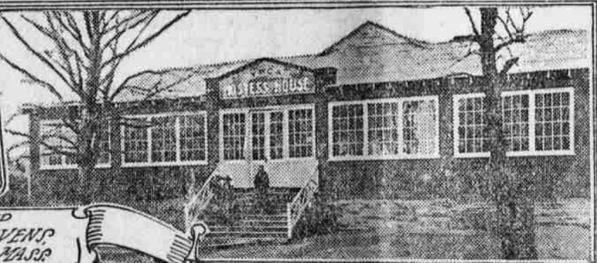
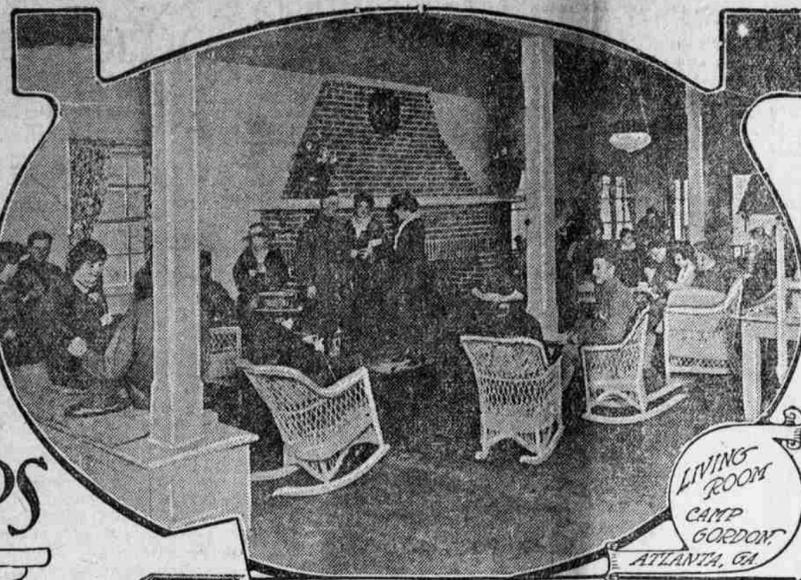


# WOMEN DESIGN HOSTESS HOUSES FOR ARMY CAMPS



By ROBERT H. MOULTON.

**W**AR brought the men of America to the camps of the country. It brought the women, too—mothers, wives, sisters, aunts, sweethearts. The government had made its plans for the men, but it had made them without thought of the women. Then the women came to visit their soldier relatives. The camp commanders looked at the stream of femininity coming steadily toward them, and asked what was to be done. Then the war department began to think of the women, and finally it asked the Young Women's Christian association for help. The hostess house was the answer.

Eighty-five of these unique establishments are now either in operation or are definitely under construction. They are put up only at the direct request of the camp commanders. Some of the commanding officers were a little doubtful at first as to the practicability of the scheme. Now these same officers are asking for second and third hostess houses in their cantonments. Wherever colored troops are stationed, buildings are erected for their use and social welfare work under trained colored leaders is carried on.

These centers of hospitality are under the supervision of the war department's commission on training camp activities. They are a part of the government's war work. The war work council of the Young Women's Christian association promotes them as one phase of the association's work for the country in this national emergency.

Since women are allowed to come to cantonments to visit their soldier folk, places must be provided for their recreation. Camp Lewis at American Lake, Washington state, is seven miles long. Camp Lee, Virginia, contains 40,000 men. Each camp covers acres of ground laid out in the bewildering monotony of company streets lined with barracks.

The discomfort of the camps for visitors is often extreme. The thermometer went down to 27 degrees below zero at Camp Devens, Mass., last winter. The Kansas mud at Camp Funston could be put in a mulehide bottle and used for glue. Camp Doniphan, Okla., sometimes hides itself in dust. And as for heat in summer, no visitor has been able to decide where the thermometer goes the highest. The hostess houses are refuges for the elderly parents, worried wives, and admiring friends, whose love of the soldiers draws them to the camps.

One phase alone of the hostess house work would justify their existence. Each house is a directory, a street guide, a map, a telephone exchange, a finding bureau, and a writing room for visitors. When a soldier is "under orders for France" his family come to bid him good-by if it is within coming distance. At one cantonment a father, mother and three sisters came hurrying. Their particular soldier was not at the entrance where they were to meet him. Like sensible people they went straight to the hostess house. There they learned that the camp had three entrances.

The hostess by the aid of telephone and messenger paged each of these stations. The man was found at one of them and brought to the hostess house.

This is surely a great improvement on the game of "cross tag" so often played by excited families with their impatient soldier sons among the barracks. At Balboa Park, Cal., they call the hostess "the lady who finds your friends."

An interesting feature of the hostess houses is that the architects in charge of the construction are women. Miss Julia Morgan is on the Pacific coast. Miss Fay Kellogg has charge of the Southern field. Miss Katherine Budd builds in the middle West.

The general plan of construction is the same, adapted to local conditions. A large room is usually divided into two parts by a huge chimney with fireplaces on both sides. In winter a leaping fire gives cheer and warmth. In summer evergreen branches fill the big stone open-

ing. Interior decorators make the houses beautiful with the dignity of simple lines and harmonious colors. Gay curtains at the windows give brightness even in stormy weather. The chintz cushions in the chairs are good to look at as well as comfortable to lean against.

Half of the big room is used for a reception hall and the other half forms the cafeteria. There is always a rest room for tired travelers. A nursery with bright quilts and curtains is waiting for the babies who come to visit their fathers. Not unusually the house contains sleeping rooms for the hostesses. One or two spare cots are frequently provided for very exceptional cases where it is impossible for women to leave camp that night. Sometimes a bad storm effectually holds them prisoners. Or the mother of a sick boy waits anxiously for a crisis in the illness.

A hostess house is manned by five women, the hostess director having general charge of everything. The social hostess is chiefly responsible for the reception of visitors. The emergency hostess looks after outside cases which come to the attention of the workers. The cafeteria hostess is concerned with the food. The business hostess keeps the accounts and looks after the buying. Certain qualifications are essential for these offices. Of course the cafeteria director must be a trained dietitian, a graduate of a recognized domestic science institute and an experienced domestic economist. The business hostess is one who is accustomed to running a large establishment on an economical and efficient basis. The emergency secretary is somewhat like the social worker. Experience in settlement work or some other form of welfare work affords a good training. She must know and utilize all the government agencies, charitable institutions and philanthropic organizations.

The term "social hostess" sounds somewhat vague, but more than shaking hands is involved in her position. She must have had experience in dealing with large numbers of people. Tact which takes her to a desired goal without friction is necessary. Endless patience, a kind heart, and a shrewd brain are fundamental.

The director of a hostess house must be all the four others rolled into one. Poise is a prerequisite. When a tornado rolled the roof back from the house at Camp Taylor, Louisville, and then returned it to its place with a bang, the work went right on as if nothing had happened.

Every sort of a demand is made upon the women employed in hostess houses. They made 4,000 sandwiches for ex-President Taft at Camp Funston. The number was not too many for him—and his admiring audience. A worker at Camp Cody, Tex., was taken aback for a moment when a woman inquired "Can you tell me where I can get a baby?" But she recovered her breath in time to find one for adoption. Wandering mothers, lost in company streets, are returned to anxious sons. Homesick soldier boys are accompanied to movie shows. Rooming and boarding places in the neighborhood are found for soldiers' relatives. Mothers are chaperoned, babies fed, letters written, and information given on every subject from the future life to fountain pens.

The hostess house does not shut up shop when visiting hours are over. Not only for guests does it exist, but for the soldiers themselves. In one house it has been discovered that as soon as the boys have seen their friends off on the train they came pell-mell back to seek comfort and food. Then the cafeteria, which has worked so hard all day, hands out pie and coffee to the disconsolate ones.

The cook at Camp Meade forgot her pass one morning. She told a soldier at the gate who she was.

"Are you the cook who makes that tomato soup?" asked the sentry.  
"I am," she replied.  
"Pass," decreed the soldier, saluting. "I want some of that soup this noon."

The cost of building and equipping hostess houses has increased during the past year just

as has everything else. Originally \$10,000 was expected to build and equip a house suitably. Lumber has gone up. Wages are higher. Furniture is almost unaffordable. Transportation is difficult. Constant delays occur. Nevertheless hostess houses must be built. The appropriation must be sufficient to cover all these difficulties. Twenty-seven thousand dollars is not too much to invest in one of these hospitality centers.

Even after the house is built, alterations and additions must go on. The military sanitary regulations must be fulfilled, even if they increase the cost. With summer comes the screening necessity. Yet every house is worth to the community and to the nation in general all the money invested in it. Of the \$5,000,000 budget appropriated by the war work council of the Young Women's Christian association \$1,750,000 is being devoted to hostess houses.

Another work of the greatest importance which has just been undertaken by the Young Women's Christian association is the housing of women workers in connection with our great industrial establishments. While this is not strictly a new problem created by the war, the calling of many women workers to war service makes the situation immediately acute. Obviously the providing of proper housing for these newly called women workers, since it is a part of the war program, must be done by the government. The Young Women's Christian association is now constructing, at its own expense, two buildings as a demonstration; one at Camp Sherman Annex, Chillicothe, and another at Charleston, S. C., for the women employees in the navy uniform factory. The latter is being built at the request of Secretary Daniels. If the government shall decide to make provision for the housing of its women workers, the Young Women's Christian association offers to provide the needed social and recreational workers.

Based on its experience in housing girls during the last 50 years, the association believes that younger girls should be grouped where they can have social life and an opportunity to entertain their friends, and still be under some of the restrictions of the home; that older women want independence of living, many of them objecting to living in large groups because of the noise and confusion and ensuing fatigue; and that it is more successful to house non-English-speaking foreign girls in small groups, until they learn English and become used to American customs.

The type "A" building, the permanent structure which the association is building at Charleston, is designed for use in places where only one building will be erected.

The dining room and recreation hall, several parlors, and bedrooms for 44 girls are on the first floor. There is but one entrance for the residents. This makes it possible for the matron or social head of the house, who is in the office near the door, to see everyone who comes in or goes out.

The entrance hall is attractive and homelike. Opening out of it are several parlors separated from the hall by arches. To the right is an entrance to the wing containing the recreation hall and dining room. These rooms are so arranged that they can be thrown into one for a large social gathering.

There are bedrooms for 51 girls on the second floor. There is also a sitting room separated from the hall only by pillars. This is for the use of the girls only. Next to this is a small sewing room with facilities for sewing.

On the third floor are bedrooms for six girls, an infirmary and a private bath.

In industrial communities the buildings are intended to be grouped as effectively as possible with due regard to natural advantages. There can, of course, be as many units as are necessary. It is also proposed to provide a number of three and four-family houses to accommodate the elder women and the non-English-speaking foreign girls. In all of these buildings an attempt has been made to use a style of architecture which is distinctly American.

**Libby's**  
Tempting veal loaf

WHAT is more tempting for a summer luncheon than Libby's savory Veal Loaf! Prettily garnished it makes a dainty yet substantial dish—and one all ready to put on the table!

Order Libby's Veal Loaf today. You will want it always on your shelves—for quick luncheons—for unexpected guests.

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## Help Save the Canadian Harvest

When Our Own Harvest Requirements Are Completed  
United States Help Badly Needed  
Harvest Hands Wanted

Military demands from a limited population have made such a scarcity of farm help in Canada that the appeal of the Canadian Government to the United States Government for

### Help to Harvest the Canadian Grain Crop of 1918

Meets with a request for all available assistance to

#### GO FORWARD AS SOON AS OUR OWN CROP IS SECURED

The Allied Armies must be fed and therefore it is necessary to save every bit of the crop of the Continent—American and Canadian.

Those who respond to this appeal will get a

**Warm Welcome, Good Wages, Good Board and Find Comfortable Homes**

A card entitling the holder to a rate of one cent per mile from Canadian boundary points to destination and return will be given to all harvest applicants.

Every facility will be afforded for admission into Canada and return to the United States.

Information as to wages, railway rates and routes may be had from the

**UNITED STATES EMPLOYMENT SERVICE**  
CINCINNATI, COLUMBUS, DAYTON, HAMILTON, SPRINGFIELD, YOUNGSTOWN

## Do This After You Eat

### Hot Weather "Out of Fix" Stomachs Easily Put Right

When hot weather comes, stomach and bowel miseries begin. Strong, sound stomachs as well as weak ones are easily affected by the harmful gases and acids so often produced in the things we eat and drink during hot weather. Winter-Nature's ice-box is gone—hot weather breeds the poisonous germs that cause dyspepsia and other ailments.

Every one knows that the after-eating nausea, belching, that wretched, bloated, "lumpy" feeling, sour stomach, heartburn, food repeating, and other forms of indigestion and dyspepsia are far more frequent during hot weather. It is the time when you have to guard constantly against an upset stomach and the many ills that are always apt to follow. Then again—we have the world's war to win—with the change of diet and extra work which means we must all carefully guard our stomachs this year—keep ourselves fit and fine.

A marvelous relief and prevention has been found for stomach sufferers, which makes it possible for you to eat the things you like best without a single unpleasant thought of what may follow. EATONIC Tablets, good tasting, quick acting, and absolutely harmless, have already proven an untold blessing to thousands of people.

One or two EATONIC Tablets after meals work wonders. They sweeten and purify the stomach by neutralizing the trouble-making acids and gases and stop the griping pains of indigestion and other stomach and bowel disturbances.

And the best part of it is—you can be your own judge. Just try EATONIC. Let your own stomach tell you the truth. If you are not pleased then they don't cost you one penny.

Druggists are amazed at the astonishing reports from EATONIC users, who have found EATONIC a quick, wonderful relief for stomach ailments.

So we tell you to get a large box of EATONIC from your druggist, whom you know and can trust, and then let EATONIC do its work for you. Return it to your druggist at once and get back your money. That's a fair, square offer. Every person is urged to make the test. Let your own stomach tell you the truth. So start using EATONIC today.

**Gosh!**  
Old Lady—Tut, tut! Do you know what becomes of little boys who tell fibs?

Willie Hibrow (aged five)—Oh, that is an optional matter with the boys' parents. Some are foolishly threatened with eternal damnation; corporal punishment is inflicted on some; others are incarcerated for short periods of time in cellars, sheds and closets or are humiliated by being put prematurely to bed. Others are subjected to a course of light mental gymnastics containing a smattering of child psychology, psychopathy, psychomania, often-times with an element of electro-mancy or dactylomancy. After all, the question is one of a belief in or against a personal devil. Personally, I—

(But the good old lady was gasping for breath.)

**Paradoxical Raise.**  
"I see where the price of shaves has gone up."  
"Queer in a business where there are so many cuts."

**Better Not Try.**  
A man may be a hopeless idiot, but if he admires a woman you can't convince her that he is crazy.

**The Usual Place.**  
"Don't cry, little boy. You'll get your reward in the end." "I s'pose so. That's where I allyus do git it."

**May Restore Canals.**  
China, in its pressing need for transportation facilities, is considering the restoration of its old-time system of canals, of which there were at one time 60,000 miles within the empire. Centuries before the Christian era the great rivers of the celestial empire were diverted from their natural courses to form these ancient waterways.

**Watch Your Skin Improve.**  
On rising and retiring gently smear the face with Cuticura Ointment. Wash off Ointment in five minutes with Cuticura Soap and hot water. For free sample address "Cuticura, Dept. X, Boston." At druggists and by mail. Soap 25, Ointment 25 and 50.—Adv.

**Her Ambition Not High.**  
Mother had changed the style of her young daughter's hair dressing and Betty was reonstrating.  
"Why, Betty," explained mother, "you should like this way of wearing your hair. It makes you resemble your grandmother, and she was a splendid character."  
"But, mother," objected Betty, "I don't want to be a splendid character when I grow up. I want to be a teacher."

**An Economic Move.**  
"So you want to give up work. But can you afford to retire?"  
"Yes, sir; I'm going to get married."

No man ever surprised a woman by telling her that he loved her.

Invisible patches ought to be used in fixing up quarrels

**When Your Eyes Need Care**  
**Try Murine Eye Remedy**  
No Stinging—Just Eye Comfort. 50 cents at Druggists or mail. Write for Free Eye Book. **MURINE EYE REMEDY CO., CHICAGO**