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EFORE the year is over, there will be half a million more of us hanging out the blue stars, for no woman with a husband under thirtyeight is sure of keeping him with her much longer. Of course, these young wives and mothers are on the anxious seat. They weep on occasion; they spend sleepless nights. Their homes have suddenly become very dear. They are bewildered, sick with apprehension. They listen with bated breath to each new pronouncement from Mr. Hershey or Mr. McNutt. Life has become for them an existing from one mail delivery to the next.

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But take it from one who has gone through the mill-it's lots worse in anticipation than it is in reality. Somehow, from somewhere (perhaps above) comes a new spiritual courage, a strengthening and toughness you never dreamed you had before. And the strangest thing of all is that after it happens—after your husband is taken—you are conscious of a new pride and distinction you had never imagined. You suddenly find you can face it!

For over a year I had been in a turmoil. For over a year the constant dread of my husband's leaving had been making a nightmare of my hours. Like most other American wives, I had not only to contend with the gradual dreaded approach of the draft, but with a husband who was uneasy and itching to get into the fight, as soon as he could decently dispose of me and the home. Commissions—good heavens!—he tried them all. But college professors are a "non-essential." Commissions drag through months of waiting,

One of our friends—a physical education instructor—had his commission (for which he'd been playing for eight months) come through with four days' notice in which to dispose of his home, furniture, dump his family of three into the laps of unsuspecting relatives or kind friends, and get to Washington!

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