

## "THE ON THE HANDS"

By Mrs. Jackson Lunney



Hello boys, "The hand that rocks the cradle rocks the world" so once said a famous writer. It seems now that Hitler is trying to do just that. But his is in an entirely different manner, it's more of a jolting; a topsy-turvy; a "spilling rock. Now let us take a few minutes to see what the good mothers, sisters, and women are doing to get things back on the right track.

Women are not softies any more. Gone are the bustles and hoop skirts and in their place a pair of denim slacks or sturdy work clothes. Gone are the pantalletts and high topped shoes and a comfortable oxford, moccasin or sandal is gracefully in their stead. Women have come a long way since the day they were denied their right to vote. Denied the right to prove to the world that they too possessed a certain substance in the head known as "brains." Years ago it was shocking and humiliating for a woman to expose even her ankles. She must keep quiet, composed, calm, and "be a lady" under all circumstances—What the men said was law and order. The little woman (so 'twas considered) was something too fragile and soft to know much, so the quieter, the more collected, the better. When it came to expressing her ideas and thoughts concerning the public, government or national affairs, she was just about as popular as the piggy bank that grinned from the mantle, and about as empty too. That was years ago, but I've listened wide eyed, awe-struck and bewildered to just such tales and tried to decide whether I'd rather be a lady with a nice wasp waist, carrying a lace umbrella over my dainty curls and braids or be a "tom-boy" and climb trees and ride stick horses with my brothers. I suppose the tom-boy idea carried 'cause for be it from me, to let a mere brother out stunt me.

First, lets go to the airplane factories. Women are doing the work of men there. Don't let it fool you, it is a fact. They're in the assembly line applying the vital parts that put our planes in the air and keep them there. In every defense plant they are learning and working unashamed of their tousled hair and "grease-monkey" hands. Call the roll in the majority of war production plants and you'll hear a greater number of women voices answer than those of men. Yep the gals have come down off their high horses and are crawling under tanks, planes and other war machines and applying bolts, screws and grease.

Women nurses are on every battle front caring for our sick and wounded soldiers. Red Cross workers are there ready to ease any discomfort of our boys, and those lassies are not running around in circles holding smelling salts under their nose either. Just like our brave men and boys they are exerting every effort to win this war.

Women have come far since they were allowed to be intelligent and useful. In Congress, in law offices, doctors, scientists, and everywhere in the business world you'll find them. Just like you now can in every phase of war work. The Waves, the Waacs and many other organizations. It may not seem so much now, but if I don't miss my guess, you men will have some polishing up to do after this

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