

PRIVATE GWENDOLINE J. SCHALLEAUX

Pte. Gwendoline J. Schalleaux, A.T.S. Telephone Orderly, has had a life crammed with adventure.

She has served in two wars; was married on horseback in America; has flown a passenger 'plane.

During the last war she joined the W.A.A.Cs and was demobilized in 1917. Then she went out to America under the Government Agricultural Scheme and eventually worked on a horse-farm doing exercising and grooming.

While there she met her husband, an American chemist, who like herself, was fond of horses. They were married on horse-back one Saturday evening at 9 o'clock outside a vicarage near New York.

"We'd been to a horse-show," said Pte. Schalleaux "and we didn't care to leave our horses unattended. So we were married by a German parson, who stood between us and read the marriage lines."

Three years later her husband was killed in a laboratory explosion.

It was in America that Pte. Schalleaux learned to fly and later in England she spent several months piloting 'planes for 5/- pleasure flights.

In 1930 she went to Germany, where she was chauffeuse to a dentist, who has since escaped with his family. She also travelled in Austria, France and Switzerland.

Her father was an interpreter at Krupps' Works in Germany. Pte. Schalleaux's twenty-year old daughter, a qualified nurse, can speak five languages.

Collecting stamps is Pte. Schalleaux's favourite indoor hobby. She has a valuable collection, and recently sold one set for £350.

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MILITARY AFFAIRS

NOTE: Picture obtainable from P.N.A.