



BUILDING A MORE PERFECT UNION

PART II



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NATIONAL
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NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

DOING HER CIVIC DUTY: ANNA COLEMAN LADD AND THE AMERICAN RED CROSS

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GUIDING QUESTION:

What obligations do citizens have to their nation and fellow citizens?

OVERVIEW

In this lesson, students will learn about United States citizens' rights and responsibilities. Using Anna Coleman Ladd and her experiences in World War I as a case study, students will analyze primary and secondary sources to create a historical narrative explaining the importance of civic engagement in society and what responsibilities Americans have to their country.

OBJECTIVES

At the conclusion of this activity, students will be able to:

- > Explain U.S. citizens' rights and responsibilities;
- > Analyze sources of information and explain the significance of Anna Coleman Ladd's work;
- > Create a poster or other academic product that demonstrates student research and conclusions.

STANDARDS CONNECTIONS

CONNECTIONS TO COMMON CORE

- > CCSS.ELA-Literacy.RH.6-8.1 Cite specific textual evidence to support analysis of primary and secondary sources.

CONNECTIONS TO C3 FRAMEWORK

- > D2.Civ.2.6-8. Explain specific roles played by citizens (such as voters, jurors, taxpayers, members of the armed forces, petitioners, protesters, and office-holders).

DOCUMENTS USED

PRIMARY SOURCES

Document, "Important Information for New Citizens," August 2019
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services
<https://www.uscis.gov/sites/default/files/document/flyers/M-767.pdf>

Photograph, *[Masks by Anna Coleman Ladd]*, 1917–1919
Library of Congress (2017672982)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017672982/>

Photograph, *Miss Maynard (Anna Coleman) Ladd*, April 1, 1919
Library of Congress (2017669385)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017669385/>

Photograph, *Mutiles wearing a mask made by Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd*, December 19, 1918
Library of Congress (2017683388)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017683388/>

Photograph, *French soldier whose face has been mutilated, fitted with a mask by Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd*, 1918
Library of Congress (2007676087)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2007676087/>

Photograph, *Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd and Mr Caudron. Mrs. A. Coleman Ladd working on portrait mask*, 1918
Library of Congress (2017672656)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017672656/>

Photograph, *Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd (seated in the foreground) surrounded by her patients at her studio, Christmas Day 1918 . . .*, 1918
Library of Congress (2007676091)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2007676091/>

Newspaper article, "Rebuilding Human Wreckage of War" *The Nonpartisan Leader*, November 11, 1918
<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn89074443/1918-11-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

Photograph, *Personnel—P1200 through P1299 [165-WW-429P-1224]*, International Film Service
National Archives and Records Administration (NAID 45532721)
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45532721>

Photograph, *Medical Department—Restoration Work—Reconstruction—Facial reconstruction. Forehead and chin are his own but the rest of his face is the creation of Mrs. Ladd*, October 28, 1918
National Archives and Records Administration (NAID 45498727)
<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45498727>

SECONDARY SOURCES

Article, Caroline Alexander, “Faces of War,” February 2007
Smithsonian Magazine
<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/faces-of-war-145799854/>

Article, “Women in World War I: Anna Coleman Ladd,” 2022
Smithsonian Institution
<https://www.si.edu/spotlight/women-in-wwi/anna-coleman-ladd>

Blog, Hparkins, “Anna Coleman Ladd: An Artist Who Created Hope for Wounded Soldiers,” March 11, 2020
National Archives and Records Administration
<https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2020/03/11/anna-coleman-ladd-an-artist-who-created-hope-for-wounded-soldiers/>

TEACHER-CREATED MATERIALS

- > Primary Source Packet
- > Secondary Source Links

ACTIVITY PREPARATION

- > Make one copy of the “Important Information for New Citizens” for each student.
- > Organize students into groups of three or four students each.
- > Make one copy of the Primary Source Packet for each group of three to four students.
- > Preview the secondary source articles and select which one(s) would be most appropriate for your students. Prepare to share the link to that article.
 - » **Teacher Tip:** These articles can be assigned to different students or groups to differentiate the lesson for students of varying reading levels.
- > Create a digital folder of the Primary Source Packet and then electronically share it with students.
- > Arrange the classroom for group work.

CONNECTIONS

Several lessons in this collection feature the story of individuals who have made the United States a more perfect union. Highlighting the stories of Deborah Sampson, Phillis Wheatley, Anna Coleman Ladd, Bayard Rustin, and James Toy helps create a more inclusive picture of American history.

- > Gather poster supplies or coordinate laptops for students to create digital posters.

PROCEDURE

ACTIVITY ONE: CIVIC CONCEPTS (30 MINUTES)

- > Ask students: *What are the rights and responsibilities of U.S. citizens?*
- > Distribute one copy of the “Important Information for New Citizens” document to each student. Review the document with students, and ask them to rank the responsibilities of citizens from most important to least important in their groups.
- > Ask groups to share the top two or three responsibilities they feel are most important and the two or three that they think are the least important.
- > Lead a discussion about civic responsibility. Discussion questions:
 - » *Why is civic participation in society and government important?*
 - » *What is the most important thing a citizen could do for their country?*
 - » *What responsibilities do Americans have toward each other?*

When discussing the history of people with disabilities, students may encounter language that was common to the past, but might be offensive, problematic, or out-of-date. In this lesson, they will see the term *mutilé*, which is French for a person with a disability. Remind students that in all discussions and written commentary, they should use modern-day terminology when speaking about people in the past.

ACTIVITY TWO: SOURCE ANALYSIS (30 MINUTES)

- > Share the secondary source links (which contain background information readings) with students. Teachers may provide all three links, one link, or assign different readings to different students or groups.
- > Distribute one copy of the Primary Source Packet to each student group.
- > Explain to students that they will examine primary and secondary sources relating to Anna Coleman Ladd's life and her work with World War I soldiers and veterans.
- > Select one of the primary sources and analyze it with the students.
- > Ask each group to divide the remaining sources amongst themselves and analyze them to determine the role and significance of Anna Coleman Ladd and her work in helping to build a more perfect union.
 - » **Teacher Tip:** Teachers can assign sources to meet students' needs or allow them to select sources.
- > Circulate among students to provide support and offer suggestions.
- > Ask students, *How did Anna Coleman Ladd fulfill her responsibilities as a citizen?*

ACTIVITY THREE: CREATE THE GROUP POSTER (45 MINUTES)

- > Explain to students that they will create a poster based on their source analysis to answer the guiding question, *What obligations do citizens have to their nation and fellow citizens?*, using Anna Coleman Ladd as a case study.
- > Circulate among students to provide support and offer suggestions on their posters to answer questions.

ASSESSMENT OPTIONS

- > Students can complete their posters individually or in groups.
- > Students can write an individual response to the guiding question that incorporates key elements from the lesson. In their response, students should reference citizens' responsibilities and Anna Coleman Ladd's work.
- > Student groups can present their posters to the class and highlight the sources they think are most important to answering the guiding question.

STUDENTS INTERESTED IN THIS TOPIC MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN RESEARCHING THE FOLLOWING FOR AN NHD PROJECT:

- > Clara Barton and the American Red Cross (1881)
- > Shell Shock and the Great War (1914–1918)
- > The International Red Cross and the Great War (1914–1918)
- > Military prosthetics in modern warfare (2001–present)

To access a PDF containing all of the sources and materials to complete this lesson plan, go to:

[NHD.ORG/250](https://nhd.org/250)

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RELATED RESOURCES

Lesson Plan: Voting Rights for Women: Pro- and Anti-Suffrage
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/lesson-plans/voting-rights-women-pro-and-anti-suffrage>

Media Resource: 2018 Jefferson Lecture: Dr. Rita Charon
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/media-resources/2018-jefferson-lecture-dr-rita-charon>

Media Resource: In the Field: War Ink
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/media-resources/field-war-ink>

Teacher's Guide: Women's History in the United States
<https://edsitement.neh.gov/teachers-guides/womens-history-united-states>

PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET

Photograph, *[Masks by Anna Coleman Ladd]*, 1917-1919
Library of Congress (2017672982)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017672982/>



PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, *Miss Maynard (Anna Coleman) Ladd*, April 1, 1919
Library of Congress (2017669385)
<https://www.loc.gov/item/2017669385/>



PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, *Mutiles wearing a mask made by Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd*, December 19, 1918
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Photograph, *French soldier whose face has been mutilated, fitted with a mask by Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd, 1918*
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<https://www.loc.gov/item/2007676087/>



PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd and Mr Caudron. Mrs. A. Coleman Ladd working on portrait mask, 1918
Library of Congress (2017672656)
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PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd (seated in the foreground) surrounded by her patients at her studio, Christmas Day 1918 . . . , 1918

Library of Congress (2007676091)

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2007676091/>



PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Newspaper Article, "Rebuilding Human Wreckage of War"

The Nonpartisan Leader, November 11, 1918

<https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/lccn/sn89074443/1918-11-11/ed-1/seq-5/>

Rebuilding Human Wreckage of War

Recent Bulletin Tells What Red Cross Bureau of Civilian Relief Is Doing in France—A Great Work, but Only a Beginning

IT IS an international adventure," says a recent Red Cross report, "upon which the American Red Cross has entered in its work for the civilians of France. It is a chapter in the history of the war different from any chapter in the history of any previous war. It is an expression of alliedship in a new language.

"Armies have crossed oceans before this to fight beside other armies; but never before, in war time or in peace time, have battalions of doctors and nurses and social workers, of business men and professional women, crossed the sea to aid in fighting tuberculosis and infant mortality, in reconstructing shattered villages and shattered hearts

had to be brought together if possible. Work had to be found for the able-bodied.

One of the big problems has been the care of the refugees coming back to French soil through Switzerland. Few people are probably aware that great numbers of women and children have poured back into France from the occupied sections of France and Belgium by way of Germany and Switzerland. Up to February of this year, when the frontier was closed, 350,000 had passed through the little frontier town of Evian. Large numbers of these were, of course, entirely destitute and helpless. In co-operation with other relief agencies our Red Cross helped to find temporary places of refuge for these people, provided food and clothing and instituted medical care for those suffering from tuberculosis and other diseases. It is also trying to

provide some educational facilities for the necessarily neglected children.

DERELICTS OF THE WAR

The bulletin gives the following description of the work for soldiers discharged from further service because of their wounds:

"Every week sees the return from the front-line hospitals of men mutilated in battle, so that they are unable to return to their former occupations. France has inaugurated a series of re-educational centers where these men are taught trades which will enable them to support themselves. A study of these remarkable schools, made by the chief of the Red Cross bureau for the re-education of mutilates for use in America as well as guidance of Red Cross work in

France, revealed the fact that hitherto a small proportion of this re-educational training has been agricultural, though nearly two-thirds of the mutilates were farmers before the war.

"A model farm, where the use of motor tractors and other machinery adapted to the ability of the mutilate is taught, is, therefore, the contribution of the American Red Cross. An estate of 500 acres near Chononoeux has been obtained and is being fitted to train 100 men at a time in a four months' course. Shops for the teaching of harness-mending, basket-making, machine repair and allied farm industries will be installed.

"A model electrical shop is being equipped at another re-educational center which in peace time is used for men crippled in industrial accidents, and other schools are assisted by gifts of goods and money.

"After the long months of hospital treatment many mutilates are unwilling to take the time or make the effort to learn a new trade. They are discouraged; they feel that they have done their bit and that the country owes them a living. To encourage them to enter the schools and to take a new interest in life, the Red Cross has organized a series of lectures, moving pictures and posters to tell

the men in the therapeutical centers what re-education really means; recreational tours are to be organized through the training centers to lighten the drab monotony which sometimes settles there.

"The remarkable work originated in England by Captain Derwent Wood for men whose faces are badly mutilated has been introduced into France for the first time by the Red Cross. The process of surgical regeneration of the tissues requires months or years; to enable the unfortunate mutilate to go about a normal business and social life Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd, an American sculptor, is engaged in making portrait masks, cast in very thin copper, covered with a silver deposit, and painted to resemble flesh. These masks are attached by spectacle bows; at the small cost to the Red Cross of 100 francs each they make it possible for the worst facial mutilates to go about the streets without attracting attention, to return to their former occupations, and in other ways to resume the normal way of living which their marred faces had closed to them.

"In the capital another group of war derelicts is benefiting by a work which is less spectacular but no less important—the effort to provide suitable housing for some of the thousands of refugees who crowd Paris. At the beginning of the war the moratorium suspended payments of rent on the part of families who had sent a man to the front; those who rented lodgings after the moratorium was declared did not profit by the rule, and the landlords tried to make up by overcharging. The result has been that the refugee, coming to a city where building has been at a standstill while the population has been increasing by leaps and bounds, found few lodgings available, and those exorbitantly expensive. Usually he has not sufficient capital to buy household goods, and must take a furnished apartment. In many cases a family of four or five is obliged to live for months in one squalid room.

"In war time there obviously can be no question of erecting new buildings. Even those which were under construction in August, 1914, stand just as the workmen left them when the mobilization order came. The Red Cross obtained a list of these buildings from the police authorities; some would have required a very large investment to make them habitable, others were practically complete. Because of the legal complications of an organization in a foreign country the Red Cross itself did not lease the houses, but advanced to French refugee and housing organizations money for completing those which were suitable. The French organizations undertook the supervision and management, and the funds advanced by the Red Cross eventually will be repaid from rentals. In all cases the Red Cross has supplied furnishings. Dwellings have already been provided, or are almost ready, for nearly 7,000 persons."



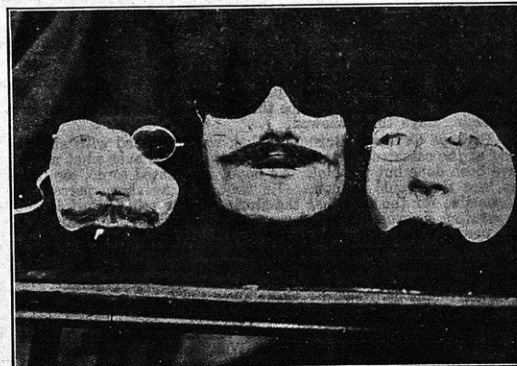
Mrs. Anna Coleman Ladd painting one of her portrait masks to insure the proper coloring. These masks are cast in very thin copper to resemble the part of the face missing and are then covered with a thin deposit of silver. The next step, the one shown here, is to give the mask the tints of the natural face. The masks are held in place by spectacle bows over the ears.

and hopes. The civilian work of the American Red Cross in France is unique; it opens new vistas in international relations; it starts new hopes of the world that will be after the war.

"Quick emergency work has characterized the Red Cross contribution after dozens of disasters, when it sheltered victims of air raids in Paris, went to the aid of families dispossessed by the munition blast at La Courneuve, spread a great net of relief and friendship and sympathetic energy over all France for the thousands of refugees forced to leave their homes and their all by the German offensive. But the war itself is an emergency for any peace-loving nation, and it creates constant and continuing emergencies. **THE MORE THAN A MILLION REFUGEES SCATTERED THROUGHOUT FRANCE ARE NEVER PERMANENTLY SETTLED AND WILL NOT BE UNTIL THE WAR IS OVER AND A GREAT PROPORTION OF THEM CAN RETURN TO THEIR HOMES.** Some of them were given new hope and courage in being helped out of the crowded cities and back to their farmland. Driven out a second time by the Germans, they kept their faith and hope, and so expressed themselves to the Americans who worked with them through the winter that there is no doubt left that whatever may have been lost through the German offensive in the way of physical reconstruction, the achievement in moral and spiritual reconstruction remains in undiminished value."

CARING FOR REFUGEES

The bulletin describes the task of trying to care for the old men, women and children as they fled before the German invasion in 1914; how many of them were taken back to their homes and rehabilitated as the Germans retreated; and then how again these people fled back to Paris and Southern France before the last German advance in 1918. All these hundreds of thousands of people had to be fed, sheltered and clothed. Separated families



By means of this Red Cross work, those who have suffered the most tragic of all mutilations are able to take their places in the world again without attracting special attention. The discovery of the portrait method is, of course, a great boon to the men who have made the great sacrifice, but hardly less to the general public, who could hardly endure looking at the undisguised unfortunates.

PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, *Personnel*—P1200 through P1299 [165-WW-429P-1224], International Film Service National Archives and Records Administration (NAID 45532721) <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45532721>

SUBJECT:		NUMBER
P-1224		AU
165-WW 429		1224
PHOTOGRAPHER Inter.Film Ser. (C)		
REC'D	Apr. 18	TAKEN
DESCRIPTION		
MRS. ANNA COLMAN LADD AIDING SURGEONS REMAKE SHELL TORN FACES OF SOLDIERS.		
Mrs. Anna Colman Ladd, well-known sculptor, member of the National Sculptor Society of New York, and the Boston Society of Artists is hard at work in her Paris studio aiding surgeons remake shell torn faces of soldiers.		
Much has been done in facial surgery, and the sculptor joins hands with the doctor in working on the reconstruction of the shattered faces of the wounded heroes. Often when the jaw is badly shattered and the nose is completely torn away, and the rest of the face mutilated apparently beyond all hope, these skilled doctors and surgeons come to the rescue, and perform the miracle of remaking the face as good as new. (OVER)		
ISSUED:	NOTES:	



PRIMARY SOURCE PACKET (CON'T)

Photograph, *Medical Department—Restoration Work—Reconstruction—Facial reconstruction. Forehead and chin are his own but the rest of his face is the creation of Mrs. Ladd, October 28, 1918*
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<https://catalog.archives.gov/id/45498727>



SECONDARY SOURCE LINKS

Article, Caroline Alexander, "Faces of War," February 2007

Smithsonian Magazine

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/arts-culture/faces-of-war-145799854/>

Article, "Women in World War I: Anna Coleman Ladd," 2022

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Blog, Hparkins, "Anna Coleman Ladd: An Artist Who Created Hope for Wounded Soldiers," March 11, 2020

National Archives and Records Administration

<https://prologue.blogs.archives.gov/2020/03/11/anna-coleman-ladd-an-artist-who-created-hope-for-wounded-soldiers/>