

# Work of Enlisted Women in the United States Navy

**W**OMEN may now enlist in the navy. They are enlisting. The United States has established a precedent among the nations, for no other country in the world welcomes women on the rolls of its navy. Their services are needed, but they have no standing as being enlisted.

European women, who have given up so much that have sacrificed pleasure, tossed aside hobbies and luxuries, forgotten personal ambitions and aspirations, demands for political rights and greater freedom, will find that in case the starry banner of the black eagle American women will be enlisted. It has been a noble example. For not only will they bear domestic burdens, but like the women particularly of France and England, they will take the place of their husbands when they leave for battle, and they will be, besides this, recognized units of the navy.

It came like an electric shock—this news of the privilege. It made much more of a stir than some officials credited. Navy department officials would not have believed it. It was realized when, a few hours after the announcement, a young lady in Philadelphia, Miss Loretta Walsh, enlisted and started a recruiting station at once. And everybody else did that day, especially women, said excitedly. "Have you seen the papers? Did you know that women are joining the navy?"

"For a long time it was supposed that the navy reserve for such service as women, but this notion was exploded when, a few years ago, women were enlisted in the naval hospitals and their services have been in every way so satisfactory that the number has been increased."

"The provision for a naval reserve contemplated the enlisting of women in the naval reserve force and in the reserve force in hospitals, radio service and services rendered by women in typewriting and stenography, and women now being enlisted in such services. It is gratifying to see that the women are taking advantage of the opportunity in which they are peculiarly fitted."

Because many people are not informed as to that particular division of the navy women are now joining, it may be recalled that on August 29 last the naval reserve force was created; that of the six general classes constituting this body the fourth class is the naval coast defense reserve. And it is in this class that women are being enlisted to make a definite record of their patriotism. If they possess a title, it is that of reservists.

In making monthly reports of personnel, a separate list is to be submitted of woman reservists, according to a circular issued on March 19 by the bureau of navigation. Male members of the naval reserve force are permitted to sign their names, to add "U. S. N. R. E." There appears to be no reason why women, many of whom are not eligible to the use of a Ph.D. or a B. S., should not use the more unique symbol of their standing and thereby

express their appreciation of the opportunity afforded them through this service, while many letters received from soldiers, chaplains and other testify to the admirable work performed by the nurses detailed to the military hospitals.

"Every woman believes in her heart that she is a born nurse, but nurses are not made in a day," said Miss Noyes, who holds a certificate issued by the bureau of the Red Cross nursing service has her name and address registered in the national office, with all the additional information that can be secured concerning her. Such is the form a convenient basis for classification and selection of lay women in the event of war to assist in convalescent hospitals, diet kitchens, refreshment stations, rest rooms, clerical work, information bureaus and in the training of those who have been rendered incapable of performing their regular work through injury to arms, legs and eyes.

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The response in this direction was such that if women also be an experiment the success of it may easily be guessed.

"Third-class yeoman" is, so far, the principal rating given first patriots wishing to serve for brothers, fathers, husbands or simply Uncle Sam. The yeoman branch of the navy performs its clerical work and a candidate must have had some experience before acceptance. One test of examination is the writing of a letter 200 words in length, with double and single spacing, quotations, headings, paragraphing, etc. Applied falling below these requirements in the typewriter examination will not be considered further.

Yeoman schools for the regular blue-jackets desiring to become stenographers or bookkeepers are located at Newport, R. I., and San Francisco. After passing the entrance examination, young men are sent to the ship or station which needs their services.

Women enrolling as radio operators are likely to come in for more thrills than the clerks. Officers of the navy will be known as electricians, a "general electrician" having to know names and uses of the various parts of the dynamo, the motor, the transformer and familiar with ordinary types of switchboards and methods of wiring. A recruit ordinarily must be able to read twelve twenty words a minute. Enlisting in the navy electrical schools means that the recruit must have some knowledge of general electricity, to be an operator of the Morse code, or have considerable knowledge of radio apparatus. Women students young women might eventually replace, in the event of this country engaging in war, the clerks of the navy.

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Effective service in facilitating operations. And, according to one naval officer—"shore duty" covering points in any of our possessions as well as within the borders, or enlisting as radio operators might be sent to Panama, for duty in a most important field, the galleys, where they will be doing the work of "doing their bit" in machine shops, and should the United States have a fleet of modern ships, taking a major part of the navy to operate, women now enrolling as electricians might receive further instruction in these fields and be given an opportunity to run steam turbine engines, dynamos, etc. This, however, is not, even in the very uncertain future, a probability the ladies of the navy may anticipate.

That which the majority can do their best in doing is doubtless in the old, prescribed lines, where a woman's hands and heart are turned to the work of the kitchen, and long for rest. At least, this is the view held by that little known but most interesting of the navy, the women called the navy nurse corps. Sent by the naval bureau of medicine and surgery, they are the most enthusiastic officers of this exclusive yet most efficient and patriotic band of women, the writer has heard the navy nurse corps, and has seen the women's place in the navy and with ever so ardent a spirit, they are waiting to be called upon. They may not be called as nurses, but instead will be classified as one of several kinds of nurse aids.

## CLERICAL WORK, BOOKKEEPING AND RECORD FILING WILL OFFER CHANCES FOR SERVICE. THE THREE MEN IN THIS PICTURE, AS PART OF THE NAVY, MIGHT BE CALLED TO SEA DUTY AT AN EARLY DATE.

Indicate also that they are subject to the summons of the flag. When male civilians become naval reservists last summer and went on a practice cruise on battleships, an experiment was tried by the government. It was considered wise to learn whether women could do the work of the yeoman branch of the navy.

## MISS LORETTA WALSH, FIRST WOMAN TO ENLIST IN THE NAVY AND ESTABLISH A RECRUITING STATION.

Not very warlike. Clerical work, but at any time. And that's what she does. And that's what she will do. But it is what she will do, the man whose place she steps into, that interests her. She is Miss Loretta Walsh to the recruiting station, and what is sweeping other women in other cities, she is doing here.

There was a nebulous idea in some minds when the paragraph announcing

## IGNORANCE.

A. S. FRANKLIN, president of the International Mercantile Marine, said at a luncheon in New York last month:

"Germans, thinking to win a victorious peace by unrestricted submarine warfare, show an ignorance of neutral psychology as stark as Mrs. Burdock's ignorance of medicine."

"A physician had prescribed for Hod Carrier Burdock, and as he left the Burdock home he told Mrs. Burdock to take her husband's temperature the next morning."

"The next morning about 10 the physician called again."

"Well, and how's our patient?" he said to Mrs. Burdock gently.

"He's all right, but he hasn't no thermometer in the house, so I put a barometer on his chest after breakfast, and it says he's coming, so I give him three bottles of beer, and he went off to work whistling."

## BOOKS RECEIVED.

THE POWER OF MENTAL DEMAND; And Other Essays. By Herbert Edwards. P. C. S. Second edition. San Francisco: Paul Elder & Co.

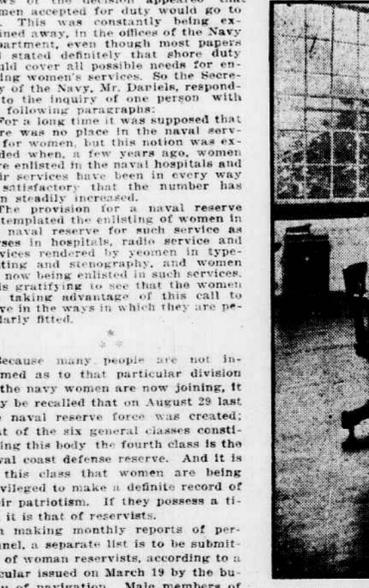
LIVELIHOOD; Dramatic Evidences. By Wilfrid Wilson Gibson, author of "Daily Bread," etc. New York: The Macmillan Company.

THE FRUIT OF TOLL; And Other One-Act Plays. By Lillian P. Wilson. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill Company.

WALTER B. BENTLEY, 25 DEER AVE., NEW YORK, HAS THE MOST COMPLETE LIST OF ALL BOOKS. IF YOU HAVE ANY OLD COLONIAL OR REVOLUTIONARY BOOKS, PAPERS, OR MANUSCRIPTS, LET US KNOW. WE WILL BUY THEM AT THE HIGHEST PRICES. MONTHLY FOR ANNUAL COLLECTIONS. ONE DOLLAR A YEAR. SAMPLES FREE.



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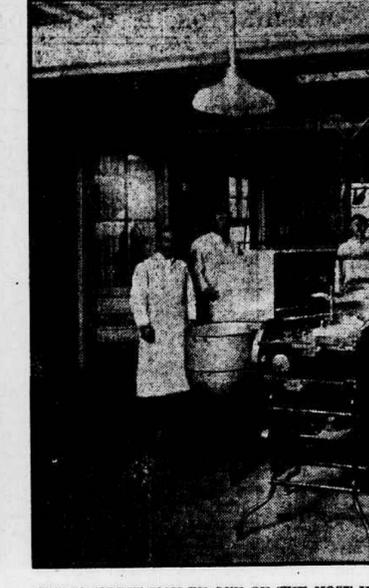
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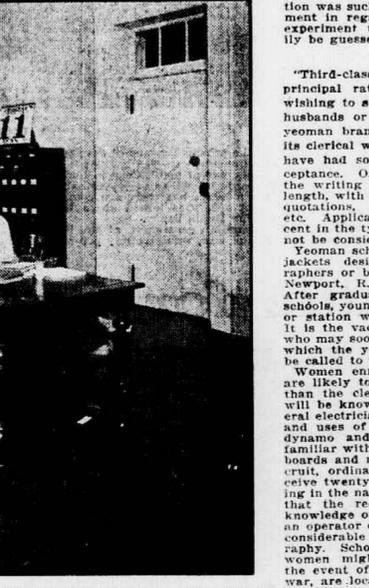
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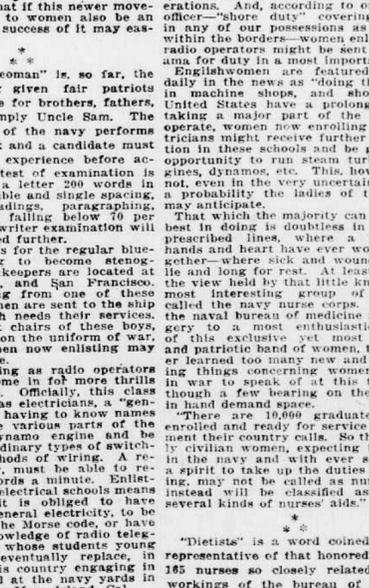
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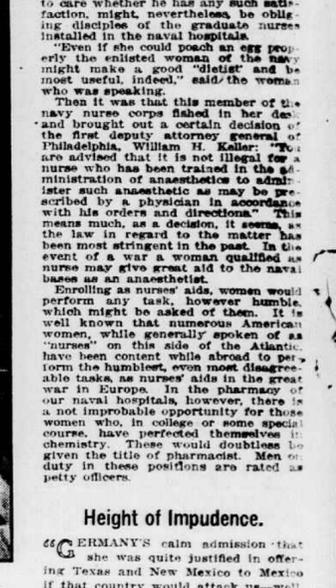
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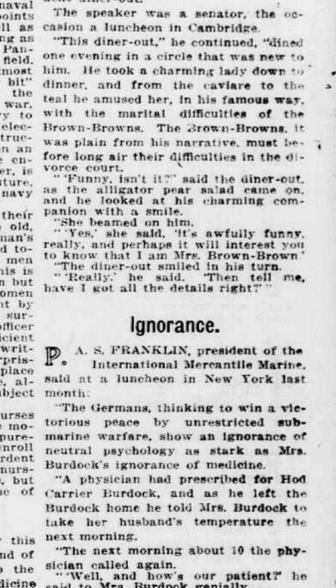
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## THE EARLY HISTORY OF CUBA: 1492-1506.

Written from original sources by L. H. Roberts. New York: The Macmillan Company.

The century of Cuba's history that begins with Columbus and ends with Drake means little more to the casual reader than a vague impression of discovery and conquest. It is a raiding of the Spanish records by which the author, with a genius for research, has gone to the archives of the Indies, to the royal records, to the royal documents, letters and reports of colonial governors, royal officials, ecclesiastics and historians, to give us a detail of the first era of the Spanish main which Columbus believed to have been the Eastern Indies of Marco Polo's dreams.

With the forceful simplicity of assured knowledge and with genuine narrative charm, the writer describes Spanish possession, the influence of the Catholic Church, the menace of the English, by which the raiding admiral demonstrated the necessity of fortified colonies, since Spain could not rely on the colonies to defend her shores. The enemy was therefore, the island's greatest benefactor, for no friend of the colonies was so ready to assist in accomplishing on its behalf as much as did Sir Francis Drake.

## THE NEW POETRY: An Anthology.

Edited by Harriet Monroe and Alice Corbin Henderson, editors of "Poetry." New York: The Macmillan Company.

Two general effects emerge from this book of modern verse. One—that poetry, today, is the preoccupation of an astonishing number of young writers. The other—that poetry is a literary medium appears to be passing through one of those periods of readjustment that from time to time mark its development and give new proof of its vitality. About a hundred writers are here represented by several hundred poems—all written within the few years of the twentieth century. In an introduction to the volume one of the editors gives, in outline, the characteristics of the "new poetry" here offered to the public. It is avowed and conscious purpose—to touch briefly upon this preliminary analysis—is to seize bodily, so to speak, the immediate necessities of life, and to project these concretely in the magic and glamour of passion in the spirit of vision, and to the measure of individual cadences. Its broad motive is sincerity, its aim, simplicity. In order to realize this purpose the poet accepts or rejects—as need dictates, those crystallized moods into which conventional poetry is run. In the main—as one discovers here—he rejects them as inimical to the concrete,