

in aid of a private reformatory for boys on the island of St. John, making music possible in the schools through an appropriation from the Juniors, supplying shoes for the Leper Asylum, etc.

These Lepers needed shoes and the funds had been exhausted. Consequently the Red Cross came to the assistance of the Health Department, with a suggestion that a kind of leather sandal with woven top, manufactured in Venezuela and commonly used in the islands that lie further south, might fill the need. These sandals called "alpagatas" and a kind of ropesoled shoe which is locally used for work in the fields, were bought by the Red Cross in quantities sufficient to meet the immediate needs of the patients, and with the understanding that if either variety prove satisfactory upon trial, the institution would find means to continue providing them for the patients. The cost of either sort of foot-covering is about one fourth the cost of leather shoes.

A special appropriation was made to the Collector of Customs in St. Thomas to be used for the aid of distressed American seamen in that port. With its excellent harbor and floating drydock St. Thomas forms a refuge for ships in distress, besides the many ships that call there for refuelling and re-victualing.

Others laid up for long periods while legal titles to the ships and cargoes are being settled. The United States Public Health Service provides medical care for the many men who are put ashore sick; but it is unable to care for them after release from hospital and before they can be shipped away on some vessel in need of men. It is here that the Red Cross steps in.

In St. Croix, a very large proportion of the membership is made up of the country people who work in the fields on the sugar estates and live in the Villages of one-room tenements, primitive in the extreme, which nestle humbly in the rear of the handsome "great houses" and the picturesque ruins of the old "muscovado process" mills, formerly operated by each estate, but now replaced by two or three modern "centrals" which serve the whole island. A series of visits has been planned by the staff to these villages on Sunday afternoons to meet the country membership and to explain the purposes of the Red Cross, and this is proving one of the most inspiring of the many interesting experiences that have befallen the field staff. Sometimes an unexpected helper is discovered. In one village, a member was found who seemed to have an unusually good knowledge of the general nature of the Red Cross undertakings.

Questioned about this, he led us into his cottage and showed one entire wall prepared with leaves from Division Bulletins. "I reads and I studies dese tracts", he said, "and den I tells the

rest of dem about de Red Cross.—*The Emancipator, September 17th.*

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Rome, Sept. 19th.—Italy's unknown soldier will be buried on the morning of October fourth at the altar of the fatherland, which has been erected near the monument to King Victor Emanuel. The burial will be preceded by a great procession and the King and Government officials will participate in the ceremony.

Miamia, Florida, Sept. 19th.—A wireless message from Submarine R-47, saying she was in distress at a point one hundred miles north-east of Nassau was received here today. The message had been sent broad cast.

London, Sept. 19th.—Mr. De Valera telegraphed to Mr. Lloyd George today in response to the Premier's last message, as follows: "We had no thought at any time of asking you to accept any conditions precedent to a conference. We would have thought it as unreasonable to expect you, as a preliminary to recognize the Irish republic, formally or informally, as that you should expect us, formally or informally, to surrender our national position. It is precisely because neither side accepts the position of the order that there is a dispute at all and that a conference is necessary to search for and discuss such adjustments as might compose it. A treaty of accommodation and association properly concluded between the peoples of these two islands and between Ireland and the group of states in the British commonwealth, would, we believe, end the dispute forever and enable the two nations to settle down in peace, each pursuing its own individual development, and contributing its own quota to civilization, by working together in free and friendly co-operation in affairs of common concern. To negotiate such a treaty, the respective representatives of the two nations must meet, but if you seek to impose preliminary conditions which we must regard as involving the surrender of our whole position, they cannot meet. Your last telegram makes it clear that misunderstandings are more likely to increase than to diminish, and that the cause of peace is more likely to be retarded, than advanced, by a continuance of the present correspondence. We request you therefore to state whether your letter of September seventh is intended to be a demand for surrender on our part, or an invitation to a conference, free on both sides and without prejudice should an agreement not be reached. If the latter we readily confirm our acceptance of the invitation, and our appointed delegates will meet your Government's representatives at any time in the immediate future that you may designate."

London, Sept. 19th.—The nature of the

message from Mr. De Valera necessitates a further exchange of telegrams unless some sort of ultimatum be forth coming. Many of the London papers have commented on the danger of the open diplomacy involved in this public exchange of messages, which they point out makes it exceedingly difficult for either to recede from the position adopted.

Havre, Sept 19th.—A cyclone struck the steamer "La Savoie" during the night of September fourteenth or fifteenth, causing considerable damage to the upper deck, wrecking the wireless antennae, carrying away lifeboats and injuring two sailors, the vessels officers reported today. The steamer which arrived here at noon today, was twelve hours overdue and was compelled to run before the wind for eighteen hours.

New York, Sept. 19th.—A cyclonic storm lasting more than six hours, with the wind blowing eight miles an hour, was encountered by the steamship "Baltic" in mid-Atlantic last Wednesday and she was compelled to slow down. Weather Bureau officials said the storm was the cyclonic disturbance which originated in the West Indies early in the month and had moved north easterly.

Gairloch, Scotland, Sept. 19th.—Mr. Lloyd George had consented to receive the Labourite Mayors of various London Boroughs to discuss with them the unemployment problem, but Lord Dawson, the Prime Minister's physician, last night sent a telegram to the Mayors, who are in Inverness, stating that Mr. Lloyd George regretted being unable to endure the fatigue their reception would have brought about, but knowing the extreme importance of the mission of the Mayors, he would promise to give them permission to interview the Premier at the earliest possible moment.

Belfast, Sept. 20th.—The Parliament of Northern Ireland opened its autumn session here today with a full attendance of members, except that neither the Nationalists nor the Sinn Feiners who hold a total of twelve seats, were present. The session was held in the building which was formerly the Belfast College of the Presbyterian Church. The main business of the day was a motion to approve the purchase of Stormont Castle as the site of the new parliament buildings, and a select committee was also named to consider the question of Cabinet Ministers.

Honolulu, Sept. 19th.—Mr. Massey, Premier of New Zealand, in a statement here declared that a tripartite agreement between the United States, Great Britain and Japan would be the best arrangement possible and he expressed the hope that it could be obtained at the forthcoming disarmament conference. He added that it was his belief such an agreement would settle the Pacific problem for some time at least and would be a great step towards lasting peace.