

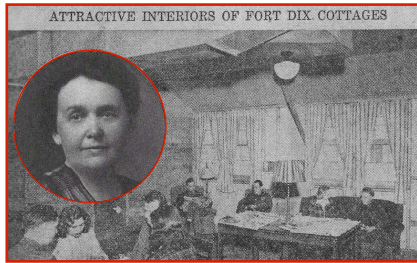
# Red, White and Blue — And You!

## In Wartime, NJSFWC Clubwomen Support Our Troops

**RED** in our flag represents valor, courage and willingness to shed one's blood for freedom. Just as Betsy Ross stitched the first flag, New Jersey clubwomen women have sewed bandages and uniforms, knit socks and sweaters, and used their skills to helping our fighting men.

When the United States entered World War I in 1917, the NJSFWC held Liberty Loan Drives and sold Thrift Stamps. Many turned their clubhouses over to the Red Cross for war relief work.

After Pearl Harbor, NJSFWC women sold enough War Bonds to buy 15 ambulances and six ambulance planes — all named in honor of NJSFWC clubs. Clubwomen worked with the Office of Civilian Defense, and the Committee for Consumer Education. They grew Victory Gardens, taught classes in food preservation, and set up canning centers. Others arranged for clothing exchanges, sent gifts and cookies to hospitalized veterans, and provided books, furniture, appliances, sports equipment, radios, and musical instruments to Army posts. NJSFWC continues to send Christmas stockings overseas to military personnel.



ATTRACTIVE INTERIORS OF FORT DIX COTTAGES

### THE HAVERSACK

In 1917 New Jersey clubwomen transformed an empty house at Fort Dix into a soldier's club — the only one of its kind. They named it "The Haversack" after a shoulder bag that soldiers carried. (The Dutch word *haverzak* means "oat sack," a cloth bag used to hold horse feed.) More than half a million servicemen visited The Haversack where, for 16 hours a day, volunteer hostesses provided home cooking in a family atmosphere. There was a canteen, living room, library, music room, card room and writing room—even pets. Clubs paid for rent, utilities and insurance, and they raised \$3,600 so that in 1918 the 26th Army Engineers could add a 48 by 64-foot lounge. At the end of the war, The Haversack was sold, and with the proceeds a scholarship in honor of the Army engineers was established at Stevens Institute of Technology; the furnishings went to the State Home for Girls at Trenton. When World War II began, Company Day Rooms were needed again at Fort Dix. NJSFWC, under its wartime President, Elizabeth Middleton Maddock, quickly furnished 136 Day Rooms, and The Haversack, the very first soldier's club, lived on in spirit.

# Red, White and Blue — And You!

## In Peacetime, NJSFWC Clubwomen Support Our Nation

**WHITE** in our flag stands for peace. In 1905, the Federation wrote to President Theodore Roosevelt commending the Peace Conference that produced a treaty ending the Russo-Japanese War. Just before World War I, clubwomen backed the Industrial Peace Movement and the National Women's Peace Party, and they

wanted a Court of Nations. After the War, they advocated a World Court, and in 1932 they backed the World Disarmament Conference. They continued to attend peace conferences and endorse peace pacts, culminating in their support of the successful formation of the United Nations in 1947.



White also represents purity — a steadfast allegiance to independence and honorable goals. Our flag is never dipped to any person or thing — that's why, during the Parade of Nations at the Olympics Opening Ceremonies, when athletes carrying their nations' flags dip them as they march past heads of state, the American flag is the only one held upright.

**BLUE** in our flag signifies justice for all, as well as vigilance and perseverance — a reminder that to keep America independent we must be watchful and strong.



When World War I began, NJSFWC was the first such state group asked by Washington to serve in its Bureau of Information and Patriotic Service. An Espionage Committee was formed to report suspicious actions, seditious remarks, interference with government meetings and the circulation of false reports about war organizations.

After the war, civil defense was a chief concern. Clubwomen joined the Ground Observer Corps, developed evacuation plans and distributed booklets about home protection. After publicizing the need for fallout shelters, NJSFWC received citations from the Office of Civilian Defense.

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