

The only hope for her passengers seemed to be from vessels in her immediate vicinity.

At 12:27 a. m. a message was relayed to the shore:

"All women and children among passengers have been put in life boats; which are being held ready for lowering at moment's notice."

Three times the message was repeated, and then the wireless fell silent, and every attempt made by the stations on shore to get into communication with the sinking liner failed.

Then communication with the Virginian ceased, and those on shore could only wait helplessly.

It is known now that the reason the wireless failed was the atmospheric condition in the ice field in which the Titanic was lying helpless, but at the time it was feared that the great liner and her passengers and crew had sunk to the bottom of the sea.

At 8:30 this morning, a brief wireless saying that the Titanic was still afloat and proceeding under her own steam was picked up.

The White Star office in New York issued an official statement that it would be impossible for the Titanic to sink, no matter how badly she might have been injured.

Shortly after 9 o'clock, a message was received that the Carpathia, the Parisian and the Virginian were "standing by" the stricken ship, and that the Baltic was coming up fast.

Shortly afterwards came an-

other message saying that the transfer of the passengers had been begun.

The first boat loads were rowed to the Carpathia. The life-boats of the Titanic represent the last word in safety. They are wide, and non-sinkable. Each can hold 50 passengers. Only 35 were taken at a time today, however.

The work of transferring passengers at sea always is full of danger. It was less so today than usual. The wind had died down to nothing at all. The sea was comparatively quiet.

Many of the passengers carried their most valuable belongings with them. There was no attempt to move hand baggage. Nearly all the first class passengers of the great liner were financiers or society leaders. A conservative estimate of the value of jewelry and bonds carried among them is \$5,000,000.

There was a great deal of conflict between the wireless messages received this afternoon. One despatch to Montreal declared the Titanic had sunk.

The conflict of messages was due to interference with messages and because all wireless messages had to be relayed.

Just what is to be done with the passengers transferred from the Titanic has not been decided. They may be transferred at sea again, and put aboard the Baltic, and brought to New York. They may stay on the steamers they now are on, and these ships may be ordered to Halifax, where spe-