

THESE DESIGNING WOMEN REALLY ARE ENGINEERS!

Their Dreams Make New Gadgets a Reality

BY GENEVIEVE FLAVIN

(Pictures on page 1)

Certainly they are designing women.

The fact is admitted freely by five of Chicago's woman engineers whose careers attest their ingenuity. Theirs is the daily chance to revolutionize the world. They have helped send sound spinning, clear and distinct, across the world; to bring ease of living within budget levels, or build power machinery to send ships pounding thru heavy seas to far away places.

Their personal dreams, begun with a pencil applied to sketching pad, become blueprints which thru manufacture make many dreams reality. They channel power, energy, and the complexities of turbines and cable into comfort—on a universal scale.

She Majors in Math

"No mystery to it" is the summation of Miss Mary Lourdes Murphy, 1608 Sherwin av., engineer with the Illinois Bell Telephone company. Her conversation, however, is a trifle confusing, when she pauses in a description of a new frock, to speak with a fellow engineer about "working in a main frame with a slice."

A lieutenant commander in the naval reserve, Miss Murphy came to her profession 25 years ago from St. Teresa college, Winona, Minn. There she had majored in mathematics, basis of all engineering. Her first post of any importance was as an assistant engineer.

"The rest came as a matter of course," she states modestly. More specific would have been the statement, "The rest came because of ability."

Relocates Manholes

Miss Murphy's specific job is to determine how well you can hear over the telephone, and to meet transmission objectives at a reasonable cost. Factors involved range from the size and location of manholes to the designing and proper wearing of an operator's headset. The relocation of manholes for Chicago's State st. subway was Mary's responsibility.

During World War II, Lt. Comdr. Murphy was assigned to Washington and worked on radar equipment and testing for submarines.

The world—and she saw most of it while on a round the globe cruise on the brigantine Yankee—

has always been pretty much in the hands of Miss Terry Glenn, 1256 Bryn Mawr av., engineer with Yeomans Brothers company. She was the first girl to win a degree [aeronautical engineering] from the Technological institute of Northwestern university.

Holds Pilot's License

During the recent war, she went into war service as an "inspector of fuses" and now has switched to power pumps and high test furnaces. A woman of few words, Terry agreed that she probably decided to leave the journalism division and go to Technological institute because of her interest in aviation. She holds a private pilot's license, and because of her proficiency as a sailor, was a crew member on the Yankee on its 1½ year cruise.

Slum clearance and housing sites are a normal interest of women, especially the homemaker. But Miss Iris Ashwell, engineer with the Chicago housing authority, dreams of digging in her own garden, while working in site selection for housing projects—for others.

"I'm a back door engineer," she stated, leaning over planning plaques and placing miniature building in miniature landscaped areas. She was educated to be a landscape architect, and had studied two years in England with Thomas Mawson.

Her first assignment was designing grounds for a hotel in Harrison Hot Springs, B. C. She worked in public war housing in Washington, and now is choosing sites for others' homes.

Other Woman Engineers

A similar but more related task to slum clearance is the work of Miss Beatrice Horneman. 909

Elmwood av., Evanston, chief site planner for the public housing administration. Her work takes her to 10 adjoining states. Both she and Miss Ashwell aid easy living at budget levels—at least that is the idea, one concedes.

"There's always the possibility one will design a new gadget that will revolutionize the world"—thus is stated the lure of her profession by Miss Mary Ann Crawford, 2820 Cambridge av. Architectural engineer with Lindberg Construction company, Miss Crawford daily reports to the Colonial building of her own design at Hubbard st. and Western av. She stumbled into her profession when aiding her mother to explain her needs and hopes for a new house.

Seeing a drawing of the "hoped for" floor plan, the architect merely scaled the drawing and advised her to study architecture. The rest is history—a business career as engineer.

All five of the woman engineers are members of the Professional Women's council of the Midwestern Society of Engineers.

Women Engineers Achieve Successful Careers and Keep Petticoats Out of Machinery



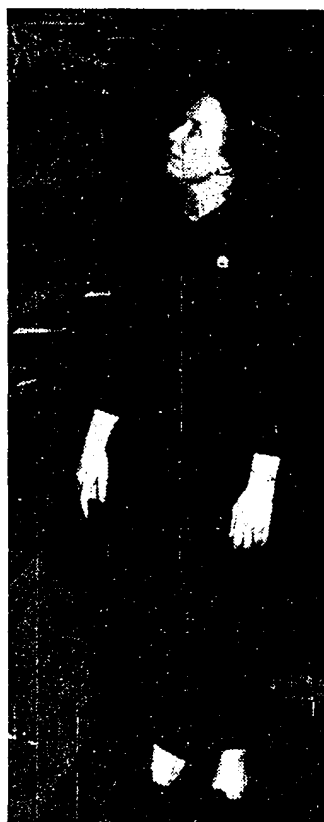
A well planned career pays double dividends for Beatrice Horneman, engineer with city planning commission. She enjoys satisfying work while making living conditions better for others. Max Leichenshng, project engineer, consults with Engineer Horneman at site of Jane Addams-Brooks project, Washburne av. and Laffin st. (Story on page 8)



Standing before portico of Lindberg Engineering company office building of her own design, Miss Mary Ann Crawford testifies to genius of woman in engineering profession. She is an architect and industrial designer, and officer of Society of Western Engineers.



Miss Iris Ashwell, engineer with Chicago housing authority, picks a site for a future housing project.



Cables in Illinois Bell Telephone company Loop office are checked by Miss Mary Lourdes Murphy, engineer.

[TRIBUNE Photos by Russell Hamm]



Miss Crawford, who likes intricate gadgets, examines carbon determinator designed for use in steel mills.