

# Woman's Work in the World

## Mrs. Stephens Enjoys Publicity Work and Adores 3-Em Dashes

"Oh, for a good novel and a box of fudge in my own apartment with nothing to do but enjoy life!"

This exclamation from a petit woman of great ambition and remarkable energy who came bustling into the Bee office one day two minutes after 12—the deadline, brought peals of laughter from the group of seasoned tappers—not wire tappers but tappers of the keys that click off the lines and lines of copy which appear later in the day chronicling good news and bad news.

"Honest, Mrs. Stephens?" we asked, for it was Mrs. Lucien Stephens, publicity chairman, Omaha Red Cross, exclaiming.

"Well, no, not honest. But I am so tired. I couldn't get people's publicity today and I know that being publicity chairman for the Omaha chapter of the American Red Cross is the hardest job under the sun. Why, President Wilson's is nothing compared to this. After all my work I can't get my copy in the paper because I happen to be a few minutes late. It's a shame—that's what it is. Can't you make one exception? Don't tell me that the forms are locked or that the 3-m dashes are all gone to press."

Thus she dropped into a rickety chair of "unwelcome" and collected her shattered nerves. A sense of humor is, with Mrs. Stephens as

with many another, a saving grace. It saved her this time and she soon saw the humor of the situation.

"All these scoops I brought you about the sock quota and the knitting brigade and the salvage department do not seem to excite you at all and I have worked fast and furiously to get them," she laughed.

Newspaper women in Omaha have grown to consider Mrs. Stephens one of them, so determined is she to handle publicity in the proper manner. "At a certain minute every day they look for her to come bustling into the newspaper offices—this is just under the dead line, for she works until the last chance is ruled out. If she does not come in Mrs. Stephens is sure to telephone."

Yes, indeed, she has worked herself out of the cub class—did that when she made the "sock quota" famous during the autumn of 1918. Mrs. Stephens was well known in newspaper circles as chairman of the Tuesday Musical club, for which organization she "put over" publicity for three years, but it was after she became reporter for the Red Cross that her popularity grew by leaps and bounds in the realm of ink and printing presses.

"Why, newspaper work is the most fascinating undertaking I have ever known anything about. I love the atmosphere, I love the girls and the printed stories and the competition."

"But, oh, how cautious one must be! I have learned never to repeat

a word in one office that I have heard in another. The most innocent little suggestion may be a "scoop" and that would get me in bad with the "scooped" paper forever and ever. Folks say a woman cannot keep her mouth closed, but if they only knew how many nights I have gone home chuckling to myself and almost dying to tell some grave secret or to repeat some morsel of scandal; the whole theory would be upset. That is what I call suppressing news—it sounds much lovelier than "keeping your mouth closed."

Mrs. Stephens expresses herself freely on the subject of women after the war. She denies that they will forsake the homes for outside work.

"Such a thing is impossible—far-fetched. Why, home is much more attractive when you have been hustling, doing interesting things, than when you rest and rust all day and grow weary and tired of ease. Home is a wonderful place—I love it, and so do other women, but that is no reason why we cannot also have outside duties."

Mrs. Stephens is working for the "star" class. She wishes to be a specialist. And when she has learned all about 3-m dashes, news stories and votes of thanks, deadlines and clean copy, there is no doubt that this well known chairman of publicity will forget the lure of the fudge box and the entertaining novel.

## Women in Uniform, Call Charge Unfair

"A BEE Reader" with his charge against Omaha women's motor corps members "who doll themselves up in \$150 uniforms and make a grand show of themselves," in a letter printed in The Bee Sunday, certainly aroused the displeasure of local wearers of the uniform in both the Red Cross and national league for women's service in motor corps.

Mrs. William Archibald Smith, chairman of the Woman's Service League is strong in defense of her corps.

"No branch of war service entails as much self-sacrifice and giving up of personal comfort as that of the motor corps. The charge that they spend \$150 for uniforms is ridiculous. Only three women have the wool khaki uniforms. Mrs. E. S. Westbrook, major of the corps, has risen at 5 a. m. to make 6 a. m. calls.

"During the nine days of the street car strike, our motor corps made 228 calls for the Visiting Nurse association alone. The nurses would have been seriously crippled in their fight against the epidemic without the help of the motor corps. Our corps makes calls nights and Sundays, and have given up luncheons, parties and social engagements without number in response to the call to duty.

"In November we made 869 calls. The women motorists pay all expense for the upkeep of their cars and for the gasoline."

Mrs. T. H. McDearmon of the Red Cross motor corps said she had used 70 gallons of gasoline last month in Red Cross calls.

There are only a few women in the motor corps who deserve the opinion of "The Bee Reader" said Mrs. McDearmon.

"Some of them who drive around with bull dogs in their wonderful cars, only respond to troop trains calls, never to the work of civilian relief department, which means transporting women workers into the poorer districts.

"They just come down when the troop trains pass through, pick out the best looking soldiers to take for a ride, entirely ignoring the poorer-looking or soldiers of foreign origin."

"One of the women has had her uniform skirt cut short and narrow, to make it more modish and with this she wears high-heeled shoes though the rule is that only flat-heeled shoes can be worn."

There is no regard for military discipline supposed to be enforced in the motor corps, she said.

"Privates pay no attention to their superior officers," said Mrs. McDearmon, who is first lieutenant in the corps.

Omaha Red Cross corps—figures quoted by Mrs. T. H. McDearmon:

Uniform	\$11.00
Patrol	1.00
Belt	2.75
Cap	2.00
Total	\$16.75

## Oh! Terrible Tales Told by Gaby

If We Were Not All Friends and Good Natured This Would Never Do

By GABBY DETAILS

BZZ, buzz, go the gossips' tongues. We seem to have fallen into a perfect orgy of gossiping now that we can settle back and fold our hands and watch our neighbors. Quite the nicest dance of the season was given Friday evening at one of the beautiful homes. It has been many months since this particular home was open to a large number of guests, and the party was probably more enjoyable because of this bit of novelty. The flowers were lovely, tall vases of roses being used through the rooms, and everyone seemed to have a beautiful time. But, ah! Wait! On the soft-singing evening there was a concert given by one of our talented daughters, and everyone planned to go—we thought!

Imagine our surprise when the news of the dance floated to the keen ears of the society scribes, for the hostess had been so very active in the musical club which presented the young pianist. What is it? Professional jealousy? Indifference? It is hard to tell, but the officers of this musical organization say, "Uncivic" and "unpatriotic." Take your choice!

We are eagerly awaiting the return of the society girls who forsook their elderdown lives to labor early and late in the hospitals across the sea. One of the most beautiful of these girls is soon to be at home, and there is a hint of a coming wedding in the air. "He" has been overseas, too, and just think how interesting the nuptials will be!

Army circles are a bit quiet. Mrs. Jacob W. S. Wuest of Fort Omaha, has gone to Florida, and with this charming hostess away, the little social whirl inside the post seems to have come to a standstill. Very soon, no doubt, these attractive army matrons will be waving goodbye to their Omaha friends and returning to their eastern homes. Even the war has its advantages, for it has indeed brought some charming folk to our gates.

Quite the prettiest wedding of the season will take place within the next two weeks. Miss Gertrude Porter, the bride-to-be, will have Miss Hortense Cueva of Brooklyn as her maid-of-honor. We have had the pleasure of meeting this attractive eastern maid, and in a filmy bridesmaid's gown with an armful of roses she will be a charming addition to any wedding. Miss Helen Pearce and Miss Mary Fuller will also attend the bride, and, of course, the bridegroom—we almost forgot him! Mr. Robert Edwards will have Mr. Edwin Doerr of Chicago, a fraternity brother, as best man. The calendar will be crowded with affairs for this young couple from now on, for they are very popular with the younger set. The honeymoon is quite the best yet, however, for a trip to Australia is a bit out of the ordinary to say the least. A beautiful ocean voyage of 21 days, stops at Hawaii and all sorts of lovely things will make this trip an epoch in the lives of the newly wedded pair.

The marriage of Miss Pauline Mullin and Mr. Lester Driehaus was quite a surprise, although we had seen them together a great deal at the clubs and hotels. The bride was always quite the most stylish of the girls, she looked as if she had stepped from between the covers of Vogue. You should have seen her on her wedding day in such a chic suit of tawny tulle and raccoon fur, and the tiniest of black

Mrs. Lucien Stephens as Red Cross Worker



Mrs. Lucien Stephens at Home

Photo by Rinehart-Steffens

Bee Photo

straw hats with little French roses peeping out at the corners.

"By the way, aren't the straw hats early? Quite like the hardy crocuses poking their heads out of the snow. Every one seems to have a straw bonnet. Miss Ruth Leeder is wearing such a spunky one in tan and blue with little perky feathers on it."

Dance nights at the Athletic club are very gay, for Wednesday and Saturday we see everyone we know in the dining room. It is interesting to have lunch at the club. We saw Miss Mary Megath with her fiance, Mr. Herbert Connell, having a cozy little two-some the other day. Miss Megath looked very well in a velvet suit of the maroon shade and small black straw hat. It is to

be an early spring wedding or a late winter one? It is a bit hard to say, but wonderful things are being made for the trousseau and the new home, that is sure.

A Dundee matron, who employed a new laundress last week, was amazed when she observed Mandy had brought along an alarm clock which she promptly set to ring at the noon hour.

"Why do you need the clock?" she inquired.

"Ah ain't gwine let you all ferget when it's time to eat, Mandy informed her. "Ah ain't gwine miss out."

Mandy intimated she had had occasion to add "Big Ben" to her equipment.

## Mrs. Martin Defends Motor Corps

Mrs. W. E. Martin, speaking for the Red Cross motor corps, of which she is captain, said:

"Anyone who thinks all the motor corps has to do is to look pretty in uniform can have my job. Every time a troop train of wounded men comes in at least 15 of our corps take them for a ride about the city, then to dinner, then to the theater and then have to wait around until 12 o'clock in order to carry them back to their late trains. That isn't any fun, that's work."

Mrs. Martin gives as another instance of devotion to duty on the part of the motor corps the work of Mrs. W. C. Edmonston of Ralston, a member of the corps.

"For nine successive days during the 'flu' epidemic Mrs. Edmonston drove eight miles to Omaha for a visiting nurse, carried her back to Ralston, assisted her for nine hours each day in nursing 'flu' patients, then brought the nurse back to Omaha. Just making the trips back and forth totaled 32 miles a day, to say nothing of their work in the interim."

## Cost of Mrs. Stephen's Uniform

Canteen hat	\$4.50
Suit—on hand	0.00
Equipment, one pencil lifted from Bee society editor's desk	.00
Paper—scraps	.00
Total	\$4.50

## In Memoriam

A winter day, but the south wind blew,  
And the moon was full last night,  
No hint of December storm and sleet,  
As the soul stood poised for flight.

Oh, beautiful day, a memory  
Of spring and summer, too,  
With a thrill of hope and a song of praise,  
For its flight, the soul chose you.

When the sun went down in the golden west  
And the moon came up from the east,  
On the borderland of night and day,  
The beat of a great heart ceased.

And the soul went over the low gray line,  
As the beautiful day was done,  
In morning light of a fairer day  
Was the Great Adventure begun.

And we who mourn that never again  
Will be smile in the old, sweet way,  
Can only rejoice that for him  
The light of a Perfect Day,  
—FRANK FAIR.

## Cost of Motor Corps Uniforms

National League for Woman's Service	Figures quoted by Mrs. W. A. Smith
Cotton khaki uniforms	\$14.50
Wool khaki	\$45.00 to \$50.00
Cap	\$2.25 — Puttees, \$4.00
Shirt	\$1.25 to \$2.50
Belt and insignia furnished by league	

## Drama League Brings Baroness Frances Wilson Huard

The Baroness Frances Wilson Huard will speak here on "My Fear Among the Fighters" at the Fontenelle, on February 21 at 4 o'clock under the auspices of the Drama League.

Madame Huard is the author of two remarkable books, "My Home in the Field of Honor" and "My Home in the Field of Mercy." In her lecture the baroness will give an insight into the antebellum days that are not known on this side of the Atlantic.

Madame Huard, living quietly in her chateau 60 miles northeast of Paris, suddenly found herself absolutely alone in the war zone save for a few young servants, and she tells of her awakening to the full realization of the meaning of war by the immediate appearance of thousands of pitiful refugees. Her unwillingness to believe in the stories of the creed "kulture" caused her to remain to minister to those in need, and the delay was followed by her hair-breadth escape and astounding adventures on the high roads of France.

When the tide of battle turned there followed the triumphant return of her little party across the still smoking battlefield, the despair at finding her exquisite chat-cain looted and defiled, her every treasure stolen or defaced, the cleaning up and the installation of a military hospital. It is a glorious story of rehabilitation of the home in the field of honor into a home of mercy and succor for the wounded French. The narrative is simple, wonderful in its simplicity, told as it is by a brilliant woman of rare talents.

The highest salaried woman in the New York state payroll is Mrs. Paul E. Wilson, who is to receive \$8,000 a year for her services as a member of the State Industrial Commission.

## Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Humane Society Jan. 23

The annual meeting of The Nebraska Humane society will be held January 23, 1919 at 6:15 at the First Presbyterian church, Thirty-fourth and Farnam streets. This meeting will be held in conjunction with a dinner served by the ladies of the church to which all friends are cordially invited to be present. Friends planning to be present are urged to telephone the church secretary Harney 2526, for number of reservations required.

The society has recently secured the services of Welcome W. Headley, formerly executive officer of the Minnesota society. It is the intention to develop both branches of the society, especially that branch pertaining to the welfare of children and to continue the prevention of cruelty to animals. Special effort will be directed in securing co-operation with school authorities throughout the state in the interest of humane education and to supplement this work with exhibits for the prevention of wrongs of children and to help and instruct mothers in the care of babies. The society will be properly equipped to aid the dependent, defective children, and to assist in the prevention and suppressing conditions to the downfall of child-life.

The Humane society will cooperate with existing organizations, also with the state county and city authorities in the protection and enforcing laws pertaining to children. Some of the special numbers on their program for the year, aside from the humane educational lectures, is a special program for "The Be Kind to Animals" week. It is suggested this year prizes be offered to boys and girls for the best poster on this week. It is hoped to be able to offer these prizes for the children of Omaha schools and one for Lincoln schools, and possibly one for the schools outside of the two cities. There is another number on the program pertaining to a co-operation in bringing about what might be called a "Big Brother" movement. The object to be obtained is bringing to the little brother who is dependent, or even on the road to delinquency, a helping hand in a brotherly manner.

Some of these items on the program can best be handled by what is termed an auxiliary which would be composed of the women members organized to carry on supplementary work as they may deem advisable.

It is hoped to have the board of trustees composed of laymen handling the business and affairs, and then to have the woman's auxiliary to take up these items of special program for 1919.