything to her about it. I have still not decided that she should have one of these positions, although because of the shortage of staff it may be necessary to so place her. The next day we visited some of the Hostels in connection with the Assembly Centre. I was very amazed and shocked to see how TB cases are cared for. It is apparently the custom in Germany to have separate hospitals for so-called "Open" and "Closed" cases. I could see no provision whatever for proper disposal of sputum. There were no paper handkerchiefs. In short, the technique was extremely poor. There was another Team in Hamelin which is under a French Director. This Camp consisted of 25,000 Poles living in a crowded condition. It was in a very filthy condition and the excuse given was that it had recently been evacuated by the Russians. We were not impressed by the efficiency of this UNRRA Team. I did not see the Nurse. I visited this team at a later date and each time I had a bit of a run in with the Director. A new nurse had gone there and was reported as very unsatisfactory and he objected very much to having her sent to Spenge when she came back from leave. We left Hamelin after lunch and proceeded to Adelheide. Miss Inglis is the Nurse pf Team 147 there. On approaching the quarters, it was very difficult to locate the UNRRA building since like so many other UNRRA Team HQ they had omitted to put out any sign. The Director of this Team had gone and it was in charge of the Belgian Welfare Worker. Mr. Rowe, who had been appointed as the DLO, live in Officers' quarters nearby. He had recently fractured his ribs and was continually referring to this fact. He impressed me as someone who would be extremely self-centred and very un-interested in doing a real job for UNRRA. There were 4,000 Poles in this Camp. Three weeks previously it had been occupied by 21,000 Russians. There was a small cemetryconsisting of 26 graves in the centre of the Camp. It was said that these were graves of Russians who died followijg a raid on the alcohol store. Our tour of the Camp showed very little evidence of supervision from the health point of view. There was a small hospital manned by Polich doctors and nurses and apparently the UNRRA nurse concentrated her activities there.

Our/

/Our next visit was to Munster near Solteau. The M.O. of this team was a Frenchman, Dr. Bianquis and the nurse, Miss Lazecko. She was rather unhappy in her team. The Camp population had been greatly reduced recently and she felt there was not sufficient work to do. The French doctor was not very energetic and I had the impression that the initiative in the whole program had been taken by the Nurse. Arranged for Miss Lazecko to be transferred elsewhere following her leave. Went on to Belsen that evening where we were joined by Sir Raphael. At that time the three nurses mentioned were the only English speaking nurses of 30 Corps nd I had hoped that they woul all be of the calibre for Supervisors. It turned out that none of them were. Miss Inglis was subsequently transferred to Belsen and has now resigned. Miss Lazecko, having returned from her leave, is now in Belsen and will be available for another hospital position should one develop.

At the end of August I visited several hospital around Melle with Mr. Jambourg, District Liaison Officer. The first was a small German civilian Hospital in Meelle with the UNRRA doctor and nurse and the UNRRA team making their HQ there. Patients are brought in to the clinic from the Camps each morning. Going through the Hospital, one was struck with the overcrowding which seemed to be quite the accepted thing. It was only aftera visit by Dr. Kirk sometime later that they were persuaded to take at least one of the six beds out of each of the small wards. At Bad Rothenfelde there was a large German Hospital of 400 beds. Dr. Mintek (U.S.P.H.S.) was stationed there and wanted an UNRRA nurse. It was pointed out to him that a nurse would have to go in the capcity of Supervisor over the German personnel. A short time later I was able to send Miss Gleason to thsi Hospital. She discovered many things which Dr. Mintek had not bothered about. The number of DP patients in this Hospital were never more than about 80 and consequently had not been defined to employ full time UNRRA personnel. Dr. Mintek was sent to the American Zone and sometime later Miss Gleason was appointed to the position as Field Nursing Supervisor.

Miss Lindsay, District Nursing Supervisor for 8 Corps arrived from London at the end of August, and proceeded with me to a trip to Belsen on September 2nd. From Belsen we went directly to Preetz HQ. 8 Corps. The following three days we visited Assembly Centres. The first was NeustadtThe Belgian doctor and nurse seemed to be doing a farily good job. They were in the process of converting two buildings into a Hospital and Health Centre. This semed to be in line with the idea in many of the Centres of building hospitals. It is now quite contrary to the UNRRA policy, but the fact is that many of these hospitals are operating with most incompetent staff;whether or not they will continue on more than a Sick Bay basis remains to be seen.

We/

/We then visited Haffkrug. It was wonderful to be in sight of the sea The nurse at this camp was not seen as she was reported to be ill. Conditions were highly unsatisfactory from her point of view. There was a Polish children's Hospital of 24 beds. The day we visited there were seven cases of bronch-pneumonia following measles and some cases were very ill. There were 138 Latvian orphans in this Camp and steps were on the way to have them sent to Switzerland. They were to move into the Deuschter Ring in Hamburg to be outfitted for this. It has since transpired that about 70 were sent in. The evacuation to Switzerland was stopped . The children had been leaving for Deuschter Ring in very poor condition and many of them because of lack of adequate clothing and footwear have not been outside for three weeks. Dr. Struthers and Dr. Townsend have both recommended that they return to Haffkrug where they should live in houses in small groups. Following our visit to Haffkrug we sent Miss Hubble to this Camp to get the nursing program organised. About two miles off shore there was a big hulk of an under-turned boat. This boat, loaded with Latvian DPs was accidentally struck by a bombing attack of the R.A.F. and over 1000 DPs lost their lives. Even up to that time bodies were being washed ashore daily.

On out way to Lubeck we called in at the RC.A.F. Rest Centre. We were each given a Coc the first that Miss Lindsay and our Irish driver had ever tasted. We visited Lubeck and st ayed at the Danzig Hotel. In the evening we went with Commander Lighthall and visited the hospital organised by Dr. Rienstra, a Dutch DP. He had plan for for supervising all the other hospitals in Lubeck which had DPs. He had an UNRRA nurse, a Dutch woman, whom I did not see but who was reported to be unsatisfactory. I decided to send Miss Lazecko to fill this position since the staff were Latvians and she was able to speak their language. However, it developed that a nurse was needed to be placed there before Miss Lazecko returned from her leave. A signal was received from London that Miss Norena Mackenzie had come from Italy and asked if we wante d her. I immediately sent for her and when she came I sent her to Lubeck. There was uncovered a very appalling situation. Doctor was, in fact, operating a brothel. The whole show was cleared and Miss Mackenzie with Dr. Langdon, F.S.M.O. were really organising a very good hospital and staff was drawn from the DP group. However, it was realised that this could not be more than a Sick Bay, It is hoped that this Hospital may be used to train Baltic Nursing aides. Miss Mackenzie is to come to Zone HQ to organise such a scheme.

The following morning we visited Churchill barracks were an Australian doctor was in charge. She was trying to start a children's hospital. Facilities for this were extremely inadequate. Apparently there was a children's hospital in Lubeck/

/Lubeck and we attempted to point out to her that she should make more use of it. She said the military would not allow it. Dr. Gilchrist seemed to take a very difficult attitude towards nursing, and had no idea what it meant to supervise. She wanted an UNRRA nurse but had no idea how an UNRRA nurse should be used. I tried to explain this to her and promised that a nurse would be sent. A week or so later Miss Watt went up. Because of Dr. Gilchrist's attitude and also because of the team leadership on the part of the team director, it was extremely difficult to do anything. It did seem that Miss Watt was falling in with this defeatist attitude. However, I am going to ask her to have a Field Nursing Supervisory position and I believe that when she is in this position she will be able to do a good job. On our way from Lubeck and Hamburg, we called in at Wentorf Barracks, where we saw Mr. Melin, the Director - Field Executive Officer. These Barracks contain 14,000 DPs. There was then no UNRRA team and although one was especially picked to go to Wentorf, and was sent to Hamburg ~~and~~ the Deputy Director in 8th Corps, Miss L. Glyn Hughes, deployed the people elsewhere. Miss Lindsay was able to rescue Miss Geiger only as she was about to step on the boat to go to Sylt. Miss Geiger has been at Geeshact since but i going to Wentorf as Field Supervisor. Stayed at the Atlantic Hotel in Hamburg; very luxuriant. Next morning was shown round the DeutchisRing. The man nursing activity seemed to be the establishment of a nursery. Nurse is young, ratherinefficient.. At Hamburg we were joined by Sir Raphael, Dr. Balfour Kirk and Col. Nevitt and the whole party proceeded to Preetz. On Thursday, September 7th proceeded to Schelswig where we took the 'plane to Copenhagen. My visit to Denmark was for the purpose of forwarding recruitment of Danish nurses and doctors. The following day I interviewed 15 nurses and selected seven. Following our visit to Copenhagen, London intervened. We made another visit at the end of the month for the same purpose. Miss Udell was there and together we interviewed and selected 7 nurses. Sir Raphael interviewed the doctors and we were later given permission to have all the Danish group for the British Zone. Our second trip from Spenge was to the Hague to recruit Dutch personnel. We remained overnight in the Hague and after lunch next day motored to Brussels. We reached Brussels about one hour late for dinner at Mr. Fishbone's. Took plane early next morning from Brussels to Copenhagen with one stop. It was a beautiful day and the country looked lovely from the air. I was very impressed with the large craters around all centres where there were factories or large rail yards. Copenhagen is rather an interesting city. The main streets are wide and open and very clean; it is a very quiet city even although there is a considerable amount of traffic. Bicycles are extremely numerous and the cyclists ride along with an extremely rhythmic motion. Copenhagen must be an extremely expensive place in which to live. We ate mostly at the Officers' Hotel, The Palace, but occas onaly went out for a meal. You cannot get a good lunch/

/lunch or dinner without spending at least one pound, of course that includes beer and schnaps. There are lots of things in the stores to buy but we ran out of kronins and it is not possible to exchange very many marks. We brought back with us a large quantity of tinned goods. We priced the smoked salmon and found it would cost the equivalent of $8 the pound. The Danes did not seem to have suffered particularly from the occupation. The Germans had taken most of their cars. On the road from Copenhagen we saw a very fine example of precision bombing. In a large building there were housed Danes in two floors with German Gestapo offices between. The R.A.F. bombed the building one night and by flying sideways delivered their bombs in the Gestapo offices, completely shattering them but did not injure the Danes in the floor above. One of the Danes housed there was the leader of the Danish underground, although this fact was unknown to the Germans. On our return trip there was an hour's wait for the boat, by the roadside. While we waited we lunched and Danish sandwiches were served. It was interesting to note that the cups were wrapped in wax paper. However, there were several other sanitary principles which might have been carried out and would have been more sensible than this.

Two lots of Danish nurses have already arrived in Spenge. We went up to meet the first group at Flensburg, staying there overnight. Just two days previous to this I had driven up to Lubeck and Preetz, leaving the car at Preetz. I joined Sir Raphael and Dr. Phillips there and late at night we drove in BBl we drove up to the Danish border. After having breakfast with the Danish group the next morning we went back to Preetz then on to Hamburg, where we had dinner with the Danish Consul and his wife. Dinner was an elaborate affair and we did not leave there until 4 p.m. At five we left Hamburg and I drove steadily and arrived in Spenge about 10 p.m. - over 300 miles in one day in the Austin! The Danish doctors and nurses stayed at Belsen over-night, then came on to Spenge. The doctors were outfitted from stores in Herford. The nurses went on to Haaren.

The second lot of Danish nurses have just arrived. There was a mix up in the transportation on their way to Haaren. Miss McCloskey and I went to Belsen to meet them, but instead of staying at Belsen Camp they arrived at Spenge and because we were rather crowded for accommodation and because they were not expected, they did not receive a very good welcome. However, they were sent off to Haaren the following day and remained for the training period. The Danes appear a very interesting group and should give us good service this winter. Two of this last group are being sent to a Voluntary Service team, one to a Salvation Army team in the Ruhr and the other to a Salvation Army team near Brunswick. This is the first assignment of its type and for these teams I picked two well qualified nurses.

In/

/In September I went to see Miss Brenton at the Blomberg Camp. I was afraid that she might want to return to Canada She had been very dissatisfied because a young French doctor had been assigned and she wanted to establish a large hospital. She is, however, settling in now. Blomberg Camp consists of a number of Baltics and is very interesting. The next week after my visit it was to be taken over by a military detachment and the UNRRA team there was to be moved to a Polish camp about 50 miles away. This latter camp was about 50 miles away. It does seem strange that the military takes over a well organised one and put UNRRA into the other type.

In September, Dr. Balfour Kirk, C.M.O. from Frankfurt, spent two weeks in the British Zone. However, he returned to Frankfurt after Dr. Phillips came to take the position as C.M.O. here. Visited Miss Heaney in Hanover twice. After my first visit she came the following week with two German nurses and we went to Bad Rothenfeld. Miss Heaney feels that we should give much more responsibility to the German nurses.

After a great deal of batting back and forth Miss Cross and Miss Lagerstron finally arrived in the British Zone. They were requested in August 1st and did not arrive here until the 15th of October. For the last three weeks they had been sitting waiting for transport in Salzburg. The battle for them had flared into one of administration policy betewwen the American and British Zones. It is most unfortunate that it should have to happen. These nurses are extremely fine girls so will not be influenced by it and will do a splendid piece ofwork. Since going to Wunstorf, Miss Cross has had an extremely difficult time. About three weeks before her arrival I had sent out Miss Rankine, Miss Pearl and Miss Harnett to do a survey on the nursing situation. Miss Cross then had little information to go on. The girls did a splendid job under very great difficulties, the greatest being that on transport. The Deputy Director in 30 Corps is particularly prejudiced against the nurses and he did not want the Team Directors and liaison officers to give them any assistance. Miss Cross visited personally all liaison officers and had to break down their prejudices. It was an extremely difficult job and although she accomplished her purpose there still remained a certain amount of feeling against the nurses. She is not obtaining the co-operation she should from the DMO. However, it seems that there will be anumber of changes in personnel in 30 Corps HQ. I believe that before long things will be easier for her.

Miss L. Johnson arrived in London. She and Miss Udell plan to come to Germany before seeing other countries. However, it seems that a crisis arose in Italy and and it was necessary for them to go there first. A letter from Frankfurt stated that Miss Donaldson would be visiting Germany and that one of her purposes would be recruitment of available nurses for China. This/

/This will not be allowed in this Zone. Miss Johnson and Miss Udell are expected here some time after Christmas. Miss Tyler has been appointed Chief Nurse in the American Zone and Miss Grant Glass has gone to Austria. A few days ago a signal was received requesting myself and Stephanie to go to Poland. Since I was not available London was so notified and substituted Noreena MacKenzie. However, Noreena has refused also. Stephanie will be coming from Belsen on Sunday to go to London.

From the 7th to 10th November we had the Services Conferences in Spenge and it did seem to be enjoyed by all those who attended.

Life in Spenge continues to be interesting. We have taken over more and more houses and buildings. The German population seem to have accepted it very well. Reports indicate that the outlook for the German winter will be very poor. Their basic calory ration is only 1000. The situation in Berlin and the Ruhr is very bad. It is expected that 4½ million German refugees will be coming to the British Zone this winter.

21st November, 1945.

One day last week Col. Juracz was in for lunch and I had a discussion with him afterwards. He is Polish and has been director of the Paderiswki Medical School since 1940. Before leaving Poland he had been successful in building a very fine school for nurses at Polsan and he is extremely interested in the nursing education. It is possible that he will be bringing his unit of doctors to this Zone to establish the hospital in the Fallingbostel area. If he does this, his hospital will make an ideal place for the course for nursing aides and he will make an excellent person through whom recognition for the instruction they receive here will be secured. At the moment, the only thing which is holding up the arrival of this Unit is the question of the appointment of medical staff. Juracz is probably on the blacklist for Poland but I think he probably wants to return. He escaped from Poland through Hangary and went to France where he became President of the Polish Red Cross. He received his medical education in Germany at Frankfurt. When I had finished talking with him I was quite convinced that the best way to help the Poles was to carry on with this work here.

Daily we hear stories of Russian atrocities on the Russian Frontier. Not long ago 2000 German refugges were moving to cross the border at Gottingen. They arrived the after sunset and could not cross the border that night. Soon all of the 2000 were sleeping outside, including the aged people and infants. Eight were dead in the morning. The/

/The German men, who were separated from the women, just before dawn came out of the woods to see how their women folks were getting on and the Russians shot several of them. They also raped two German girls - all just in front of our troops who were only 100 yards distant.

On our way to Hamburg on 17th instant we called at Belsen to speak to Stephanie about going to Poland. Much to my surprise she had not definitely decided. This is typical of Stephanie's inability to make decisions. Sir Raphael gave her three choices - one, togo to London and on to Poland, the other to go to London on a return movement order to find out what the situation was and the third to stay here. Although I had arranged with her to go on Sunday with Miss Bartsch and Miss Inglis, who are leaving, she decided to wait until Monday and we would call again on our way back. However, when we returned Stephanie had gone and left Spenge for London yesterday, in all probability she will go on to Poland. There will need to be someone who is very strong to along with her. Last week I sent her off on a trip for the purpose of discovering Polish nurses who might be in Camps in the Polish Division area. I was not able to discuss the report with her or to see it before she left and I was very disappointed in it. On Saturday, a party consisting of Sir Raphael, Mr. Price and myself and the driver went to Hamburg, leaving Spenge shortly after 7 a.m. After calling at Belsen, we arrived at Hamburg for lunch and met Brig. Darwell. While the others members were seeing the Military, I went out to Geestacht to see Miss Geiger, having previously arranged with Miss Lindsay to call on the District Nursing Supervisors at Preetz. Unfortunately Miss Geiger was not in and I left a message for her. Had dinner at the Atlantic where we found Mr. Piriet and Mr. Milln who told me Miss Geiger was going to Wunstorf the next day and that he would do his best to see that she got to Preetz. While we were having dinner, the police raided the restuarant and excluded a number of people who were not legitimately allowed there, including some UNRRA personnel. The following day it was announced that the Atlantic was closed to all transit people and it is being made into an Officers' Club. No doubt the actions of the UNRRA personnel have had something to do with it. We had been previously warned about it. Mr. Milln had his car stolen in the evening and was forced to stay in Hamburg all night. We proceeded early the next morning to Lubeck to meet W/Comm. Lighthall. As we were somewhat before schedule, we drove round the city, which is a charming old place. We saw the Cathedral and site where a bomb fell there causing destruction to a part of the cathedral. Because of this, the Germans said they would take retribution and Coventry was bombed. After a cup of coffee with W/Com. Lighthall I took the car to see Miss Watt in team 100. For some reason, Miss Lindsay has not yet placed her Field Supervisors. This is extremely bad. Miss Watt is still very dissatisfied. It is quite evident that there is conflict between her and the

doctor/

/doctor, and I think most of the fault lies with the doctor. This seems to be recognised by Dr. Townshead who plans to remove or terminate him. The Danish Nurse, Miss Karlsen, is not too happy. She insists that she cannot speak English but all the time speaks it fluently. I arranged to send another Danish nurse when Miss Watt left. I then went out to see Noreena and arrange with her to come down this weekend. After lunch at Commander Lighthall's we went to the teams of the area. I saw Miss , Belgian Nurse and Miss Chritesen, Danish Nurse. I would judge that Miss talks rather more than she acts. She is a very attractive blonde and I understand has been quite successful in securing transport for the team. There would no doubt be quite a disturbance if we tried to move her. Saw Miss Collins only briefly. Sir Raphael found out that some of the nurses are doing welfare work as they are short of welfare workers. I felt it was out own fault as we did not have our Supervisors placed. Howe ver, Dr. Struthers reports show that in every team the nursing, medica and welfare workers are not co-operating well. Perhaps there would be an opportunity here with an excess number of nurses to bring about co-operation as I do feel the nurse should not be engaged to go and deal out clothing, Red Cross supplies, etc. which is a very definite part of the Welfare workers' duties, and when welfare duties are taken over by the nurses, these seem to the ones allotted to them. Commander Lighthall apparently thinks also that he has too many nurses although he did not tell me this at any time.

We visited a very fine Estonian exhibition. It would equal any exhibition I have ever seen and makes the feeble effort of Belsen look very sick. It is strange that the latter can command such publicity while the very fine Estonian exhibition will probably go by unnoticed. Sir Raphael was presented with a portfolio of photographs and a very fine wooden box. In the evening we went to a very special concert. There were two sopranos, a tenor, pianist, female quartette and a violonist. One of the sopranos and violonist were Estonian. Following the concert we were invited to have a cup of coffee which turned out to be a very elaborate supper. It is hoped that some arrangements may be made whereby these artistes may go on tour and also broadcast. We went on to Preetz, arriving there about 11 p.m.

The following morning Miss Gieger, Miss Watt and Miss Hubble looked in. Unfortunately, Sir Raphael's plans had to be changed and we left earlier so I had only an hour with them. I asked Miss Lindsay to have them placed in their supervisory positions by Wednesday.

District Director had apparently discussed Miss Lindsay with Sir Raphael. He is not satisfied with her work. I believe/

/believe only a certain percentage of this and it is regretted since he has been prejudiced against her. From Preetz we proceeded to Belsen, where we arrived about 6.15 p.m. Next morning we returned to Spenge.

Nine Dutch nurses were here when I arrived. They are being deployed to 30 Corps. Some of them are fairly well experienced. They seem very keen and perhaps they will fit into the picture very well. Miss has done a better job in her recruitment than she did with the Belgian group. I talked to them and mentioned the fact that 4½ million German refugees were coming to the British Zone. They apparently had the idea that they would be looking after the people and a delegation of two came to the house in the evening to say that if this was so they would return to Holland. The Danish nurses were of the same attitude. However, it is understandable that they would not want to be in a Camp looking after German refugees.

We had our first fall of snow on 12th November and frost on several nights. Further north it is much milder and coming down yesterday from Belsen there was hoar frost on the trees.

Everywhere in Germany they are cutting the trees along the roadsides - as has happened in our street in Spenge. In other places the trees are marked; it is a great shame.

The first meeting of the Nursing Advisory Committee will be next Tuesday. Have had a reply from Miss Lawson stating that she will not be able to be present but will be glad to become a member.

26th November.

On Friday went to Iserlohn and picked up Miss Thorne and went on to Cologne. The purpose of my visit was to see Miss Jones in action as F.N.S. Miss Jones has not a very good supervisory manner and it may be necessary to replace her. However, she will be given a fair trial. We stayed on Friday night with the team at Dusseldorf. There were many nationalities in this team and it was without a director. Certainly no one was there who had the proper approach of a host. Cologne is a most depressing city. Our approach to it was in the midst of a long American convoy. One of the trucks, driven by a GI, actually forced us on to the side walk. There was a long line up for the bridge, and as we approached it we saw two large bridges as twisted masses in the river. This was the site of the famous Cathedral, which was apparently standing intact. It was blackened with somke but otherwise appeared very beatiful. On examining it more closely, however, considerable damage was noted. It had suffered/

/suffered from blast and this was an extremely good example of pin-point bombing since it is very near the river and the buildings around have been destroyed. There was more activity in Cologne amongst the German population than in Hamburg. They have cleared the buildings fairly well and are clearing even more extensively. It is said that there are still 400,000 living in Cologne; the majority must live in cellars. Driving on the outskirts of Cologne we passed what was apparently a slum section. It was of the dirtiest and most slummy places I have seen in Germany.

Sunday, November 25th.

Went for a ride with Sir Raphael and Mr. Oranowski to find Ostenwalde . At the entrance gates we were stopped by the guard. Through rather terrible roads we drove over the hill and up to an old church which was built in 1845 and which has been used by the Germans as an observation tower. We climbed to the top of this and could see over the entire countryside. It would be well worth a visit in Spring or Summer.

Tuesday, November 27th.

Quite a big day for UNRRA in the British Zone. At 11.15 a.m. the Agreement was signed by Field Marshal Montgomery and General Morgan. Although negotiations had been going on much longer in the American Zone the Agreement there has not been signed yet. It only remains for UNRRA to take up from the Military. Took my fisrt German lesson today from a German girl who is a t eacher but now is out of work and must remain at home to look after her Mother who is ill. She put up a sad story, probably half true, and probably partly untrue , to get more from me. She stated her mother had a relapse. She had travelled all through the countryside on bicycle to get medicines; she also said England had "everything." She wanted some coffee beans and considered the price too high for 400 marks, per pound. The question of payment for her services was raised. I am told that my offer of five marks per lesson is quite out of range s nce most of them are working all day for four marks. The girl said she would rather have payment in kind than marks and seemed to be content with ten cigarettes for each lesson. I am also told that this is too much since ten cigarettes are equal in value to 15 marks. However, since the girl smokes them herself I feel justified.

Wednesday, November 28th,

Went to Vlotho with Norena. It is a very difficult business to pin Miss Hills-Young down to a subject. Mary Griffins here from London; she, apparently, is responsible for the extremely low-grading of nurses.