

Personal

AL/2747

June 11. 1899.

Dear Miss Bradley  
I have written the enclosed  
so that you could if you thought  
it at all worth while send it  
round your committee.

I wish I had known they  
were meeting. I meant to thank  
you also immediately when I  
came home, but had such  
an overwhelming lot of letters  
with committees crowding

not to mention domestic affairs,  
that I didn't get through more  
than ~~that~~ <sup>that</sup> apparently could not  
be - but off - till tomorrow.

I am very sorry about the  
Hain especially from the  
point of view of the Suffrage.  
We are to be sorry not to have  
the racecourse at Balls Blount  
after that it is preliminary  
this but we shall not  
have any difficulty about other

to actions to take in place.

But I did think it wd.  
be useful to bring the Suffrage  
Society in indirect connection  
with the W.T.U. League  
(as you know Miss Tickwell  
has married, is adult only & Miss MacArthur  
~~is not~~ is not very active in any other  
other on Suffrage - quite in  
favour of course, but not  
knowing it much) & the  
Women's Labour League too.  
Also it I find the Suffrage  
agitator drift more & more  
away from us <sup>as labour & trade union women</sup> it will be still

soon be landed entirely into  
should suppose if ~~we~~ <sup>you</sup>  
not take care. My husband  
& I have refused to vote in  
his "Edward Davies" new  
move because we think it will  
confuse things still more. But  
first of all when we had nearly  
for the Labour Party officially voted  
to the immediate suffrage for  
women has Parkhurst's peculiarities  
draw you back as to a dull  
suffrage, & now has Snowden,  
Miss Joad & others are disgracing our  
people by working to pull apart  
from our Party & has Snowden at  
any rate publicly accused the colleague  
of hypocrisy & all sorts of unbecoming things in

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LONDON, W.C.

Connection with their attitude  
to Infringe & drifts away  
from the working women. Now  
Mrs Jewell & Davies will help still further  
to bring us in some sort of adult suffrage apart  
from the moderate suffragists.  
You remember there  
was an unfortunate incident  
before when the I.L.P. was  
blown out of some middle  
& other has the last  
sublime procession. His  
ken little things such would  
help & keeps us working together  
friendly & I am sorry

2, Lincoln Inn Fields,  
London, W.C.

When opportunities are missed.

I hope you enjoyed the  
very good, I thank you  
for the friendly tone of  
your letter,

I am yours very sincerely

W. McDonald

I do not mean this letter

to be specially private, if  
you want to show it to anybody -  
except perhaps the reference  
to Mrs. Snowden - I prefer that.

at the use of discretion about  
it; I spoke against her  
at our Suffolk Guild meeting  
on one occasion, when she accused  
the Labour Party of hypocrisy,

I sent it in my name to do  
the same at the Party dinner,  
on another occasion, but  
was too late to get in, so I have  
not headed my disapproval  
of that attitude of hers.

AL/9748

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1909.

Dear Miss Ingham

I am sorry that the board  
of the U. S. for W. S. has decided not to  
lend the Pageant Emblems for the  
Women's Labor Day at Earl's Court.  
If I had known that your Committee  
was likely to take the line it has done  
I might have brought some arguments  
to bear which might perhaps have made  
it look upon the matter rather differently.

Organizing a women's political  
party is half responsible for

organising the special arrangements  
for the Day, but the other organisations,  
the Women's Trade Union League, which  
is responsible to members of various  
political bodies not affiliated to  
the Labour Party under its Executive  
Committee, & many other organisations  
are helping which are non-party,  
especially the Women's Co-operative  
Guild, & many adult schools,  
Pleasant Society, <sup>girls' clubs</sup> ~~afternoon~~ etc.  
At least three of our speakers

Miss Tuckwell, Miss Hewdlyn  
Davis, Canon Scott Holland  
do not belong to the Labour Party,  
& of course the thousands of men  
women & children whom we hope  
to get there will not expect any  
confession of political belief,  
so that the Day is by no means  
a party political affair in  
any strict sense of the word. I  
do not know whether your Committee  
quite realised this. I might also  
remind you that really you do not stand to the Labour  
Party in quite the same position as to other parties  
since they are infinitely & usually pleased by women's votes.  
As a member of the London  
Society for Women's Suffrage I  
am especially sorry that the

Committee has not seen its way  
to accede to the request of the  
Labour Day Executive. It has  
taken five weeks for us to get  
a reply, & it seems unfortunate  
that no one responsible could  
have been able to attend to business  
while you were away, for now  
half the time we had to prepare  
for our demonstration has gone.  
I am afraid we shall hardly  
be able to carry out the program  
which we tentatively advertised.

Of course if I had thought there  
was serious risk of your Committee  
acting as it has done I should  
have tried to arrange something



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R. LINCOLN'S INN FIELDS

LONDON, W.C.2

Else since I could not get a  
reply from you. But in my  
innocence I thought the bazaar  
would have felt it a good  
opportunity for doing a  
kindly act to & securing an  
advertisement to itself amongst  
a mass of working people &  
others drawn from all parts  
of the country. As long as  
we took reasonable precautions  
to prevent damage & compensate  
for any accident, & worked our

programmes, souvenirs, etc. so  
that your Committee was in no  
way committed to any kind  
of politics. I thought I was  
helping the Suffrage Society  
quite as much as our Carlo  
Board show of bringing the two  
together. I am always having  
to hear the accusation that  
the N. U. W. I. S. & the R. S. W. I.  
are pursuing the interests of  
propertied & middle class  
women & are working against

and to suppress & opposed to  
any political power for working  
women. It certainly won't  
help to smooth matters over when  
our people find ~~they have to do~~  
~~with~~ that the Committee of the  
L. S. W. I. has declined to lend  
the emblem. ~~That~~ kept us  
waiting so long for the decision  
that we can probably not do  
anything else in its place.

I was hoping to get a  
number of the Women's Trade  
Unionists to help in the procession  
& as the <sup>Women's Trade Union</sup> League is not particu-  
larly keen on such a

it is an important missed  
which I thought would have  
been most useful. Of course  
we should not have specially  
connected the Platform with  
the "limited" bill (any more than  
you can specially connect it  
with any political party over  
another) but it wd. have been  
acknowledged fully that it  
was your keystone in its inception  
& we should have used it as  
a justification of women's share  
in the work of the world & her  
need of a share in circumstances

As a practical suggestion  
do you and your committee work

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LONDON, W.C.

care to bring live the  
 problem so as to put it on  
 a brief business footing & if so  
 what sum would you suggest  
 that we should pay? I should  
 be glad to hear as soon as possible  
 if you wd. think it worth  
 while to talk the matter over  
 I would call & see you.

Yours very sincerely

Margaret E. MacDermid

P.S. The attitude of your Contee

Contrasts rather sharply with  
the attitude of the Germans  
toward the Labour Party delegation  
which has just been over there  
on a mission of international  
friendship & good understanding.  
We were received most  
enthusiastically by all sorts of  
people who differed from our  
economic opinions - municipal  
politicians, ministers of State,  
&c. Officials welcomed us

(I asked us for <sup>some</sup> hot  
water with our socialist  
friends there because of the  
non-hazy nature of our reception)

I asked one of the highest  
ministers of State in Berlin  
who was receiving us at a  
banquet & shaking in warm  
welcome, my husband & his  
colleagues thought it worth while  
to recognize a comparatively  
small & young party like  
ours. He said it seemed  
to them we were in earnest  
in wishing a good understanding  
with Germany & so they

wishes to cement that understanding  
with our help. Surely we

are also "in earnest" about

women's responsibilities

difficult & you can help

us in that without committee

ourselves to us as a Pres.