

N.B See NOTE on Rear (dated 1968)

AL/3595

17 The Drive,
HOVE 3, Sussex (BN3 3JE)

11th August 1968

Dear Miss Popplewell,

Thank you for your letter.

I was a Second Division prisoner in Holloway Gaol ^{twice} in 1908. I was never in the Third Division. With a large number of others, I was an "unconvicted prisoner" - that is, I could have come out at any time if I had given my word, vouched for by two my offence/"sureties" not to repeat/("obstructing the police in the execution of their duty") for a given period. This undertaking we of course refused to give.

I think we might have been required to sew mailbags, but in the cases of several of us the authorities found that we could knit. Knitters were scarce, so we were kept busy knitting socks in ~~the~~ harsh ~~black~~ wool for men prisoners.
in cold water

Of course we had to scrub/the floors of our cells and the plank beds daily. We wore the extraordinary garments that constituted the prison uniform: underclothes of unbleached calico, ^{shapeless/} stockings like the man's socks, coarse serge/two piece dresses (green for 2nd Division, light brown for 3rd-2nd and third were mixed for chapel and exercise. This was before the days of the hunger strike. We were locked in our cells (solitary confinement ~~for~~ 22 of the 24 hours of each day).

I expect you know of the Fawcett Library, 27 Wilfred Street, Westminster, S.W.1. You will find there books on all aspects of the movement and a librarian who will advise as to their use.

With good wishes for your talk,

Yours sincerely.

Mary Phillips.

FAWCETT LIBRARY
27, WILFRED STREET,
WESTMINSTER, S.W.1

Not to be publicized.
9-12-1968.

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