Letters to the Editor

THE LINCOLN SALUTE FOR WOMEN

To the Editor of the Transcript:

I hope that upon a no distant "Lincoln's Birthday," American women will adopt a salute that is their own. What better salute than Lincoln's suggestion for women?

What feeling in the mind of a woman or girl than the thought of the great man who led us to freedom of the recent war? Ever since we have lived in its tumultuous days the need of a new form of salute for women has existed. The need of its establishment and adoption so that the sound of our national anthem shall ring with our American women in their "at attention," and the passing of the colors "at salute." The lack of proper outward respect and tribute to the soldiers and that it should be a form of their own. The story is little known—but is recorded. Upon some big parades, the rounds of the great Lincoln, Mr. Jackson said, "Mr. Lincoln, what would you suggest for a woman to do to salute the flag?" Lincoln said, "I know of nothing but what is in my soul, the thought of you upon your heart," writing the action to the word—which, carried out in a military sense, would be to bring up the right arm quickly and strongly across the chest with hand over heart, the hand under. Done crisply, the salute is simple, impressive and dignified. At the time of the big Boston Red Cross parade Mr. Jackson said, "I will down to give the so-called Lincoln Salute, but that proved to be the Lincoln Salute suggested by someone knowing it.

The adoption of this salute for women was Mr. Jackson thought well of by kindled toward the writer's suggestion to the committee of the advisory committee at Washington—but action in such matters is necessarily slow. But in a military sense, would be to bring up the right arm quickly and strongly across the chest with hand over heart, the hand under. Done crisply, the salute is simple, impressive and dignified. At the time of the big Boston Red Cross parade Mr. Jackson said, "I will down to give the so-called Lincoln Salute, but that proved to be the Lincoln Salute suggested by someone knowing it.

Mrs. Beebe voiced her opinion before the Malden Civic League, Malden's leading women's club, and the club has appointed a committee to recommend that the woman's flag salute be standardized. This committee will outline the plan to the authorities at Washington.

"Women need an outward expression when our flag goes by," says Mrs. Beebe. "We felt the need of it during the war, and we feel it today. Our national anthem is sung. Soldiers and sailors stand at attention, civilians take off their hats, but we women have no national salute and we are most anxious to have one. I feel that the action of the Malden club is the beginning of the national-wide movement which will make the "Patriot's Union" the flag salute for women universal."

Mrs. Beebe is the wife of an American Legion, Department of Massachusetts, at the State House, Nov. 27, 1929, it was resolved to adopt the Lincoln salute—this form of salute that shall be women's own. M. B. BEEBE

Boston, Feb. 12, 1923

W.M.S. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Malden Club Wants Nation to Adopt the Suggestion Lincoln Made to a Girl Who Asked How to Pay Respect to the Colors

MRS. FREDERICK BEEBE

Giving the proposed women's salute to the flag.

"Put your hand on your heart as the flag goes by," was the answer of President Lincoln to a young girl who asked how she should best salute the flag.

A suggestion that this salute be adopted by women all over the land is made by a Malden woman, Mrs. Frederick Beebe, of 16 Chestnut St. She made the suggestion of making this salute a National one and wishes it adopted by the Government and recommended to all women.

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