

cont, AL/3648

have acknowledged her letter (which was a reply to one of mine) much earlier than this. I do very much hope that she has not been worried or anxious, or afraid that her letter was not clear enough. One of the details in this affair was that Professor R. J. Dean, an American, who is commissioned by the Clarendon Press at Oxford, showed in his a reference to Miss Pearl Strachey's unpublished edition in the revised edition of John Keats's Anglo-Norman Language and Literature.

Dr Dean's movements have been uncertain and she unexpectedly came to Oxford just recently, so it was worth while delaying the transmission of the edition to Cambridge. She is in fact working on the bibliography just now, which is convenient, but the short closing of Bodley has delayed her. She is asking me to draft the necessary information for her to incorporate it

AL/3648 cont

and this will be printed with an acknowledgment  
& the permission given by Miss Philippa  
Strachey. What will be sent to  
Newnham is the copy which would  
have been intended for the printer  
there are a great number of papers,  
rough drafts, & the general preparatory  
notes for material. I shall be able  
to collect from this what will be  
very nearly a duplicate of what goes  
for reprint at Newnham. What  
I had arranged to send to Miss  
Philippa Strachey to keep for her  
reference. I shall not pass  
this duplicate to Miss Philippa.  
Strachey tell I am satisfied that  
I have gone through all the papers  
to make sure that none of them  
are anything of sufficient value  
to be added to what has gone to  
Cambridge. I shall also send  
to Miss Philippa Strachey a copy  
of what will appear in the forthcoming  
revised issue of Keble's biography  
the date of publication is uncertain  
generally two years at least, elapses  
between first receipt of manuscript

AL/3648  
cont.

by the Printer and binding and  
distribution.

I had suggested that I should  
take the papers over to Cambridge  
myself, but since it is undesirable  
to delay longer this transaction,  
such a series of events has  
interrupted time and again,  
the posting method is preferred  
by the Cambridge authorities.

Yours sincerely  
G. F. Francis

# London & National Society for Women's Service

President—The Rt. Hon. Viscount Cecil of Chelwood.

Secretary—Miss Philippa Strachey.

## Junior Council

Hon. Secretary—Miss K. M. Halpin.

Org. Secretary—Mrs. Charles Henderson.

29, Marsham Street,  
Westminster, S.W.1.

Telephone: Abbey 1541

as from

50, Tufton Street,  
Westminster, S.W. 1

AL/3648

24th October, 1954

Dear Miss Strachey,

### Women Fellows of the Royal Society

On Friday Miss Norton looked out the information for which you asked.

It was in October, 1944, that the Council of the Royal Society amended its statutes so that women could be elected to the Fellowship of the Society. The President then was Sir Henry Dale.

The first women to be elected were Kathleen Lonsdale, D.Sc. (now a member of the Fawcett Society) and the late Miss Marjory Stephenson, the Cambridge bio-chemist. That was in March 1945. The President of the Royal Society for 1945-50 was Sir Robert Robinson, but I do not know when the Society's year begins. But Sir Henry Dale was obviously responsible when the statutes were amended to make their election possible.

When the change in the statutes was reported the Manchester Guardian referred to the attempt made, unsuccessfully, in 1902 to get Hertha Ayrton elected a Fellow.

It was reported that the change in the statutes was made to make it clear that, since the passing of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act there is no barrier to the admission of women. But it took them 25 years to do this!

Yours sincerely,

*J. Howell*

Secretary

Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> 1952 Rang up the Librarian, Royal Society  
& asked if he could explain the ref. in  
The Cause p. 377 to Mr. Ayrton. He had  
never heard of her & was not very ~~likely~~ to spend time in research into a question which  
he clearly regarded as devoid of interest, but finally agreed to see if he could find out  
anything about it.