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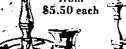
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By MARGARET MILLER Women's Editor

Women on the Go

S.S. Hope Wins Plymouth Secretary For Return Visit

A Plymouth medical secretary, home after a 10-month stay aboard the S.S. Hope, found the project so satisfying she's going back for a second voyage.

Edith Ann McKenna took leave from her job in the department of periodontics in the University of Michigan Dental School to sail to Jamaica early this year with the famed hospital ship. On board in the port of Kingston, she served as one of the regular staff members who aided volunteer doctors and dentists coming in shorter stints to conduct medical teaching programs.

NOW, HOME for a couple of weeks, she has decided that when the S.S. Hope sails again in January - this time for Natal, Brazil - "I'll be on it." Her duties as secretary to the chief of staff of the S.S. Hope took some getting used to, Miss McKenna admitted. "But about halfway through the voyage," she said, "I realized that this was a most worthwhile project and I was enjoying it." The hospital ship has been making 10-month trips each

year since 1960, stopping at ports in undeveloped countries and setting up clinics and training centers there. Supported by donations to the People-to-People Health Foundation, Inc., the S.S. Hope has a double goal - a widespread immunization program and the training of local medical and dental personnel so that the work can be continued after the ship sails away.

A LOT OF THE WORK is done aboard the ship as it docks in port, and teams also go into the villages to reach more people. Miss McKenna said a couple of trips into the hills of Jamaica with immunization teams were among the highlights of her 10 months. "In the villages there were no hospital facilities, of course," she said. "We'd just set up a table in front of the church, or in a store. We inoculated a fantastic number of children against diphtheria, polio and tetanus," she said. "In general the kids were good - very few of them cried. And it was funny - they never said

they were getting a shot. Always an injection." MISS MCKENNA's main responsibility on the S.S. Hope was a big board that kept track of the "rotating" medical and dental personnel - those who offered their services for two months at a time.

It was because of the recommendation of one of these dentists that she first was appointed to her staff position. "I guess I had heard of the S.S. Hope before, but I didn't really know much about it until he recommended that I go," she said. "I applied for the trip to Tunisia in 1970, but there wasn't enough time for me to get ready. So I waited until the Jamaica trip." S.S. Hope records showed that in Jamaica and the West Indies, staff doctors, nurses and paramedical personnel treated over 11,200 patients and conducted over 1,200 operations as well as immunizing more than 100,000 children.



EDITH MCKENNA (Observer photo by Bob Woodring)

children with emphasis on preventative care. THIS VOYAGE left behind Project Hope's most expansive land-based program. During the next five years the project will spend \$5 - million to implement a postgraduate medical program at the University of the West Indies.

Miss McKenna said she received a salary for her 10 months as well as room and board and plenty of chances to travel around the area. "The ship got pretty noisy," she said, "so I found I was spending a lot of my off-hours on land." She was ashore visiting an aunt when a summer hurricane forced the S.S. Hope out into the open sea, she said. "Everyone had been sort of looking forward to a hurricane for excitement," she remembered, "but afterwards

there were some mighty sick people on board." Feb. 2 is the next sailing date for S.S. Hope and Edith McKenna.

Auxiliary Will Meet Dec. 14

Mrs. George W. Stark will present a program on "How to Make Your Own Christmas Decorations" at a meeting of the Auxiliary to the Salvation Army Tuesday, Dec. 14, in the Eventide Residence, 2643 Park Ave., Detroit. The meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. There will be a board meeting at 11 a.m. Richard Page and Henry Ward of the parks and recreation department will show how to make the decorations. Mrs. Murray Mara is in charge of the traditional Christmas tea with which the program will close.

It's A Boy

Mr. and Mrs. John W. 16, Robert's grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. G.S. Partain and nounce the birth of their first Mr. and Mrs. Harry Weiss of child, Robert Stanley, on Nov. Baltimore, Md.

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