

One occupant of the boat—an Indian—began to give way to his feelings, and he was promptly silenced by a peremptory order from one woman to "Stop that noise." The splendour of the panorama of sky and sea will, we are told, remain with those who witnessed it as a thing of unforgettable beauty—magnificent cloud effects and the vast, unending expanse of billowing, heaving water. This was indeed "*l'immensité*" with the sense of the Omnipresent in it, for, we were told, it was as though, all through the night the boat and its occupants were encircled by unseen hands, as though, indeed, said the narrator, they were sheltered in a little space walled in by the Spirit. "Here, indeed, was a great lesson in faith, and for those whose faith was weak how it must have been strengthened." Mrs. Edgecombe told us that, all through the experiences of the night, she never knew what fear meant and neither, judging from their behaviour, did any of the others; all was forgotten in the grandeur and splendour of Nature and in the consciousness of a protecting Providence.

At last the lights of the rescuing ships appeared, greeted by fervent "Thank Gods" and cheers from the occupants of the boat. Later the boat got alongside the Norwegian tanker, and it seemed as though rescue were certain when suddenly a voice shouted, "We are going under the propeller." Then Mrs. Edgecombe described what she regards as the strangest happening of that eventful night. As the words were spoken, and as it seemed without an instant for consideration, the people with the three oars on the side of the boat, farthest from the vessel, by one accord lifted their oars across the boat and exactly into rhythm of the other two, so that all five oars met together simultaneously against the side of the tanker and those who held them were able, by pushing them against the sides of the vessel, to free the boat from the threatened danger; unluckily the next two boats to arrive were less fortunate. The narrator said that it was as though the whole thing happened through the action of some wisdom from outside acting unitedly upon the wills of those who held the oars.

Never, Mrs. Edgecombe told us, will these shipwrecked people forget the welcome of Glasgow and the kindness they received, from the labourers who came to them, with packets provided for their own lunch. The Lord Provost and Corporation of Glasgow had hot food and warm clothing sent at once. "Scotch hospitality, indeed, we felt it to be."

It was with difficulty that we succeeded in persuading Mrs. Edgecombe to tell us of what she did personally in the work of rescue. On this she was reticent, and it was only through a chance question as to how she fared, as a result of her experiences, that she remarked, "Oh! I was quite well except that for some days my hands were swollen and torn after the work with the ropes and on the oars." We questioned her no further on these matters, but were able to gather that she had indeed played her part that night in the age-long tradition of the heroism of the seas. There must be many such tales, as there have been in the past and will be in the future, but this one seemed so intimate somehow, when told in our own drawing-room and by a member of the Association who had participated in it.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS.

We have been compelled, owing to existing conditions, to discontinue all our lectures and social fixtures. So very many members would not have leisure to attend them and probably it would be difficult also to find lecturers at the present time. It will always be a pleasure to us to meet members who can call at Headquarters from time to time, and we hope that they will do so.

ISABEL MACDONALD,
Secretary to the Corporation.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRONS.

County Hospital, Bedford.—Miss Barbara Shand, R.G.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Western Infirmary, Glasgow, and at the Royal Samaritan Hospital, Glasgow, where she was later Ward and Theatre Sister. Miss Shand has also been Home and Tutor Sister and Assistant Matron at the Bedford County Hospital, and Matron-Superintendent at the Bedfordshire Hospital Trained Nurses' Institute, Bedford.

Townley's Hospital, Farnworth, near Bolton.—Mrs. Hilda Bethell, S.R.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Rothwell Infirmary, Leeds, and at St James' Hospital, Leeds, where she was Staff Nurse and Ward Sister. Mrs. Bethell has also done Private Nursing; has been Assistant Home Sister and Sister Tutor at the North Middlesex Hospital, Edmonton; Sister Tutor for the West Riding County Council; and Deputy Matron at the Redhill County Hospital, Edgware.

Kent County Mental Hospital, Maidstone.—Miss B. J. Wall, S.R.N., R.M.N., has been appointed Matron. She was trained at the Kent County Mental Hospital and at King's College Hospital, London; and has held posts as Ward Sister, Night Sister, Sister Tutor, and Deputy Matron at the Kent County Mental Hospital.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

St. Olave's Hospital, Rotherhithe, London, S.E.—Miss Mary H. Lindsay, S.R.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the General Hospital, Barnsley, and has been Home Sister at the Hackney Hospital, London.

Ottershaw Isolation Hospital, Chertsey, Surr. y.—Miss O. I. High, S.R.N., R.F.N., has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Selly Oak Hospital, Birmingham; at the North Eastern Fever Hospital, London; and in Midwifery at the Cardiff Royal Infirmary. Miss High has been Ward Sister and Night Sister at the Ilford Isolation Hospital, and received her Housekeeping training at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Rochester.

Harrison Hospital, Dorchester.—Miss R. M. McGlinchy, S.R.N., R.M.N., S.C.M., has been appointed Junior Assistant Matron. She was trained at the Mayday Hospital, Thornton Heath, where she was later Ward Sister; and at Springfield Hospital, Upper Tooting, where she was later Admission Ward Sister.

LEGACIES FOR NURSES.

Mr. John I. Ingold, of Boston, Lincs. who left about £70,000 for the reduction of the National Debt, left £400 each to Nurses Dorothy Chapman and Theodora E. Dawson.

RESIGNATION OF SIR FREDERICK MENZIES.

Sir Frederick Menzies, K.B.E., LL.D. Edin., Medical Officer of Health for the County of London, has resigned his position on account of ill-health.

KING'S BIBLE MESSAGE.

A special pocket edition of the New Testament, with a message from the King inserted in every copy, is being issued by the British and Foreign Bible Society and the Scripture Gift Mission for the use of all serving in the fighting forces and the civil defence service. The King's message is:

"To all serving in my forces by sea, or land, or in the air, and indeed, to all my people engaged in the defence of the Realm, I commend the reading of this book. For centuries the Bible has been a wholesome and strengthening influence in our national life, and it behoves us in these momentous days to turn with renewed faith to this Divine source of comfort and inspiration."

THE INFECTIOUS HOSPITALS' MATRONS' ASSOCIATION.

Owing to the present war conditions, meetings in connection with the I.H.M.A. will be discontinued until further notice.

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