

# Traditional Roles For Women Expand

## **A) Recycling, Civil Defense and War Bond Sales**

Hempstead Sentinel, January 14, 1943

### **Hempstead Woman Praised For Work In Silk Stocking Salvage Campaign**

Col. Edward C.O. Thomas, Nassau County director of civilian protection in a letter to Miss Susan Schenck, proprietor of Miller's Bridal Shop at 261 Fulton Avenue, Hempstead, commended Miss Schenck for collecting and contributing 1,000 pounds of women's silk and nylon stockings for the county salvage drive.

"May I thank you for your outstanding accomplishment in accumulating within the period of one month, approximately 1,000 pounds of silk and nylon stockings for our salvage," said Col. Thomas. "These are now being reprocessed for use as powder bags for our high calibre guns."

"May I say that it is women like you, with a high resolve and patriotic spirit, who are making civilian history. In this war, as in all wars, women can and do accept responsibilities. They do their job modestly, humbly, but well. I could not let this splendid effort go by without a personal note of thanks," Col. Thomas concluded.

Farmingdale Post, February 11, 1943

### **Six Month Report Reveals Activity of Women's Division**

The Women's division of the Farmingdale War Savings staff rendered an account of their first six months' activity. This group under the leadership of Mrs. W. T. Schwendler has maintained a selling crew for the First National Bank, the Bank of Farmingdale and in the Farmingdale Theatre during week-ends for the aforementioned period. They have been able to capture, attract, convince, and literally pull out of the pockets of those who have money to deposit, withdraw, invest, or to those who are pleasure bent, the total of \$14,999.45. This represents a profit of almost \$5,000 to those who have seen the light and who have invested in War savings bonds and stamps.

The Farmingdale Post, June 17, 1943

### **Fire Guard, Under Warden Service, Open to Women Also**

Although Fire Guard is considered the most difficult and dangerous of volunteer Civilian Defense assignments, women will be recruited as regular members of Fire Guard Squads, and will work on exactly the same basis as men. In fact, women outnumber men in the British Fire Guard organization. Women will also serve in staff positions, organizing and directing thousands of Fire Guards. Their job will be to locate and extinguish incendiary bomb fires while they are still small, thus releasing city fire equipment and personnel to fight blazes too large for pump tank or stirrup pump treatment.

The Babylon Leader, March 10, 1944

### **Mrs. H.R. Smither Prize Winner for Booth Bond Sales Will Receive Bond for Booth Worker Selling Most During War Loan**

Mrs. Harriet R. Smither is winner of the \$25 War Bond donated by an anonymous local citizen to be awarded to the booth worker who sold the most War Bonds and Stamps at the Babylon Theater War Bond Booth during the Fourth War Loan Campaign, is announced by Mrs. Joel A. Davis, chairman of Booth Committee.

Questions:

1. Why was the recycling of silk and nylon important to the war effort?
2. Why were women encouraging people to put their savings in banks? Why were people suspicious of banks?
3. Do you think women could be good fire guards? Why?
4. Why was an award given to the best war bond sales person?