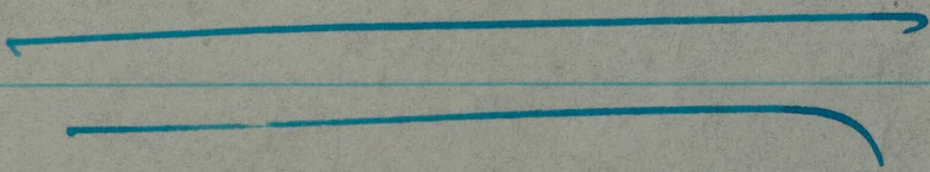


3930

Annie Besant



Bird

Best

Roy

Ash

Dove

Carr

Ford

Wild

Stone

Ward

3930

The Bitter Cry of Outcast London.

articles therein in  
The Daily News 1884.

G. R. Sims.

Who wrote the above?

=

August 1893.

The Christian World. Article

advocating family limitation.

- after the Christian persecution

& slandering of Bradlaugh &

Beesant

16 yrs before they had published

the Knowlton pamphlet -

- A. R. had written

The Law of Population.

# Formation of Malthusian League

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July 1877.

Mrs Besant writes of Dr Edward B  
Aveling - who 1879.

"soon paid the penalty of his boldness (in writing for the National Reformer) finding himself a few months later dismissed from the chair of Comparative Anatomy at the London Hospital."

As a result of special efforts - by friends came the establishment of two classes at the Science & Art Dept. at S. Ken, & these grew year by year, attended by numbers of young men & women till in 1883 we had 13 classes in full swing, as well as Latin & London matriculation - all were taught by Dr Aveling & he published books & tracts I took advanced

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Certificates, one in Honours, and so became qualified as a science teacher in eight different sciences. Alice & Hypatia Bradlaugh followed a similar course, so that winter after winter we kept these classes going from Sept to the following May, from 1849 - to 1888."

When Mrs Bradlaugh & I applied for permission to attend the Botany Class at University ~~Class~~ <sup>College</sup> we were refused, I for my sons & she only for being her father's daughter; when I had qualified as teacher, I stood back from claiming recognition from the Department for a year in order not to prejudice the claims of the Bradlaugh's daughters. When I was recognised Sir Henry Tyler in the H. of C. attached the Ed. Dept for accepting me

3930

• tried to prevent the Gov. grant being  
paid to the Hall of Science Schools  
because Dr. Aveling, the Misses  
Bradlaugh & myself were  
unbelievers.

250  
p. 251.

Bradlaugh returned to  
H of C 1880. April  
Immediately began his struggle  
for the right to affirm

Struggle continued until  
1885 when he was elected  
for the fifth time - taking  
the oath & his seat in  
Jan 1886. - bringing in  
an affirmation Bill which  
became law in

look in Preston  
 or in Blackburn) for the  
 police activity against  
Socialists - 1884-5-8.

Mrs Besant <sup>pt. 300 -</sup> both mention  
 Mrs Pankhurst <sup>it.</sup>  
 Period of reduced wages = unemployment  
 & police repression

Quote from National Reformer

1886. Reply of Mrs B. <sup>perhaps</sup> to one  
 who objected to her socialism -

"The moment a man uses a woman's  
 sex to discredit her arguments  
 the thoughtful reader knows that he  
 is unable to answer the arguments  
 themselves."

---

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1885 — 1887

---

Note the linking up of the Socialists  
Free thinkers — Irish Unemployed  
Mrs Besant p 323 — et

Trafalgar Square Nov 9. 1884

Mrs Besant's description in  
these pages should be quoted

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Victor Hugo

"The people are silence, I will be the advocate of this silence. I will speak for the dumb.... I will speak of the small to the great and of the feeble to the strong.... I will speak for all the despairing silent ones.... I will be the Word of the People. I will be the bleeding mouth whence the gag is snatched out. I will say everything"

quoted by Annie Besant in her autobiography -

---

N.B. Charles Bradlaugh introduced the Truck Act

1884- or 6? look up.

3930

Rates of Pay / Women / quoted by  
1888. / Annie Besant  
(autobiography)

p. 332

A boot "finisher" — 2/6 per dozen  
(find own thread & polish)

Shirt makers — "fancy best"

10<sup>0</sup> w — 2/6 per dozen  
10<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> hrs daily —  
finding their own cotton & needles (for  
sewing machine)  
paying for gas, towel & tea (compulsory)  
earnings from 4/- 10/- per week

Mantle-Finisher earning 2/2 per week

1884 - 9 -

Sydney Webb.Unemployment

"

Tomorrow morning in London alone  
20,000 to 25,000 adult men  
will fight like savages to labour  
in the docks for 4<sup>d</sup> an hour,  
or one third of them will fight  
in vain."

---

Annie Besant (same period)

"We worked for Children's dinner."

"If we insist on these children  
being educated is it no necess-  
ary that they should be fed?"

For these child  
martyrs of the slums has society  
only formulas or not-food?"

(see Mrs Parkhurst  
also 3930)

Annie Besant - campaign against  
"cheap" goods -  
"sweated" -

articles on the Ethics of Buying  
with  
Mrs Clementina Black on the  
Fabians - planned a Consumers

League - to link the Buyers with  
the workers. also

H. H. Champion - led to the  
Bryant & May girl workers  
strike //

original 5/- shares quoted at £18/7/6

Girls earned as little as 2/- weekly  
"earn good money" 8/- or 9/- " "

live on bread of marg - tea.

Match Box makers -  $2\frac{1}{4}$  a gross  
paid for making these boxes  
quote from R. B page 337

For Match Girls Strike p 334 —  
Condition — Anne Besant 3930

'Oh, those tresses through the lanes &  
alleys of Bethnal Green junction  
late at night, on children lying  
about on shavings, rags, anything;  
famine looking out of baby faces,  
out of women's eyes, out of the  
tremulous hands of men

---

193 Bow Road opened Aug. 1890

H.P. Blavatsky opened as a  
<sup>club</sup> ~~rest~~ Home for working  
girls in 1890 (3)

Finally formed  
Match-Workers Trade  
Union.

Investigation of articles  
preparatory this strike  
was Anne Besant - greatly  
assisted by Herbert Burroughs

Work of Annie Besant =

Free Thought - Joint owner & Editor of 13 yrs  
National Reformer  
Lecturer - Writer -  
Supporter of Bradlaugh  
in his struggle for  
liberty of Conscience  
for H. of C.

Family Limitation - The Knowlton  
pamphlet case - won  
Her own pamphlet -

Socialism - With the Fabian  
Society & the S.D.F.

Social Reform ) Bryant's haywards  
Unemployed men - &  
Exposure of )  
Sweeting & Son ) Socialists  
Workers ) Bail Groups &  
Defence Fund

Work of Annie Besant - cont'd

1888-9

Quote: last year before she became a  
Theosophist

"Then came a cry for help from South London, from tin-broc makers, illegally fined, and in many cases grievously mutilated by the non-fencing of machinery; then aid to shop-assistants, also illegally fined; legal defences by the score still continued; a vigorous agitation for free meals for children, & for fair wages to be paid by all public bodies; work for the dockers & exposure of their wrongs; a visit to Gadley Heath chain-makers, speeches to them, writing for them; a contest for the School Board for the Tower Hamlets division, & triumphant return at the head of the poll. Such were the ways in which that autumn <sup>days</sup> were spent, to say nothing of scores of lectures - Secularist; Labour, Socialist - & some of articles written for the

3930

winning of daily bread. When the School-Board work was added I felt that I had as much work as one woman's strength could do." p. 338.

"The Socialist position suffered on the economic side, but where to gain the inspiration, the motive, which should lead to the realization of the Brotherhood of Man?" p. 338

(N.B. Note phraseology - meaning, if anyone ever did the Fellowship of Humanity - she still uses without consciousness of inaccuracy the masculine only.)



Vote Jan 1910 3930

Année Besant - Militancy

(Marion Holmes)

The period of her revolt - twenty years  
in the midst of the storm - strife & calumny -  
Abuse - general and persistent and  
personal violence -  
as with us, the suffragettes, now.

1890 (?) Riot in Trafalgar Square

Unemployed meetings having been  
broken up by police - Mass meeting  
called - Home Sec prohibited this -

They marched from every individual  
part of London - Police & guards out  
in force.

John Burns - Cunningham Graham  
arrested - 6 wks imprisonment -

Mrs Besant in struggle with "forces  
of order."

Marion Holmes interviewed her 1909 to  
talk of suffrage & militancy.

Question

Your militant tactics have enormously

Annie Besant

3930

9

precipitated the question . . . . You women have shown wonderful qualities of devotion & courage. Everyone must admire them. Some forms of militant tactics may do more harm than good. But it seems to me an impertinence for anyone who stands outside the movement - to condemn those who are in it bearing the suffering that rebellion always brings in its train."

"You are fighting a gallant fight and you will succeed."

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Look up the data of the Match Girls Strike in Bermundsey - in Life (here)