

ARMING OUR HOME FRONT

# Red Cross Nurse's Aide Job Yours—If You've Got What it Takes!

Volunteers Can Enter War Service;  
Requirements High; Work a Challenge,

By Mrs. Gudrun Alcock  
Woman's Editor.

*and they're  
not fooling!*

Surrounded by friends, showered with flowers, a group of 10 girls boarded the train on which I was leaving Washington recently. Through the flippancy of gay farewells, there was a certain bravado—you sensed that this was to be goodbye for a long time.

Every girl was pretty, extremely so. It was a prettiness that was more than surface, it was in the way their heads were held high, in the way their eyes seemed to look readily to far horizons.



MRS. ALCOCK.

That evening as we were all in the dressing room we talked as the train swayed along. The light chatter and feminine details of putting cream on our faces were sobered by the identification tags I saw around each girl's slim neck.

These young women were United States Navy nurses.

Over a year ago they had applied and now, after undergoing specialized training and passing rigid tests, they were on their way. They were proud of their new duties, and well prepared for their job.

This article has been withheld until I was free to tell the destination marked on their luggage—for it read, dramatic in its simplicity—"Pearl Harbor."

Who will replace these girls' places in our hospitals? They're gone, we don't know for how long. All the hospitals are now forming units of doctors and nurses who will be ready to go whenever ordered. There are not enough student nurses to fill the gaps. The answer

## 'V'

### VERSE

*Some soldier or sailor  
Should be on his way  
To have Easter dinner  
At your house today.*

He will lose almost all fingers on both hands, but you laugh with him when he jokes that he's glad it wasn't his feet.

#### Numberless Tasks.

You stop to see if the man whose ear was cut off is comfortable. You agree with him that he should not have become interested in another man's wife. You check to see if John, whose girl stabbed him three times, needs anything. You give baths and wash faces. You assist the nurse in dressing a wound. You are on your feet constantly, alert to render the many little services which make the tedious time in bed pass more quickly and comfortably.

You do this all day for two days every week. You supply your own uniforms and there is no rest