

# The Countrywoman

## Women Mechanics

**S**URELY we are progressing. A very interesting advertisement appeared in the columns of one of Winnipeg's daily papers last week. It was that of a motor school advertising special classes for women. The school could accommodate 25 women and that number was being asked for. The advertisement went on to state that women might learn to operate, repair and rebuild autos, trucks, or tractors. There is a special course for ladies now on. Arrangements were being made for day and night classes. The experience it stated, was practical, and the work pleasant. The concluding sentence was specially "catchy." Prepare for a man's position and do your bit. On enquiry, it was found that already a number of women had enrolled and were doing good work. Asked as to whether they, the advertisers, thought women could make a success of mechanics, or whether it was just to satisfy a certain present-day fad, they stated that they were giving the course so that women might be fitted to operate automobiles and trucks or tractors, and they believed they could do it as well as men could. Some people are not idly talking, but are putting their new ideas concerning women and the work they may do into action.

## Women Win Medals

A London news item says that the first W.A.A.C. to win the military medal is Unit Administrator Mrs. Margaret A. Campbell Gibson. She was in charge of a W.A.A.C. camp which was completely demolished by bombs during an enemy air raid. Throughout, she directed the women with courage and energy. With bombs crashing all around she remained at her post and prevented serious loss of life.

The same award has been made to five nurses. An ammunition dump had been set on fire by enemy bombs. The only available ambulance for the removal of the wounded had been destroyed. These nurses, in a neighboring camp, heard of the disaster and drove up with three ambulances, right into the danger zone. Despite risks arising from various explosions they succeeded in removing all the wounded to safety.

## Women's Aid Department

A despatch from Ottawa, dated September 11, reads:—

"Arrangements are being completed by the militia department for the organization of a Women's Aid Department for Canada along the lines of the W.A.A.C. in England. Gen. Guy Carlton Jones, of the Canadian Medical Army Corps, is working out the organization and an official announcement giving further details of establishment will be made shortly.

"The organization will be along military lines as in England. There will be a military rate of pay and uniforms will be issued. The new service will include all V.A.D. nurses and masseuses and also all housekeepers, clerks, stenographers, telephone operators, cooks and maids in hospitals.

"It is possible that the girls who are attached to the Royal Air Service may also be included in the new W.A.D. service.

"There will be a woman commandant in each city, and the organization will be almost entirely controlled by the women with their own officers. The St. John's Ambulance Brigade is co-operating with the militia department in making arrangements and all commandants and officers will have to qualify according to the St. John's Ambulance tests.

"At present, it is only proposed to organize the hospitals, but later, as in England, the W.A.D. may be extended to assist the militia in other lines.

"Gen. Jones stated recently that the regulations had not yet been finally decided upon, but would be ready for announcement in a few days."

## Victorian Order's Progress

Real growth in the work of the Victorian Order of Nurses was recorded in Mrs. J. C. Hannington's report of her western tour in the months between seed time and harvest, as given at the board meeting at Ottawa, recently. Mrs. Hannington brought recommendations and plans for opening up new districts, several of which were acted upon.

The result will be a six-bed nursing home at Glenbush, Sask., 40 miles north of North Battleford. It is just on the edge of a populated district. The Saskatchewan government has promised to install a rainwater conservation and filtration system for the hospital.

A ten-bed hospital will be built at Vanguard, Sask., a place now 50 miles from the nearest hospital or doctor. There will be a \$100,000 hospital erected at Melfort by the municipality. For some years the Victorian Order has had a small hospital here and so much was their work valued that the new hospital is to be staffed by the order.

Similarly at Central Butte where the order has had a six-bed hospital, there is to be a new 25-bed building erected. With this the order will also be affiliated, at the request of the municipal authorities.

## Uniformity in Schools

Uniform text books, uniform standards of training for teachers, secured

the West than might perhaps be expected. The changes in the Saskatchewan's public school text books are few and unimportant, as the Alexandra readers used in this province, in a slightly revised form, will be the readers to be adopted throughout the West. It may take some time for all the four western provinces to adopt the new uniform text book owing to existing contracts with schoolbook publishers, but the change will be made as soon as possible. In order not to interrupt or inconvenience the studies of those attending high school institutes, it is being arranged that when the new uniform text books are introduced, students will be allowed to finish their terms with the books they are then using. Uniform courses of study and length of training are being devised for use in all normal schools throughout the West, which will thus insure a uniform standard of training for teachers.

## Mrs. Pankhurst's Work

An interesting interview appeared recently in the columns of the Christian Science Monitor, with Mrs. Pankhurst:—

"All over the world, according to Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst, women are ranging themselves side by side with men, and working more and more in full measure of equality for the development of civilization. 'When women are recognized completely and co-

indeed it may be given them there as a war measure as it was in Great Britain. Certain political conditions in England brought this to pass as the army had to be reorganized and made a citizen's army. This deprived many men of their right to suffrage under the laws as constituted then. When the laws were changed it became the natural thing to extend the suffrage to women."

"Mrs. Pankhurst said she was visiting this country to encourage the women to devote their lives and their energies to winning the war for the civilization of the world. She said she had been but recently in France where the French women have done and are doing wonders in the way of co-operating with the men. She spoke of her four months' visit last year in Russia and the part the women had played in the revolution. She said that Germany had utilized clever women to spread the Bolshevik propaganda in the factories in Russia.

"There are two fronts to fight in this war," said Mrs. Pankhurst, "the military front and the civil front. The Germans have their forces as busily engaged now on the civil fronts, which are our factories and munition plants, as they have their soldiery at work on the military front. Conditions in Russia are growing better. Germany realizes now that she has an eastern line again. This progress has been made through intervention. The Russian women as well as the men are eager to emerge from the political chaos into which the revolution plunged them under the guidance of the Bolsheviks."

"Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Jessie Kennedy composed the mission to Russia, sent there by the Women's Party of England. She said one object was to assure the Russian people that the English people were in the war till the end, and that that end was allied victory and an allied peace. Another object was to tell the Russian women what the women of Great Britain had done to win the war, and to give them advice as to organization."

## British Award on Wages

The committee on productions' award concerning the women tram and bus workers' dispute in England promises to mark a new and important stage in the equal pay for equal work controversy. The award practically concedes all the women's demands for equality with the men from the standpoint of remuneration, which provide that increases are to be regarded as war wages and recognized as due to, and dependent on, the existence of abnormal conditions now prevailing in consequence of the war.

Since, however, some claims were submitted in such form as to involve the determination of a general rule, applicable, if adopted and established, to women employed in many other industries besides those immediately concerned, the committee ruled that such a question could only be decided on a national basis, and therefore recommended that "the whole question of women's wages and advances should be made a subject of a special inquiry, in which women can take part, and at which all the facts and circumstances which must be taken into account before any general guiding policy can be safely or properly formulated, may be fully investigated and considered."

The government has therefore promptly announced its intention to appoint a committee "to investigate and report as to the relations which should be maintained between the wages of women and men, having regard to the interests of both, as well as to the value of their work." Its recommendations, they add, should have in view the necessity of the output during the war, and the progress and well-being of the industry in future. The committee will consist of Mr. Justice Atkin, Dr. Janet Campbell, Sir Lynden Macassey, Sir W. W. Mackenzie, and Mrs. Sidney Webb, with Sir Matthew Nathan, secretary to the Ministry of Pensions, as secretary.



W.A.A.C.'s Packing Shipment of Uniforms for Workers in France.

operate as equals with men, the two together will make a perfect job of our civilization," she declared recently, shortly before she made an address on the English labor situation at the fifth annual Babson Conference on Co-operation, held at Wellesley Hills.

"My work is to bring women into the practical work of life for the good of the world and for civilization," she continued. "Women have something to bring to the world which the men do not possess, and the men have their energies and their work to do. When women and men co-ordinate their energies and their different abilities for the betterment of the world, the work of making a good job of civilization will be largely realized."

Mrs. Pankhurst said that the war had given the opportunity to women to take part in the affairs of Great Britain, and that it was giving the women of France and the United States the same opportunity. "There is no doubt," she said, "that women have taken full advantage of these favorable conditions. Much that we were struggling for, and against the greatest odds a few years ago, has come to us because of the changed conditions brought on by the war."

"In Great Britain the war has brought us suffrage and it will probably come in France after the war,

It is going to be an easier matter to adopt uniform text books throughout

## That Wh

**V**EGETABLES are a very article of diet. With of peas, beans and l tables are usually rich hydrates (sugars, an mineral salts, and ash. Peas little have little nodules containing bacteria that h to take nitrogen from the u se this nitrogen in buil a form that is available as a The carbohydrates and p tables are stored in little cel of cellulose. Cooking causi to soften but it is not any great extent, but has a diet in that it is slightly irri walls of the intestines and n states the action of the bo when bulk on which the contract, this helps to pu matter out of the system.

The mineral salts are of taste to the body. They a water so if the vegetables a large quantity of water and drained a part of the salts are lost. These salts are retained if the vegetables are steamed or if they are cooked in a small quantity of water which is allowed to evaporate. Or the water may be saved and used in soup. Strong flavored vegetables such as cabbage, cauliflower, turnips and onions, cooked in a large quantity of water. This improves though the mineral matter certain extent. These vegetables should be cool or partly covered, the odorable and the flavor not so vegetables are cooked with there is less loss of the n. I hope your war garden great success. Ours was, been revelling in fresh pickles made from our wonder how many of us have Swiss Chard, it is a real treat for greens and t and served with a white s table or supper dish.

## Cauliflower Fri

1 cauliflower 1 egg  
1/2 teaspoon salt 1/2  
1/2 cup milk  
1 cup flour

Boil the cauliflower i until tender, drain, div flowers and dip in the smoking hot fat.

## Cheese Celery

6 good sized celery 1/4 l sticks 2 to 4  
6 drops Worcestershire A 1/2 P  
flavor

Wash and dry the c gather the remaining i smooth, fill the celery i with hot toasted cracker cottage cheese it is very this way.

## Stuffed Tom

4 tomatoes 1 t  
1/2 cup boiled rice  
1/2 cup cooked chopped meat 1/2  
1/2 cup milk 1/2

Mix the meat, parsi together, season to taste centres of the tomato mixture. Place the to tered plate, cover with bowl and steam for. The tomato pulp may be something else or rubbe and added to the tom this case make the sauc

## Potato Co

This makes an excel  
2 cups potatoes 1  
2 tablespoons milk  
1 egg

Use cold mashed pots beaten egg, the hot m or onion juice. Form i with grated cheese and l oven until brown.

## Mixed Vegeta

1 cup dried beans 2  
1/2 cup buttered sub stitute 1  
1 large boiled onion 1  
1 cup dried peas 2