

GAS MASKS FOR CIVILIANS?



Civilian defense authorities hope that all citizens will be provided with gas masks some time in the near future. For the present, the limited available supply is being distributed among air raid wardens. In this photo Miss Claire Ridgway is shown holding four pounds of castoff rubber which she added to a service station salyage pile to do her part in the current rubber drive. Her air raid warden tells her that gas masks need 1.8 pounds of rubber, and that her contribution weighs enough to supply the material for another mask.

W.A.A.C. Is Now on Regular Army Lists

The first officer candidate school of the Women's Army Auxiliary corps, which will start at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, July 15, is going to develop "leading ladies," but no prima donnas.

Colonel Don C. Faith, commandant of the school, emphasizes that, "leadership, first, last and always," will be the principal objective of the curriculum which he has planned for the 450 women who will attend this first school. Far from learning how to "live alone and like it," these women, prospective officers in the W.A.A.C., will be taught how to live in a crowd, and how to lead a crowd.

"The most important quality to be developed in this training," Colonel Faith declared, "is the quality of leadership. Leadership means self-confidence but not arrogance; it means the ability to understand as well as to command. It is an essential quality in a successful officer."

In addition to developing this quality of leadership in the potential officers, Colonel Faith has also planned a course of study which will teach the women how to "get along in a military atmosphere." "This means," he points out, "how to change from a civilian life to a military schedule with ease. It means to merge individualism into community life."

The course of study, as outlined

by Colonel Faith, will include military courtesies and ceremonies, military discipline and drill. Student officers also will be thoroughly grounded in military sanitation and hygiene, first aid, aircraft identification, gas mask drill, mess management, and mess life requisites. The students will be on a military schedule from 6 a. m. to 11 p. m., six days of the week. Sunday will be rest day and the women will be allowed to leave the post, but they must remain in Des Moines unless special leave is obtained.

At the end of the training period students will be commissioned in rank according to their record. Those who do not qualify for commissions will remain in the W.A.A.C. as non-commissioned of-

ficers and auxiliaries. Following the commissioning, a two weeks' course in specialized duties will be given. As requirements of the W.A.A.C. expand, additional officers will be promoted from the ranks.

Private Takes Leave On Extra Long Pass

The enlisted personnel at Fort Devens, Mass., came back to normal recently with the return of Private Joe Gomez from a long furlough during which he visited at his home in Taos, N. M. You see, Private Gomez neither reads nor speaks English. So when he was granted a furlough and told to go home for a visit, he followed the words he knew — "Go home" — and did so. And it was quite a stay.

Finally, friends started wondering about his long visit, discovered his incomplete understanding of furlough operation and arranged for his immediate return to camp.

'More Plates, Dearie', When Company Invited

A colonel's wife at Paine Field, Wash., sent a note to a captain on the post. "Colonel and Mrs. Browne request the pleasure of Captain Greene's company to dinner on May 15th," the invitation read. Shortly she received a courteous reply.

It went like this: "With the exception of five men on leave and three on sick list, Captain Greene's company will take great pleasure in accepting your invitation!"



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