

# Bethlehem Women in WACS

## Bethlehem Women in WACS To Have Honor of Taking Oath In Capitol Before Governor

FEB 22 1945

For the first time in the history of the Women's Army Corps, in Pennsylvania recruits will be sworn into the Army in the State Capitol in Harrisburg. Among the 41 women from Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey who have been accorded this unique honor, are four Bethlehem girls. The ceremony will take place February 27.

Governor Edward Martin and Major General Philip Hayes, Commanding General of the Third Service Command, will officiate at impressive ceremonies, planned to show the appreciation of the government for this response to the appeal made by the Army for medical technicians to care for wounded veterans.

All four Bethlehemites who have enlisted for this special training have personal reasons, in addition to interest in the larger issues of this conflict, for wanting to serve where they are most needed.

### FOUR LOCAL GIRLS

The four are: Doris M. Conrad, 523 Third Avenue; Elizabeth Rodriguez, 335 Wyandotte Street; Olga Saharuk, 113 East Third Street; and Pasqualine R. Fodi, 425 Romig Street.

The new recruits will first be sent to Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., for six weeks basic training, after which they will attend a medical technician school for an additional six weeks. They will then be awarded the rank of Corporal and will be assigned to care for wounded veterans at one of the following hospitals: Valley Forge Hospital, Phoenixville, Pa.; Woodrow Wilson General Hospital, Staunton, Va.; Ashford General Hospital, White Sulphur Springs, Va., or Beaumont General Hospital, El Paso, Texas.

### REASONS FOR ENLISTMENT

Doris M. Conrad, the first of the group to enlist, is the wife of Staff Sergeant Paul Conrad, who is now serving in the infantry in Germany. He was inducted two and one half years ago and has been overseas since last August. A former employe of Hess Department Store, Sgt. Conrad is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Conrad.

Since her husband's departure, Mrs. Conrad has been living with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Hummel, at 523 Third Avenue and has been working at Siegel's Jewelry Store, Allentown. Recently, she felt that she could endure no longer her seeming uselessness to the cause for which her husband is fighting. So she enlisted.

Elizabeth Rodriguez is also the wife of a serviceman on overseas duty. Her husband, Pvt. Manuel R. Rodriguez, a former employe of the Bethlehem Steel Company, is now in London. Working in the machine shops of the Bethlehem Steel Company and Roller-Smith, she tried to do her share toward the war effort. But her desire to do more was given added impetus by the death of her brother, Pfc. Stephen Vidumsky, who was killed in action in Sicily. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Vidumsky, of 335 Wyandotte Street.

The entry of Mrs. Pasqualine R.

Fodi, of 425 Romig Street, into active service was postponed because of the death of her father, Anthony Guzzo, who was killed two weeks ago on the Reading Railroad tracks. In addition to the sorrow caused by this tragic death in the family, Mrs. Fodi is concerned over the welfare of her brother, Seaman 1c Frank Robert Guzzo, who has been serving for three years in the Pacific theater of war. She has been employed as a waitress at the Elite and Royal restaurants.

The last of the quartet, Miss Olga Saharuk, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Saharuk, of 113 East Third Street, worked for three years at the Lehigh dress factory. Though she has no near relatives in service, she is corresponding with several men on overseas duty, who daily bring to her by mail the urgency of the need for women to care for our wounded.

Feb. 22, 1945