

KNOX WOMAN DOES "WONDERFUL WORK"

Hettie P. Anderson, ex-'03, is Director General of Lyons Region in France for War Work Council of the Y. W. C. A.

FROM the office of the War Work Council, National Board of the Y. W. C. A., came a letter to the KNOX ALUMNUS inclosing a photograph of Hettie P. Anderson of Knox College, saying, "She is doing a most wonderful piece of work as director general of the Lyons Region and has charge of the largest Foyer des Alliees in France."

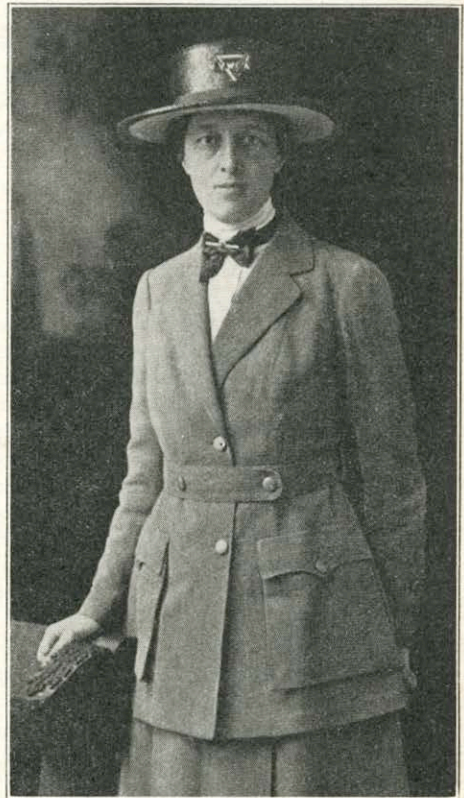
Miss Anderson had her only college training in Knox, spending the Freshman year here in 1899-1900. It is probable that in that year she received her first understanding of the purposes and aims of Y. W. C. A. work. After teaching three years she went to Paris in 1903 where she remained for five years, dividing her time between the study of languages and Y. W. work with the American Girls' Home in Paris. On her return to the United States she filled the office of Y. W. C. A. secretary in St. Joe, Michigan, and later in Pasadena, California. From the latter place she was sent in September, 1917, to Lyons, France, to do special constructive work, being the third Y. W. C. A. secretary to be sent abroad.

All that a Y. W. secretary in a factory district in an American city is expected to carry on Miss Anderson does and infinitely more. War in France had forced girls and women in great numbers into munition plants and other factories where poor accommodations and crowded conditions added to the hardships of the workers. Miss Anderson's knowledge of French life and language, her skill in organization, her tact in interesting cultivated French women in the movement and gaining their co-operation, added to her experience in Y. W. C. A. work in America, all made it possible for her to begin work in Lyons with no delay. Three Foyers are already serving thousands of girls and women in Lyons and will do a larger work as soon as more buildings can be secured.

(The French Foyer—hearth—as used in "Foyers des Alliees" and "Foyers des Sol-

dates" means "Club Home," "Recreation Center," "Assembly.")

Since organizing these centers Miss Anderson holds a general supervision over them, teaches some classes, meets the girls as their friend and also visits outlying districts when calls come from factories em-



ploying thousands of women. The particular work of these Foyers is to give the factory workers rest, recreation, instruction, amusement and lunch at the noon hour. Evening classes are organized for those who live within convenient distance. Instruction in English, sewing, chorus singing, physical training, informal lectures, concerts and all

kinds of entertainments are given. Stunts by girl workers, programs by professional artists, all of these go on constantly. Employers are visited and their good will and interest is aroused. Employment is obtained for girls in need; vacations are arranged for those in danger of breaking down, money is loaned to tide over a crisis.

The spirit back of Hettie Anderson's work may perhaps be indicated by her own words.

"We feel that the industrial women are coming into their own through their own efforts and it may be our privilege to be used in helping to guide these efforts."

We are proud to claim Miss Anderson as a former student of Knox and the work which she is doing in Lyons should be an incentive to the Knox women for more intensive work in the organization.