

NURSE TELLS STORIES OF RUSSIAN REFUGEES

Hardships of Waifs Terrible, Says Miss Robertson.

FEET BOUND WITH BARK

Petrograd Children Treated to First Christmas.

"Some of them were like little wild animals when they came to us," said Miss Grace K. Robertson, new member of the health service and home economics departments, in describing the Russian children who were cared for at the Petrograd children's colony at Russian Island, during the war. "They had torn bark from the trees, and this, with grass, they wrapped about their feet," she continued.

According to Miss Robertson, these Petrograd children were of the best blood of Russia. Although they were positively destitute from two years on the road, and had endured hardships many older people could not stand, they were still well-mannered little waifs.

The American Red Cross hospital with which Miss Robertson was connected was located on Russian Island, at the entrance of the bay of Golden Horn, eight miles from Vladivostok. A Russian boat made two trips to the island daily. It was because of this convenience that the Red Cross workers were sometimes able to enjoy the luxury of eating white bread. On the island only sour black bread was available. Barracks to accommodate the 1,000 children and patients were given to the Red Cross by the Russian government, but, as Miss Robertson expressed it "just as soon as we had cleaned one building and made it ready for use, they took it away and gave us another one to clean."

Americans Instruct Russians.

Real classes were held for the Russian sisters, so that they could carry on the work of the Americans, Miss Robertson explained. This was accomplished through interpreters. In appreciation of all this, some 40 or 50 of the women made a Russian costume and presented it to the American instructor. The children were taught by governesses from Petrograd.

Miss Robertson spent Christmas on the island and witnessed what was the first real Christmas to many of the children. They were allowed to decorate a tree with tinsel and colored papers, and each boy and girl received a present. The gifts were not supplied by the Red Cross, but were furnished by the doctors and nurses in the hospital. Miss Robertson explained this as due to the fact that all Red Cross funds were used for necessities only.

Siberia Not Always Cold.

"Most people believe that Siberia is a frozen, barren country," said Miss Robertson, "but early in spring we found orchids and lilies-of-the-valley, and in September some of the nurses went bathing in the ocean." However, in winter she experienced the sensations of walking the eight miles across the bay on ice. "In fact, one day I drove across in a machine," she remarked.

When the Red Cross gave up the hospital, they left it to the Russians fully equipped, so that the work might go on. Because they were unable to get through the Bolshevik lines, the Petrograd children were taken via the Panama canal in a chartered Japanese boat to New York, and from there will be taken to their homes.

Miss Robertson returned to the United States last April, after having spent almost a year overseas. She has just come to the Oregon campus and is quite enthusiastic over it. The friendly atmosphere has made her feel at home already, she says. She insists she has been divided into four parts, one at each of the following places: her desk in Dr. Bovard's office, the physical education department, the infirmary, and the home economics department.

Big Carnival To Be Friday Night

(Continued from Page 1)

off on the stage and in addition to these there will be side shows and typical county fair amusements scattered about the floor. Confetti, streamers, and the like will be furnished to the revelers.

No Dates: Little Dancing.

There are to be no dates for the carnival and so many attractions are being provided that dancing will be a minor feature of the program, if there is any at all. The committee promises to have something going every minute of the time. A stalwart police force is being organized under the direction of Don Newbury and they plan to keep the crowd on the move all the time.

An admission of twenty-five cents for

men and ten cents for women will be charged in order to defray the expenses of the Armory and of the eats which will be provided. Admission to spectators in the balcony will be ten cents.

EX-SERVICE MEN ORGANIZE.

The University of Washington has organized an Ex-Service Men's Club, and Larry H. Smith, present football center for the Sun Dodgers, is president-elect.

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