

Women - Information Sheet 5

Notes from LANDGIRLS by Sue Virgin, 2014.

Lloyd George made concessions in Mar 15 so that suffragette movement encouraged women into factories.

- Shortage of food due to u-boats. Soldiers and sailors required to fight.
- Male farmers didn't want Women's Land Corps – concerned about morals!
- Farming considered beneath service.
- Recruit needed letter from vicar assuring that girl was virtuous. No formal training given.
- Clothing; long shirts and breaches/pantaloon with linen coats and greatcoats. Women's Land Corps girls often adapted own clothes
- Paid 18 shillings per week.
- Summer time introduced.
- Mechanisation with tractors. WLC women had often been taught to drive by family chauffeur so became the tractor drivers and maintainers.
- Women's Timber Corps (WTC) 800 girls (WLC 13,000)
- Women went home at end of War but shortage of men and work, so encouraged to emigrate and marry.
- Reference: Life on All Fronts – women in the 1WW by Gill Thomas ISBN 0521 34841 2