

## **E) Changing Attitudes Toward Women**

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Newsday, May 12, 1944

### **USES Issues Hurry Call For 4,000 War Workers**

A hurry call for more than 4,000 workers for Nassau's war plants was issued yesterday by Lester M. Cooley, chief of the Hempstead branch of the United States Employment Service.

Particularly needed, Cooley said, are thousands of engineers, and either full time or part time clerks, typists, stenographers and secretaries. They're needed at once because a number of the plants in this area are currently designing new models of war products - an operation that requires greatly increased staffs.

In order to lure workers for the white collar jobs, Cooley said that college students and teachers will be accepted for employment during their vacation periods. Housewives, too, will be welcomed, even if they can give no more than four hours a day at the plant. . . .

While both men and women may qualify for the jobs, Cooley said he expected his biggest responses to come from women who discover they have part of a day to give to producing war materials. "The plants are now working on plans to supply transportation service for new workers," he said. "As far as is possible, the road to these jobs will be made easy."

Republic Aviation, March, 1945

"The important role of women in aircraft production is indicated by the fact that they represented 40 per cent of the labor force in August, 1944 compared to five per cent in January, 1942."

Questions:

- 1- What percentage of the workers in the aircraft industry were women in January, 1942? What percentage of the workers in the aircraft industry were women in August, 1944?
- 2- Why were companies willing to pay workers while they trained for jobs?
- 3- How was the U.S. Employment Service making it easier for women to work in the defense industry?
- 4- In your opinion, how did the war changed attitudes about women workers?