The Girl on the Land
Serves the Nation's Need
apply Y.W.C.A.
Land Service Committee.

Thousands of American women volunteered with private social service and religious organizations. They grew crops, supported civilian relief efforts in Europe, and ran social centers for servicemen stateside and abroad.

Before and during the war, millions of American women served the country in countless ways, in and out of uniform, at home and abroad.

WOMEN IN THE GREAT WAR

Thousands more women put on military uniforms. Over 20,000 volunteered for the U.S. Army and Navy Nurse Corps. Nearly 13,000 joined the ranks of the U.S. Navy and Marines for the first time—taking over office jobs that, per the popular saying, "freed a man to fight." And 450 trained as telephone operators in the U.S. Army, connecting headquarters to officers in the field.

"This war is being fought by women. It is women who suffer and lend courage to us. Women... when the war is over...will deserve honor for their aid in establishing democracy."
~General John J. Pershing, 1917

Uniform worn by U.S. Army Signal Corps operator.

A million women joined the civilian workforce.

Women saw their service as justifying their claim to full citizenship. They won the right to vote in 1920, in part for their wartime efforts.

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THE UNITED STATES
WORLD WAR ONE
CENTENNIAL COMMISSION

WORLD WAR 1:
LESSONS AND LEGACIES