

B. "If You Ask Me!"

Republic Aviation, April, 1943

Question: How do you manage your domestic life now that you're working in the plant?

Phoebe Butler, electrical assembly: Phoebe has two boys and a girl "I keep the children in a boarding school, but they come home on my days off. After leaving here at night, I do my housework and even find time to work in the machine shop which I have at home. Guess I have no domestic problems."

Olive Ketcham, wing shop: She has a 14-year old daughter. "Before leaving for work, I get my daughter, Florence, off to school. Then, before I come home, she does the housework and prepares supper for us. On my day off, we get together and give the house a thorough going-over before we settle down to some recreation such as attending movies. My husband is in the Coast Guard, but we manage to take care of the home."

Florence Reddy, electrical assembly : She has a seven-year old daughter who is the pride and joy of her life "I have an aunt who lives with us in Huntington. She takes care of the child until I get home. After my day here, I manage to do some of the housework. On my days of, I get a kick out of taking my daughter to a show."

C. Child Care Programs

Valley Stream, 1942

Want Women to Aid War Work

Because of the drain made by the draft on plant personnel, additional workers must be drawn from women with leisure and the patriotic urge to help the war program. The Valley Stream Defense Council of the Civilian Mobilization wished to call attention to a special meeting which is of vital interest to all such women next Tuesday, November 24th, at 8 p.m. in the auditorium of the Brooklyn Avenue School. Miss Grace Gillet, supervisor of war production training for women, is scheduled to speak. Also, Miss Myra Woodruff, superintendent of child's care and development who will discuss plans for the care of children of working mothers.

Newsday, May 25, 1944

Child Care Film to Appear in Hempstead

"What of Your Child", a film which shows the program for children of working mothers at child care centers established throughout New York State through the use of federal and state funds, will be shown at the Hempstead and Rivoli theatres it was announced by the Hempstead Child Care Committee yesterday.

The local Child Care Center set up in September 1942 is open 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Applications for entering children between the ages of five and 14 for the after-school program may be made at any time. After the closing of the schools for the summer, the program will be expanded to provide all-day supervision for children between those ages.

Questions:

1. What is meant by "domestic life"?
2. What problems do these women face because they are working?
3. Have you or a brother or sister attended a child care program? If you did, how did you like it? Why?
4. Do the adults in your family work outside of the home? If they do, how does your family manage?