

Kai Tiaki: the journal of the nurses of New Zealand. 1 October 1916
(Papers Past) [17/04/2017]

Letters from our Nurses Abroad

We publish some extracts from our correspondence with the nurses who are working away trying to do all they can for our wounded soldiers, as we know how interesting all such news is to our readers who have to stay at home. We thank all our correspondents and if we cannot answer all their letters, then beg to believe they are very much appreciated.

Sister Ingram writes an interesting account of the No. 1 New Zealand Stationary Hospital, which is now in France. It is stationed at Amiens. "There are two places one a school, the Lycee, where Sister Mitchell is the Senior Sister. Sister Willis is Theatre Sister at our place, which is half of a Convent. Sister Price is Matron; Sister McBeth has a large surgical ward, and I have two officers' wards, with Sister Blackie and Porteous, and can take 49 patients. The work here is very interesting. We get the very bad cases off the barges, who are too ill to go on, or else the cases who will be fit to return to duty in a fortnight. Some bad gas gangrene cases smell most fearfully; but so far we have managed to save all the limbs. This is a very nice unit to work for, and we have numerous visitors to see over the hospital as we are the only British hospital in this town, and already we have had five generals in the fortnight I have been here. We are only 15 miles from the trenches of July 1st, and at night one can hear the bombing very plainly. It is very interesting to see the hospital barges come down the river. Oh! I must tell you that this morning Sister Reece, Q.A.R., of Wellington, and Sister of Miss Reece who was Matron at Blenheim, called on us. She is on barge duty, and the barge had stopped here for a few hours. She likes barge duty immensely.

Rules are very strict, and the Sisters are not allowed outside the town area; but when first they arrived they had got out to see some of the old fighting trenches.

Sister Lowe is also with this unit.

Sisters Wilson, Stokes, and Nicoll went to Bombay on the Hospital Ship "Delta." Sister Wilson unfortunately was ill and had to be sent to hospital at Suez. Sister Holmwood was at the Citadel. Sister Murray writes from Nazrieh Hospital, Cairo. Although eager to get away from Egypt, she was very glad to have been there in August, to look after the New Zealand officers that were wounded, they had 13, and three died.

Sun. 21 May 1917 (Papers Past) [02/04/2016]

TAI TAPU

In the Town Hall on Friday evening a hearty "welcome home" was tendered to Nursing Sister Lowe, daughter of Mr and Mrs A. E. Lowe, of this district. Captain Macartney (chairman of the Patriotic Committee) presided. Col. the Hon. R. H. Rhodes, in presenting Sister Lowe with a pair of silver vases, asked her to accept them as a small token of esteem from the residents of the district. He paid high tribute to the noble band of nurses who were doing their duty. Out of 500 applications, 405 nurses left the Dominion, including 12 who went with the Australian Forces, 12 enrolled in England, 11 died; 31 were invalided back, of whom 13 returned. Sister Lowe was one of those selected by the New Zealand Government for service abroad, and after spending a considerable time in Egypt she was sent to France. It was from there she was invalided home. Captain Macartney, Messrs Forbes, Penlington, and C. H. E. Graham also spoke. Mr Lowe responded on his daughter's behalf.

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A musical programme was contributed by the following:—Misses Yarr, Read, Barrett, Suckling, Mr Kingston, and Masters Andrews and Suckling. Supper was provided by the ladies, after which a short dance followed, when Mr J. Heinzmann provided the music and Mr C. Wallace acted as M.C.

Star. 22 May 1917 (Papers Past) [02/04/2016]

TAI TAPU.

After doing duty ever since the original fifty nurses were sent from New Zealand, about two years ago, Nurse M. C. Lowe, who has been invalided home, was entertained by the residents of Tai Tapu on Friday evening at the Public Hall, which was filled to the doors. Captain Macartney presided and was supported by Colonel Rhodes. Vocal items were given, interspersed with speeches by Messrs R. A. Forbes, B. Penlington and C. H. Graham. Colonel Rhodes then presented the guest with a pair of silver vases from the residents. In the course of a short address, Colonel Rhodes stated that 500 New Zealand nurses had responded to the first call for 50. Up to date 405 had left the Dominion, including twelve with the Australian forces, twelve had enrolled in England, eleven had paid the supreme sacrifice, thirty-one had been invalided home, of whom thirteen had returned to duty. Nurse Lowe's only two brothers had answered the call early. Private E. Lowe enlisted with the Canadians, and was killed in action. Private G. Lowe left New Zealand with the Main Body, and is in France. Mr A. E. Lowe suitably responded.

Press. 22 May 1917 (Papers Past) [17/10/2019]

TAI TAPU.

A large number of residents and friends gathered at the Hall on Friday evening to welcome home Nurse M. C. Lowe, who has been invalided back from the front. Nurse Lowe was one of the original fifty nurses sent from New Zealand at the invitation of the Imperial Government, and returned to the Dominion once since on duty in a hospital ship, going back almost immediately. Since then she has been doing duty in the North of France. A varied programme was contributed by Misses Suckling, Read, Perrett, Yarr, Mr Kingston, Masters F. Andrews and K. Suckling. Speeches in appreciation of women's work in connexion with the war were delivered by the chairman (Captain Macartney), Messrs R. A. Forbes, C. H. Graham, and B. Penlington, after which Colonel the Hon. R. Heaton Rhodes, M.P., on behalf of the residents, presented the guest with a pair of silver vases, and, in the course of his remarks, said that 300 New Zealand nurses responded to the first call for 50. Up to date 405 had left, including 12 who had enrolled in Australia and 12 in England. Eleven have made the supreme sacrifice, and 41 had been invalided, of whom 13 had returned to the Dominion. Mr A. E. Lowe responded briefly on behalf of his daughter, whose only two brothers have answered the call. Private E. Lowe was killed in action while serving with the Canadians, and Private G. Lowe left New Zealand with the Main Body, and is still on duty in France.