

ESMERALDA

thought the machine ones lasted so much better."

"I don't know anything about machine-made things," said Mrs. DeWynt coldly. "Besides, I thought you wanted to do your bit!"

"I do," said Esmeralda in a suddenly subdued tone. "I do; but I can't knit. Besides, a machine seems so much more practical."

"But the spirit counts for such a lot!" exclaimed Marjorie in her sweet, womanly way. "See! I'm just learning to purl, and I know I do it horribly; but I'm sure that the sailor who gets this will appreciate that an American woman did it for him."

"You must learn—really!" added Mrs. Lennett. "It's easy, and everyone does it."

"What other war work is there here?" asked Esmeralda. "I may be able to do something else."

"There's the Red Cross, my dear," said Mrs. DeWynt, warming to her pet subject. "First aid—bandages and lint,