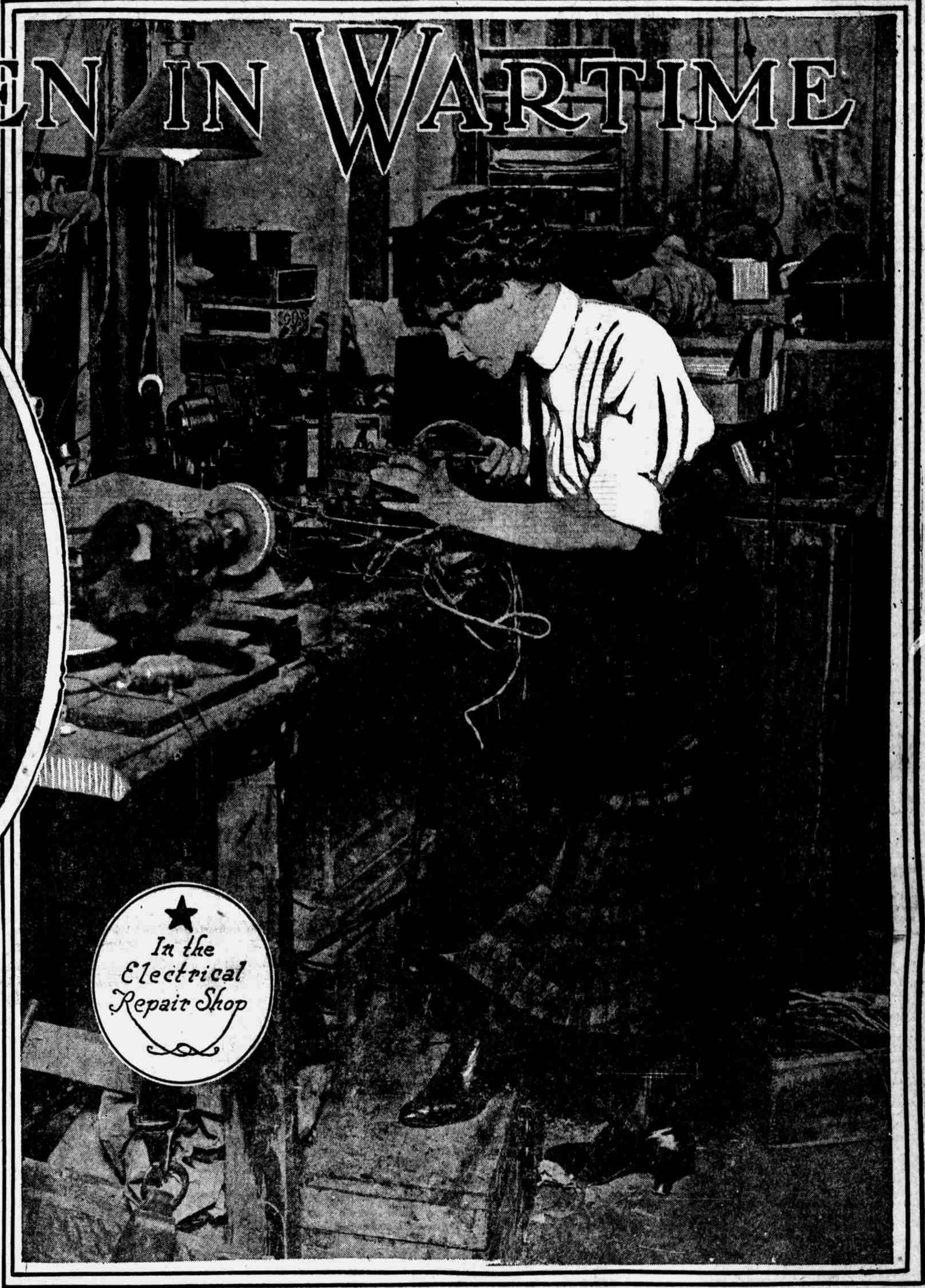


WOMEN IN WARTIME



Grace Jackson Heynemann



In the Electrical Repair Shop

Pretty Omaha Girl Learns Electrical Repairing to Relieve the Labor Shortage

THE face and figure of a movie actress, even to Mary Pickford curls, adorn the little woman who has turned to the useful work of repairing electrical apparatus that another man may be added to our country's fighting forces.

Grace Jackson Heynemann is the first Omaha woman to enter this field, having gone to work for the Wolfe Electric company some months ago. And she is making good. In spite of her womanly charm, she shows herself adaptable and competent in this new wartime occupation, according to her employer.

Mrs. Heynemann has a beautiful voice and has often been encouraged to study for the stage, but circumstances have prevented. She is charming, vivacious and undeniably pretty. She is an accomplished swimmer and very popular at the Carter Lake club.

All social pleasures she has now given up to help remedy the labor shortage. Even her beautifully manicured fingernails have been sacrificed to the grim war god. Only the nails on her two little fingers remain long and pink. "The one reminder that I was once a lady," she laughingly exclaimed.

A trim, mannish shirtwaist and a stiff collar, with a very plain skirt, protected by a work apron, constitute the costume she wears at her work. "When a woman does a man's work she should discard the frills of idleness and dress appropriately," is her dress creed. The little femininities are reserved for the leisure hours.

Splicing wires, oiling motors, cleaning machinery—these are the things on which she spends her days, with an occasional excursion in the selling end of the electrical game, when she demonstrates a washing machine, an electric fan or iron, or some other household convenience to a customer.

War has shown us many things, and one of them is that curls and dimples often conceal grim determination and real ability to do the useful work of the world.

Government Food Agent Writes Book on 'Lunches'

Omaha friends of Miss Nellie Wing Farnsworth, federal home demonstration agent, have received complimentary copies of her book, "The Rural School Lunch," embodying valuable information as to the health-giving properties of certain foods for children, with suitable recipes and other useful information regarding the planning and management of these school lunches.

A Prayer

Help me, O God, to keep before my eyes
The larger visions of this war; to be
Inspired each day by noble thoughts that rise
Of duty, honor, country and of Thee.
Help me to think of war as one vast whole
Of human effort struggling toward the right,
Ever advancing nearer to the goal
Of freedom, from the iron rule of might,
Lest I forget, and in my sorrow see
Only the face of him who goes from me.
—Written by a Soldier's Wife.

"Pie Day"

On August Twenty-eight
There'll be a fete.
Be sure the date don't o'erlook
And make a pie
For the boys who fly,
And the soldiers at Fort
Crook.

Your rolling pin wield
For the Florence Field,
And pies for all the boys make.
It will them remind
They're just the kind
"That mother used to make."

And the boys we see
Who're in the navy
Are on the list invited.
For all who will
Can have their fill;
No sailor or soldier will be
slighted.

May fate be kind
For this act of womankind.
In no hospital may they lie in
bed,
And no need of hearses
Or Red Cross Nurses,
Because they're been overfed.
—Mrs. J. M. Johnson, 123
North Thirty-third.

Why American Army Nurses Need Rank

Helen Hoy Greeley of the New York Bar, Attorney for the Women's Committee to Secure Rank for Nurses

IT IS hard to believe that although the army nurse corps has been an integral part of the United States army for 18 years, the status of its members has never been defined. It has never occurred to the army heads that there was any need of saying flesh, fowl or good red herring—officer, private or hired extra. That is, it never occurred to them until a group of New York women headed by Mrs. Harriet Stanton Blatch and Mrs. H. O. Hevemer organized the committee to secure rank for nurses and publicly insisted that nurses should have some definite status and military rank be given them.

Not only is the nurse frequently humiliated by the kind of treatment accorded her by her superiors and inferior alike, but the efficiency of the whole nursing service is impaired by the general uncertainty as to her position. Her authority to give orders is continually disputed by enlisted men serving as orderlies; friction and dangerous delays in the execution of orders result, affecting adversely the welfare of wounded patients; and the general morale of the whole hospital is lowered by the atmosphere of irritation, resentment and discouragement. The insignia of rank would give conclusive notice to all that nurses are officers and are to be obeyed.

Some of the army heads understand and agree, but unfortunately some at the very top are tightly bound with the painful beliefs that a military establishment should be exclusively masculine and that a woman lieutenant is unthinkable, however necessary.

In March, 1918, the women sought rank from congress. In May, after their hearing before the house military affairs committee, the war college, which is the advisory division of the War department, said: "Hold up your legislation—we think we can give you all you want through a regulation." The women stalled their bill and waited for the mountain to labor. The mouse it brought forth was not rank, but a place in the table of grades immediately below that of second lieutenant. The chief of staff, however, to whom this recommendation of the war college went for approval, thought this too much and reduced the nurse two grades, placing her just above the sergeants and just below the West Point cadets. Thus the mature woman of high professional training and experience, already on the firing line, who is bombed by the Huns on every moonlight night, but who faces the dangers of the front with the same disregard of personal safety as her brother in the trenches,

is graded below the school boy still studying in the military academy.

So the women's committee are renewing their demand on congress for relative rank. Their bill, senate bill No. 4,811, and house bill No. 12,698, has been introduced by Senator Lewis of Illinois and Representative Raker of California. It follows closely the Australian and Canadian systems and asks the relative rank of major for the nurse corps superintendent (1), of captain for the assistant superintendents, directors and assistant directors (9 or 12); of first lieutenant for chief nurses (as many as there are hospitals); and of second lieutenant for staff nurses. It further provides that they shall wear the regular insignia and that they shall have authority only in medical, sanitary and nursing matters in military hospitals, next after the medical officers of the army.

When congress resumes business sessions late in August after its vacation, there will be a hearing before Senators Hitchcock, Sheppard and Sutherland of the military affairs committee, who have been appointed a sub-committee to consider this bill. The house military affairs committee has already had the bill before it, but in the absence of definite instruction from the War department has shown no disposition to favor it. Every effort therefore must be made to secure favorable action by both of these important committees if congress is to pass the measure.

The doctors, the dentists, the veterinarians, the chiropodists, all have sought rank and all but the last have obtained it, not relative but absolute rank and all that goes with it. Why not the nurses? Australia, Canada, even England can accord their nurses the courtesies and dignity of officers. Why not America?

Call District Lieutenant for Salvage Work

Red Cross Organizes City into Districts to Facilitate Waste Collection

COMPLETE organization of the city to facilitate work of the Red Cross salvage department is announced by Mrs. Frank Adams, chairman. How important this department has become is evidenced by figures submitted for July. Receipts were \$1,508.30 of which \$1,079.19 accrued from salvage. The sum of \$1,000 was turned over to the Omaha Red Cross chapter, making a total of \$3,625 already turned into the chapter fund.

Business men and housewives who have salvage they would donate to the Red Cross are urged to telephone the lieutenants of their district as follows: Florence—Captain, Mrs. H. L. Helfrick; lieutenants, Mrs. F. E. Babbitt and Mrs. Emma Clark.

Miller Park, Fort to Weed, Florence boulevard to Thirty-sixth street—Captain, Mrs. Frank Russell; lieutenants, Mesdames Dean Gregg, M. O. Boydston, M. Nordquist, Charles Ziebarth, Peter Krogh, M. O. Headley, F. L. Johnson, J. J. Johnson, L. J. Dyhrberg.

Prairie Park, Fort to Ames, Twenty-fourth to Thirtieth—Captain, Mrs. B. G. King; lieutenants, Mesdames Orval Lockhart, John A. Metcalf, Percy E. Gwynne, Claude Shannon, W. B. Burkett.

District Between Fort and Bristol, Florence Boulevard and Twenty-fourth Street—Captain, Mrs. E. Conley; lieutenants, Mesdames

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