

THE RED CROSS LADY

Miss Sadie North and her bicycle long ago became a legend in the mountains of Western North Carolina. March is "Red Cross Month," and it is only fitting that we pay tribute to Miss Sadie for her missions of mercy.

In 1917, when the fathers and sons of Transylvania were marching off to war, there was an urgent need for trained medical personnel in the county. There was no hospital and some of the Doctors were called to military service. Because of her earlier desire to be a nurse, Miss Sadie volunteered her services to the local chapter of The American Red Cross. She was soon to become a familiar sight on the rugged roads and trails, trudging along with her ever present

first aid supplies. All during World War I she administered to the sick and aged while their "men folk" were fighting in France. She was ever welcome in the homes of the mountain people; and they gave her the name of "The Red Cross Lady," a name by which she has been remembered for 32 years.

After the war she had the desire to continue her training in first aid, so that she could be of greater service to families in remote areas. After studying many books and attending the Red Cross Aquatic School, she went back into the mountains to hold first-aid classes whenever she could get two or more people together. These classes were a hit from the start. Families eagerly await-



Miss Sadie North and her famous bicycle have been a familiar sight on the mountain trails of Transylvania County for many years. In the box, on the back of her bicycle, she has carried food, clothing, books and first aid supplies to many families in remote areas. Although 72 years old, she is still riding, and she can show the youngsters a thing or two about riding a bike.