

Mary MacArthur 1909.

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Report to appear in W.F.L. platform advocating  
full adult suff. instead of equal suff.  
Also reported same appeal a Nat. Fed of W. Workers

W.F.L. describes this as

"The advocacy of votes for all men certain and votes  
for women - perhaps"

In 1918 Mary MacArthur stood for Sturbridge  
Returning officer objected to use of maiden  
name - She agreed wa. compromise - the  
pseudonym - "Mary Reid Anderson" commonly  
known as Mary MacArthur "

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The Mary MacArthur Homes (1880-1921)  
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for working women.

One at Poulton-le-Fylde nr  
Blackpool;

One at Stansléd, Essex.

To provide holidays for  
working women who could not  
otherwise afford a holiday -  
rest for overworked - or those  
threatened with breakdown  
whether housewives or  
wage-workers.

They pay what they can.

£7,000 a year has to be raised  
to keep the homes going

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Dame Lilian Barker D.B.E.  
made the appeal in 1954

Mary MacArthur, Died

Jan 1921

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Women's Trade Union League,  
Nat Fed. of W. Workers.

Cradley Heaths chain workers

Women Hollow-ware Workers

Women Brickmakers.

Lace makers of Nottingham

I.P.U. - N.E.C. - married W.C. Anderson

Candidate Sturbridge -

Little daughter of five - now orphaned

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Early days of Insurance Act - showed working women's sickness liability was a real problem & danger to the scheme. <sup>These</sup> women suffered from excessive sickness because of their excessive poverty. Overwork & under-feeding were endemic among them.

Special Committee 1913

"Half of these women are working in a state of health which most people in our class would call ill-health" said a medical witness. (quoted p. 117)

First unintended result of act was the revelation of the real condition of working women. "The act showed the country was ~~in~~ poverty really means" Mary Mac. Women are its first & last victims.

"It is not surprising that under the treble strain of wage earning, child bearing and household drudgery women break down" Mary Mac. quoted page 118.

Agitation by all women societies that Maternity Benefit should be the property of the mother - It was for the first years paid to the husband - and the unmarried mother.

Industrial unrest in this period 1910 - 1913  
 Agitation for extension of Trade Boards  
 Agitation for minimum wage - (10/- suggested for Cudley Heath)  
 Protests that the minimum would become the maximum what the workers would receive

Suppayers & Suppayers - labour & liberal  
all divided on this issue.

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The 10/- a week man. was for a 54 hours week  
& argued Mary Mac would mean an immediate  
rise for thousands - 1912.

Shutes - wheel makers - women came out with men  
demanding a 10% rise for the men and a 10/-  
minimum for themselves. This filled many  
equalitarians with holy rage -

Somersetshire collar-makers - Bridport net-workers  
Kidderminster carpet gals - Kilburnie thread  
workers -

Queens Hall meeting demanding extension  
of Trade Bds. - Victory won for 5 new

Trades shirt making: steel sheet & hollow ware;  
food preserving: sugar confectionery: linen  
embroidery. Laundries & Ladies Tailoring  
were added in 1919.

Settlement days

Br. Gertrude Robertson at folders Green was  
hostess of Mary MacArthur when she  
married W. C. Anderson at City Temple  
on Sept 21<sup>st</sup> 1911.

W. C. Anderson & Mary Mac - son ~~born~~ died 1913

Nanay born 1915

A little older than Jimmie

W. E. Anderson 1914 I.L.P. Chairman 3983  
• Lab. Party Chairman

War Time 1914-18. Women's Work

Period of Unemployment - (see notes for  
Women At Work)  
Period of Urgent Demand

Two purposes to be served: May be.

1. Re-statement of men at their old rates  
• and their old T.U. safeguards
2. Securing for women in their own jobs of equal  
language.

(A) Repeal extended - Right of entry  
of women to all <sup>types of</sup> ~~working~~ work which they proved  
capable of doing. Equal opportunity

Women who rushed into war work  
an army composed of women, new to industry,  
with no tradition of organization behind  
them, weakened for any conflict with employers  
by the very patriotic impulses which brought  
them into the industrial world.

Of 2 million women 1½ millions had never  
worked for wages before.

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Industrial Events Remembered: (same period) or earlier.

- 1) Seal Quarries in Wales - P. —  
(Belonging to Lord Rhondda.)
- 2) Strikers fired on during dispute. Asquith held responsible  
(Tony Pandy?)
- 3) Cradley Heath agitation - Strike? -
- 4) Who were the two or three Lib-Lab M.P.s at about this date? Havelock
- 5) The three N. U. T. M.P.s - Macdonalds.  
- Gray?  
- ?
- 6) Formation movements towards creating a Labour Party. - 1900 - some sort of unity conference. By 1905 - a Labour Representation Committee.  
Who pushed it?  
Who opposed it?



Rush Collection of 1918. December

Lost their seeds Will Anderson, Ramsay Mac  
Philip Bowden - Blackburn  
Arthur Henderson, Christabel P.  
F. W. Jowett, Mary Mac Arthur  
In GB Britain no woman was  
returned - get list -

Death of Kerri Hardie ? date

Funeral in Scotland (Get  
Fred to report.

Death of W. C. Anderson 1919

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I. L. O. established by Peace Treaty 1919

First Conference in Washington Oct 1919

Mary MacArthur - Maternity - Child Birth  
Convention - setup as standard

12 weeks total leave - monetary benefit  
sufficient for full & healthy maintenance of  
mother & child during this period with free  
attendance of doctor or certified midwife"

7 Formation of National Union of Clerks

3983  
189?

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Who were the Women - then.

1. Katherine Bruce Gosser
2. Enid Wintthropam (dead)?
3. Margaret Macdonald
4. Margaret or Rachel Macmillan
5. Emmeline Parkhurst.
6. Emily Ford
7. Mary MacArthur
8. Gertrude Tuckerwell
9. Margaret Bondfield.
10. Charlotte Depard

Hope from such elements as —  
reconciliation — peace by arbitration —  
cooperation — Wilson's Fourteen points —  
— died as we receded further from  
each of them — & came nearer to Haughey  
the Kaiser — the German Pay — & the  
Versailles Treaty.

Mary MacArthur was adopted as <sup>Labour</sup> ~~the~~ Party  
candidate for Sloughbridge in 1918 after 1918  
enfranchisement  
Nina Bayle — tested out the question of could  
a woman stand — during the  
interval before the election

after war closing down produced again  
the unemployment horror. on Nov 19.  
more demonstrations — "Shell Peace Mean  
Starvation?" N. Fed W.W. with Mac at  
head secured months holiday with pay  
on dismissal from Woolacel & out of  
work pay 25/- men 20/- women from Nov 25 —  
Then applied to all govern. establishments

Who were the Women — Cont<sup>d</sup>

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11. Mrs Bessie Webb
12. Countess of Warwick.
13. Brilliant S.D.F. woman — name?  
Adams?
- 14.

Also — Suffrage — Social Pioneering.  
Public life — The Parties  
Education — Medicine

? When did Florence Nightingale get her  
D.B.E. ? 1899 ?  
1909 ?

By the time of the armistice the general standard of women's wage rates had been raised to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  an hour.

The 'subsidies' to 6<sup>d</sup> a " plus a cost of living bonus of

count this against 150% rise in  $\frac{11}{10}$  -

cost of living meant a real advance of about 50%

Further established by Order for controlled establishments but extended gradually to brass-founding - electrical trades - lamp-ash - asbestos - cable - nail - nuts & bolt - optical instruments - small wool - explosives - rubber - general aircraft & aircraft woodwork -

Equal pay was not secured at any stage - where the rates were superficially equal women were not allowed to earn as much - & cost of living bonus always remained unequal

|          |            |
|----------|------------|
| Men 16/6 | Women 11/- |
| + 12½%   | + 0        |

Dreams of a new world after the war, even for a new ~~Britain~~, or a new Manchester or Glasgow - proved to be dreams.

Robert Blatchford.

The Clarion. - Merry England -  
 Britain for the British - Merry England -  
 God & my Neighbour - Not Guilty.  
 The Clarion Song Book .pub 1906.

"Songs" written by: Edward Carpenter  
 Antoinette Williams  
 E. Nesbit  
 A.C. Swinburne  
 William Morris  
 John Addington Symonds  
 Henry Selt.  
 Gustav Spiller  
 Bruce Glasier  
 Gerald Messerly  
 Montagu Blatchford  
 Henry Besant  
 Robert Blatchford

Mostly "adapted" to  
 established tunes

But "new tunes" -  
 Edward Carpenter  
 Josephine Tropic.  
 Rutland Boughton  
 Edgar Bainton.  
 Percival Jones  
 \* George Pearce  
 \* who edited  
 the Song Book

in Jan 1916 we got the Amended Munitions Act which created Special Arbitration Tribunals under which many pending Richmond cases & sweating cases were settled within a few months & publicity was given in the Press to the conditions of health, pay & hours under which women were working for the country. Earned many compliments from Press & Politicians, even from Employers. Rates of Pay remained far behind.

Rise of food prices.

|      |   |      |      |      |
|------|---|------|------|------|
| 1916 | - | 65%  | over | 1913 |
| 1917 | - | 85%  | up   |      |
| 1918 | - | 120% | up   |      |

#Mary Mac - "In radiant words on an historic Sat. aft. on the embankment Mr Lloyd George envisaged a great move forward for women workers. Under the New Order, on the contrary, they have receded to the days of Queen Elizabeth. The woman worker has waited patiently for the protection of a legal minimum wage; she finds herself thrown back three centuries & held down by the erection of a maximum."

The Order NO 447. fixed 4<sup>0</sup> in hour = 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> per war not a minimum of 4<sup>0</sup> but

These employments varied - gas stoking -  
bus driving as well as the enormous  
range of factory work -

Trade union enrolment resulting

1914 - 358,000 women in Union

1918 1,960,000

In the arrangements for substitution &  
dilution the point of view of women was  
left out. Not consulted when Agreement  
on Dilution drawn up 1915 - which  
admitted women to engineering works  
at a distressingly low wage <sup>rate</sup> average  
about 15/- weekly. Employers urged  
that they had to buy new machinery for their  
war contracts & the women's wage rates  
not to bear the cost of it.

Manitons Acts 1915 - <sup>function</sup> These acts tied  
munition workers to their jobs <sup>if</sup> <sup>the</sup> Woman  
unless they got certificate from Tribunal  
earning 10/- maximum could not transfer  
to a job paying 17/-. This was a real case  
Women worked 14 hr days - Sundays - night  
work



even children worked at nights during  
 1915. <sup>was a</sup> Committee of enquiry <sup>was</sup> opened in  
 Sept. Exposed Health & Wages conditions  
 By this W Fed. W. W got enormous  
 improvements - agreed by the Amal. Soc of  
 Engineers accepted by gov.

Substituted Women over 18 - to get min 20/-  
 " " piece rates same as men  
 cloak room & lavatory accommodation

These findings were not compulsory -  
 so felt had to be continuous to get them  
 applied - Glasgow - Clydeside -  
 Susan Lawrence said

"The methods of the Ministry in dealing with the question  
 of wages seems to be the placating of whatever may  
 be the most powerful interest at the moment. In  
 cases where driven desperately over-fatigue and  
 underpayment women munition workers engaged  
 on vital work have revolted, & refused to continue,  
 it has been found possible to do more for them  
 in a few hours than has been done for the mass  
 of silent uncomplaining women in a year"

Daily News 10/8/16

Notes from K. B. Co Records. July 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>  
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Dates & Items.

Labour Leaders

1904-5-6. - Women's Suffrage Pams. or Articles  
(1903?) Pronouncements.

- Wages of Women Workers.
- Equal Pay
- References to Women's Trade Union League - Women's Industrial Council - Sweated Industries
- Minimum Wage.

3  
5  
4

I.L.P. Conference - M/c - 1905. Easter?

T.U. Conferences - Lpool 190? July or Aug.  
Stoke on Trent? 1905  
(Hamley)?

Clarion - articles - Leaders - Letters

1903 - 1907

Early numbers ? 1892 ? When founded?

Central Committee on Women's Training & Employment - created during 1914-19 was continued thereafter & recognized as official.

Nat Fed of W. W. became an autonomous section of Nat. U. of Gen Workers.

W. T. Union League also became the Women's Section of the General Council of the Trade Union Congress.

Mary Mac became a JP in 1920

1921. Dec 31. Mary Mac died

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"The future woman must have the masculine ~~pleat~~ <sup>pleat</sup> and beer standard instead of the feminine one of pans & tea. She must not be too easily contented. But man need have no fear of the woman of the future if he will only realize that his interests & hers are one." Mary MacArthur quoted by M.A. Hamilton in Mary MacArthur's life

Within a month of the declaration of war 3983

there were 190,000 women out of work.  
while  
Volunteers in large numbers were  
enrolled to knit comforts for the soldiers

Queen's Work for Women Fund - to provide  
paid work for the discharged -

Struggle with the engineering trades  
about ~~permission~~ <sup>to work in numbers</sup> of women - pay of  
women - dilution -

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Report "Women in the Engineering Trades"  
Barbara Drake  
see - memo in it by Mary Mac & S. Lawrence

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Board of Trade gave figures for  
women employed in industrial trades  
in 1914-15 - as 1,345,000 or "99% of  
these women were employed in the place  
of men" Don't believe this claim. The skill  
of numerous industries expanded to  
was strength called for a larger total  
of workers than had ever been employed  
before - large proportion were therefore  
"truly" war expansion workers & not substitute  
workers for men.