

GRADUALLY the accounts of the loss the "Tahiti" are filtering through, and in each episode the part played by wireless looms largely. A sinking ship out in the ocean, a heavy swell running, the nearest aid hundreds of miles away, and three hundred souls endangered—that was the plight of the "Tahiti," and she would probably have passed into the haven of lost ships were it not for her radio.

When the first calls from the stricken ship were sent out in the early hours of Saturday morning they were answered by reassuring messages from the vessels in the neighbouring waters. Courses were altered, and help forthcoming. Soon the worst was known. Messages telling of the plight of the "Tahiti" were flashed past the speeding rescue ships, picked up by intermediate stations, and passed on to all parts of the world.

The difficulties on the sinking ship were paramount. The engine room at daybreak on Saturday was beyond control, with water threatening to kill the dynamos. The wireless messages indicated that at any moment the ship might have to be abandoned. With the dynamos cut off, the radio operators, whose messages told the "Peny-

bryn" and the "Ventura" that the distance must be made in a few hours if calamity was to be avoided, were working under grave difficulties. Their main power supply was cut off, but with the auxiliary they were able to carry on. And yet, faced with this grave position, the cool operator asked early on Sunday morning for the latest Test score! This was the spirit of those whose least danger was that they might any hour have to take to the boats and face the untold perils of exposure.

2YA also was responsible for helping to keep up the spirits of the passengers and crew. A powerful radio receiver, used for the entertainment of passengers, was put to good service. Timed to 2YA Saturday night, the receiver

brought through the dance music, and those on board temporarily forgot their anxiety as they stepped to foxtrot and jazz.

MEANWHILE the Union Steam Ship Company in Wellington maintained communication with 2YA, and so the news went out. Each new development was speedily 'phoned, so that there was no loss of time in apprising

THE importance of wireless in this case has been recognised worldwide. A leading article in the "New York Times," headed "Saved by Wireless," says: "The case of the 'Tahiti' is worthy of honourable mention in the annals of the sea. The officers and men of the 'Tahiti' and the 'Ventura' behaved handsomely, the 'Tahiti's' by fine seamanship and good discipline, and the 'Ventura's' by the rescue in a heavy sea without loss of life. Captain Meyer won golden opinions from his employers. There are comfort and hope in wireless, since the captain and men fight harder to save a ship and passengers when they know another ship is on the way to the rescue."

THIS has been one of the most—might we call it spectacular?—rescues that has been known. It recalls the fate of other vessels that went down without radio. Of the "Titanic,"

## Radio Averts Disaster

### How Passengers and Crew of Tahiti were Saved

## Requiescat

A GOOD and a gallant ship  
Goes to her rest.

Morning, high noon, and set of sun  
Will know her not, since her work is done.  
And she goes—distressed.

A true and a trusted friend  
Sinks to her grave—  
Hither and thither she carried far,  
Greeting to those where the home ties are  
Across the dark wave.

A good and a gallant ship  
Sets sail no more,  
The seas she scoured and the lands she knew  
Will call in vain for a comrade true,  
In the love they bore.

She rode through War, and in peace  
Returned, unscarred,  
But Death at the last has worked his will—  
No more a-throb, she is silent, still,  
Where the sea-gods guard.

O! goodly and gallant ship  
One thought, like stone,  
Shall stand whenever the tale is told.  
You went to your death, majestic, bold,  
But you went alone.

—"John Storm."

those in anxious waiting. Throughout the week-end, and until it was announced that everyone was safe on board the "Ventura," someone remained at the offices of the company to answer the many 'phone calls. The "Tahiti" was the first topic in the afternoon and evening sessions at all stations. The importance of radio has been widely acknowledged, and every steamer making long trips carries a complete installation. An emergency such as that in the case of the

## RADIO DIRECTORY

### What to Buy and Where

#### CITIES

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>AERIAL MASTS</b> . . . . .   | <b>Domestic Radio Co., Ltd.,</b><br>300 Queen Street, Auckland.                                   |
| <b>ALTONA &amp; HAMMARLUND-ROBERTS SETS.</b>  | <b>Johns, Ltd.</b><br>Chancery Street, Auckland.  |
| <b>BROWNING DRAKE SPECIALISTS</b> . . . . .   | <b>F. J. W. Fear &amp; Co.</b><br>63 Willis Street, Wellington.                                   |
| <b>BURGESS RADIO BATTERIES,</b>   | <b>All Radio Dealers.</b>   |
| <b>KING RADIO RECEIVERS</b> . . .   | <b>F. J. W. Fear &amp; Co.,</b><br>63 Willis Street, Wellington.                                  |
| <b>LOFTIN-WHITE AMPLIFIERS</b>  | <b>Stewart Hardware Ltd.,</b><br>Courtenay Place, Wellington.                                     |
| <b>MAJESTIC RADIO RECEIVERS</b>   | <b>Kirkcaldie &amp; Stains,</b><br>Wellington Agents, Lambton Quay.                               |
| <b>MULLARD VALVES</b> . . . . .   | <b>All Radio Dealers.</b>   |
| <b>PILOT 1930 PARTS—PILOT SUPER WASP KITS, GILFILLAN, KELLOGG and ATWATER KENT SETS</b> . . . . . | <b>Harrington's, N.Z., Ltd.,</b><br>138-140 Queen St., Auckland.<br>40-42 Willis St., Wellington. |
| <b>RADIOLA RECEIVERS and Expert Radiola Service.</b>  | <b>Farmers' Trading Co., Ltd.,</b><br>Hobson Street, Auckland.                                    |
| <b>STEINITE RADIO</b> . . . . .   | <b>G. G. Macquarrie, Ltd.,</b><br>120 Willis St., Wellington.                                     |

#### COUNTRY TOWNS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>MAJESTIC, ATWATER-KENT AND RADIOLA ELECTRIC SETS</b> | <b>Radio House, Hamilton.</b><br>G. S. Anchor, Manager. |
| <b>PHILIPS VALVES AND APPARATUS</b>                     | <b>All Good Radio Dealers.</b>                          |

## What! not heard it yet?

THEN LISTEN TO THIS—FROM A RADIO DEALER!

"We wish to keep this Speaker in the Writer's Home to replace a Moving Coil Dynamic of a well-known make, with which we were well satisfied, prior to trying out the Farrand."

**L. M. SILVER & CO., LTD.**

30-32 TORY STREET, WELLINGTON.

New Zealand Agents for the—

**FARRAND INDUCTOR DYNAMIC SPEAKER**