

The Women's Movement is
a movement of Peace
in a Society of War.
and VIOLENCE

UNITED NATIONS
INTERNATIONAL
WOMEN'S
DECADE

1982

Sponsored by CAMDEN COUNCIL FOR
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



WOMEN'S

**CONTRIBUTION
TO THE
LIBERATION
OF**

MANKIND

A historical survey of
150 years

In memory of
Harriet
Tubman
(1820 - 1913)
poet • teacher •
liberator.
Born a slave •
who escaped from
her owner and
became a member
of the illegal
'underground
railroad' an
anti-slavery
organization.
With rare courage
she made 19 forays
into the Southern
States during the
American Civil War
leading 300 slaves
to freedom.

The exhibition has been produced by Gertrude Elias. Exhibits of the Suffragette's Movement from the collection of Jill Craigie. Photos by Wolf Suschitzky graphic art by Hilda Bernstein. Jackie Morreaux and reproductions of work by Käthe Kollwitz

EDINBURGH 1982

London Borough of Camden



Mary Wollstonecraft



Frederica Bremer



Elizabeth G. Anderson



Millicent Fawcett



Julia Ward Howe



Beatrice Webb



Annie Besant



Flora Tristan



Harriet Tubman



Bertha v. Suttner



Rosa Luxemburg



Louise Michel



Clara Zetkin



Eglantyne Jebb



Nadezhda Krupskaya



Sylvia Pankhurst



Helen Keller



Dr. Marie Stopes



Virginia Woolf



Ellen Key



Kaethe Kollwitz



La Passionaria



Ellen Wilkinson



Gesina van der Molen



Sarojini Naidu



Adelina (Mexico)

Acknowledgements

The exhibition "Women's Contribution to the Liberation of Mankind" tries to show women's moral and political commitment from their support to the abolition of slavery last century, to their fight for the abolition of nuclear weapons today.

Women's struggle for political rights, for suffrage and higher education were the prerequisites for engaging in all the tasks they have set themselves today.

We acknowledge with gratitude the help from the archives of the Resistance to Nazism of France, Holland, Austria, the F.G.R. in Frankfurt and the G.D.R. in Berlin. We are also indebted to the Indian High Commissioner, the Polish Institute, the Swedish Embassy, to Lore Adler, Jean Archer, Mani Bomgara, Plaisance Holtom of the Quakers, to Dr. Geraldine Scanlon of King's College and to Claire Crick for her dedication and good advice.

The COPENHAGEN Conference

Gertrude Elias

The second half of the United Nations' Decade for Women was marked by a conference which took place in Copenhagen in July 1981. It was attended by delegates of 135 nations and several non-governmental agencies with observer status which are recognized by the UN as the representatives of nations and territories at present under foreign domination. They include the South-West African People's Organisation, the anti-Apartheid African National Congress and the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The conference took place on two levels. The first was the assembly of government delegations. There, the discussions were confined to the official policies governments were adopting to implement the UN Charter for Women of 1975.

The second part of the conference was the women's own forum attended by 8,000 women from all over the world: mothers, workers, academics, students. There were over 80 workshops dealing with every issue women wanted to discuss.

P e a c e a n d D i s a r m a m e n t
Resolutions against the production and deployment of nuclear weapons were overwhelmingly carried. An Austrian delegate demanded that the Right to Peace be made an integral article of the UN Charter.

The conference coincided with the great European Peace March which was organised by a group of Norwegian peace organisations. They included the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom; the War Resisters' International (Norwegian Section) and other organisations. The kernel was formed by ten women from each of the Nordic countries - Norway Sweden Denmark Finland - but it grew to over 10,000 when people of many nations later joined in.

The march started in Copenhagen on June 21. Among the organisers were leading personalities like: Sissel Ronbeck, a member of the Norwegian Cabinet; Venche Soranger, the Norwegian initia-

tor of the march; Else Hammerich member of the European Parliament for the Danish Popular Movement; Birgitte Grimstad the Danish/Norwegian singer; Rakel Pederson and Eva Nordland. These women were making history.

The marchers were holding meetings which were attended by thousands in West Germany, Holland, Belgium and France. They arrived on August 6 for Hiroshima Day in Paris. Participants came from the United States, Iceland, Poland, the GDR, the Faroe Island &c. Russian women who had applied for visas were refused entry by some governments.

The media gave little prominence to this spectacular event. One can well say that in comparison to the publicity given to the feats of the Ripper, last year, the voices of 10,000 women were practically ignored.

Women in SOUTH AFRICA

The other burning problem is the Apartheid regime in South Africa. which was condemned by the UN for violating the UN Charter on Human Rights.

Apartheid rests on dispossession, exploitation and deprivation of the African people. The forced segregation between the races takes on ever more ferocious forms. The migrant labour system tears families apart and destroys African life.

The wellknown South African writer and artist Hilda Bernstein who attended the conference writes:

"From their homes in towns where there were some amenities like shops, clinics, transport - women and children of men who work in the mines, &c. are being evacuated into arid, desolate, distant places...dumped into asbestos huts without ceilings and floors...bewilderment strikes to the very roots of the soul..problems too great to overcome; sickness decimating those least able to resist; 75-80% of the children are undernourished; one in four die. This burden is carried by the women." (Women under Apartheid. International Defence and Aid Fund)

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The gap between the highly developed countries and the ex-colonial Third World became obvious when discussion focussed on priorities.

The new feminist orientated woman of the western elite is primarily concerned to get the best possible qualifications and to enter successfully the rat-race for managerial positions. By and large they do not aim at a transformation of the socio-economic system.

Yet, even in Western Europe 30,000 million people live below the poverty line. (Times:Dec.10. 1981. A Census compiled from a five year study. The effect of the present crisis is not yet visible.)

The economic crisis hits working class girls and women hardest. Their priority is the right to a job and training to meet the demands of modern technology.

The conference concluded that the most important issues were peace, development and equality.

Men against women

by Jill Craigie

NO great political and social movement in British history has been more maligned and misunderstood by male historians than the women's campaign for the vote. The traditional view, as described by Peter Rowland in his 'The Last Liberal Governments' (1972), is that 'the suffragettes, led by Mrs Pankhurst and her two daughters, forced the public to take notice of them' by disrupting meetings, smashing windows, slashing paintings, setting the contents of pillar boxes alight, chaining themselves to railings and attacking Cabinet Ministers. 'What had seemed rather a lark in 1905', he wrote, 'had become something of a nightmare in 1911, with women of the upper and middle classes being continually imprisoned and, in many cases, subjected to forcible feeding.'

This attitude to the suffragettes makes a travesty of the movement. The campaign began when, in response to a petition signed by 1,499 women, the philosopher and MP John Stuart Mill moved an amendment to the Reform Bill of 1867 to give women the vote. Debates on votes for women took place year after year, and four times before 1906 women's suffrage Bills passed their Second Readings. By that time 400 MPs had pledged support, including 16 out of the 20 members of the Cabinet. The Bills were dropped in one of a thousand ways open to a Premier for getting rid of a measure he appears to support.

Many years later, in 1957, Christabel Pankhurst, Emmeline Pankhurst's eldest daughter, discovered that Roger Fulford, in his 'Votes for Women' published in the *Evening Standard*, mocked the movement, her mother, her father and herself. While living in California, she wrote, aged 76, in a hitherto unpublished letter to Helen, second wife of Lord Pethick-Lawrence, 'When I learnt from "Who's Who" that Roger

Fulford . . . is a Liberal Party politician I knew that his book would be an attempt to white-wash and vindicate the Liberal Government who resisted our just demand for votes for women. The most revealing and most damaging and most deceptive statement by the author is the following: "The most ingenious mortal living could not devise a Bill for the enfranchisement of women which would command in the year 1906 a majority in Parliament."

'Now this statement by Fulford takes no account of the fact that as far back in parliamentary history as 1870 there was a majority for a women's enfranchisement Bill which would Reform Bill of that year, had a pledged majority of private Members which was broken up by the same W. E. Gladstone . . . so that because of his opposition the Reform Bill became law leaving women still voteless.

'It was because of this official parliamentary destruction of votes for women proposals . . . repeated through the years, that I decided that . . . we must insist upon an official measure introduced into Parliament by the political party in power and put through into law by the Government of the day.

'That is why I went to the Free Trade Hall in Manchester [in 1905] to demand of the two prospective Cabinet Ministers on the platform [Sir Edward Grey and Winston Churchill] an answer to this question: Will your Government give votes to women? . . . This was . . . the first time the question had been asked: the cause of votes for women had thus been raised to the level of Government responsibility. Previously, the question had been: Are you in favour of women's suffrage? This left Cabinet Ministers free to answer 'Yes' without making a firm commitment. Two generations of women, including her mother and grandmother, had

failed, using orthodox means. Christabel now showed how, with a little more spirit, the enormous obstacles might be overcome.

In 'The Rule of Democracy' (1932), the French historian Elie Halévy described how a number of women entered the hall to wave flags, shout and wreck the speeches. Roy Jenkins, too, in his biography of Asquith, suggests that Christabel and her friend Annie Kenney, an Oldham mill-girl, wrecked the speeches *irrationally*, since Grey supported the women's cause.

In fact, the girls waited until the speeches were over, and until a number of men had received answers to questions. Only then did Annie Kenney put hers on behalf of her union of cotton workers. As this created a sensation a chief constable left the platform to tell the girls that, if they put their question in writing, which they did, Grey would reply. Instead, he read the note to himself, smiled and concluded his vote of thanks. Whereupon Christabel called out, 'The question! The question!' Immediately four stewards wrenched the girls from their seats and, amid uproar, threw them out.

The girls then held a protest meeting in defiance of the police, hoping to be arrested, and thus further advertise the cause. Christabel, then aged 26, was a law student, and thought she needed to commit a technical assault, so when a policeman gripped her arms she reluctantly spat. The girls were sentenced to a short spell in jail. Despite a hostile Press, women who had spent their adult lives working for the cause, and many daughters for whom the pace had been too slow, wanted to know the truth about the two young women who had gone to prison apparently for the vote.

Thus began the militant campaign. The Women's Social and Political Union (WSPU), founded by Mrs Emmeline Pankhurst in 1903, was led by Christabel - her mother's political mentor - and the Pethick-Lawrences from 1906-12.

Under Christabel's leadership, Dr Garrett Anderson, pioneer woman doctor, Hertha Ayrton, scientist and inventor of the miner's lamp, Mrs Cobden Sanderson, social-worker daughter of Richard Cobden (of the Anti-Corn Law League), pioneer educationists, writers, artists, teachers nurses and working women resorted to action so opposed to the accepted view of womanly behaviour that it broke down centuries of taboo. Moreover, right from the early years, the pressure also came from the Women's Cooperative Guild, the National Union of Women Workers, the Lancashire and Cheshire Union of Women Cotton Workers, the followers of Annie Besant, Keir Hardie and many socialists.

Suffragette 'crimes' during the early years amounted to nothing more serious than technical 'breaches of the peace', 'obstruction' and the heckling of Cabinet Ministers. A woman had only to ask the vital question at a public meeting to be flung out like a sack of coal. Even Liberal women complained in the Press that they could not get a straightforward answer to their perfectly reasonable question.

At the opening sessions of Parliament, the suffragettes clamoured at the doors to inquire whether or not their Bill would be included in the King's speech, or else to petition the Prime Minister. Meeting with abrupt negatives, they harangued MPs. When the doors were barred to suffragettes they tried to enter by subterfuge against blockades of police.

Reports in the Press of screaming and scratching viragoes backfired when Cobden's daughter was locked up. Such was the howl of rage against the Government that she and her sister inmates were recognised as political prisoners and were permitted to read, write, receive visitors and claim other privileges. Later, to secure the same rights rather than spend 23 hours out of 24 confined alone in lice-ridden cells, imprisoned suffragettes refused to eat.

But the only upper-class woman to be forcibly fed was Lady Constance Lytton and in her case not until she dressed herself as a member of the working class and had taken another name. Halévy, again in 'The Rule of Democracy', stated in his prejudiced way that Lady Lytton had 'persuaded herself' that she had received preferential treatment when imprisoned under her own name.

On that occasion, the Home Secretary, Herbert Gladstone (son of W.E.), sent a special doctor to Holloway to examine her and Jane Brailsford, wife of the popular Liberal journalist. As a result they were set free within two days. When imprisoned as a working woman in 1909, and subjected to forced feeding, Lady Lytton, who suffered from a weak heart, was almost asphyxiated. As a result, she was partially paralysed for the rest of her life. Another woman, Lilian Lenton, came near to death when food was pumped into her lungs.

These widely-publicised scandals contributed to Government losses in numerous by-elections. Herbert Gladstone assured MPs week after week at Question Time, that he had no power to recognise suffragettes as political prisoners, despite frequent reminders that he had done so for Cobden's daughter. Even Prime Minister Asquith came under attack in the Liberal Press for refusing to receive any deputation of women whether militant or not. By that time, newspapers, while still condemning suffragettes, were, apart from *The Times*, all for women's enfranchisement.

Both Kenneth Morgan in his biography of Keir Hardie and Andrew Rosen in 'Rise Up Women' (1974), acclaimed for its scrupulous scholarship, misinterpreted the campaign; Morgan by perpetuating the conventional view of suffragettes, Rosen by selecting facts that seemed to conform to his preconceived idea and overlooking those that proved the opposite. No historian explained why women were so

eager to secure their democratic rights. Apart from wishing to rid themselves of the stigma of being classified with criminals, lunatics, and children as unfit to vote, women wanted equality with men before the law, equality in education, training and in all spheres of work.

They wanted a living wage for sweated homeworkers, maternity benefits, widows' pensions, maintenance allowances for deserted wives. Married women wanted to be the legal guardians of their own children. Mrs Pankhurst was especially concerned with laws affecting adoption and infanticide, a common crime in the days when housemaids seduced by their employers could be hounded out of households without references.

Legend has it that militancy retarded the cause. Yet for 22 months during 1910 and 1911 the militant wings joined forces with the constitutionalists to mount the most intensive campaign of *peaceful* propaganda seen in Britain for a constitutional reform. The militants were determined to give the Government no excuse for blocking two Conciliation Bills, carefully framed to meet objections of all parties to votes for women. In 1910, when Asquith at last consented to receive a deputation of non-militants, Lady McLaren, leader of the Women's Liberal Federation, warned him that if he blocked the Conciliation Bill, Liberal women would have to go to the country and say that the Government, who were against the veto power of the House of Lords, were in fact placing a veto on the House of Commons. But that was precisely what Asquith did. Both Bills passed their Second Readings with overwhelming majorities. Asquith killed the first by suddenly dissolving Parliament in 1910, and torpedoed the second by announcing in November 1911 his own Reform Bill to enfranchise more men only. His reference to a woman's amendment deceived no suffragette - women had been taken in by that trick before.

The Women's Movement in SPAIN

by Geraldine M. Scanlon

Although Spain produced some courageous and pioneering women in the 19th century, such as the penal reformer Conception Arenal and the novelist Emilia Pardo Bazan, the feminist movement as such was not organized until the 20th century. The lack of a developed industrial economy, a feeble middle-class and the powerful influence of the Catholic Church all contributed to the tardy appearance of the movement.

Its subsequent development was further hampered by the acuteness of political and social tensions. Elsewhere feminists of different political opinions succeeded in uniting forces in the cause of emancipation, such a collaboration was impossible in Spain. The left dismissed the movement as a bourgeois irrelevance and offered instead the prospect of total emancipation in a Socialist or Anarchist society.

The Right, after its initial mistrust, clearly saw the best way to defuse the movement was to take it over and exploit it for its own purposes. The movement thus achieved little.

Women at last achieved a significant measure of emancipation, on paper in theory at least, under the Second Republic which was inaugurated in April

1931. The constitution gave them equal rights and a subsequent law gave them the vote. For the first time there were women members of parliament - Victoria Kent, Clara Caspamor, Margarita Nelken. When the Civil War broke out in 1936 the need to recruit large numbers of women for industry in the Republican zone resulted in the propagation of the ideal independent, socially responsible woman who was equal to man in all spheres. During the war women did not merely replace men in the service sectors and in industry, in the Republican zone in the early stages they fought at the front with the men.

All hopes for a genuine progress and equality was frustrated by the victory of the fascist forces under General Franco in 1939. All the progressive legislation introduced during the Republic was revoked and a massive campaign was inaugurated to resuscitate the traditional ideal of womanhood. The women's section of the Falange (the fascist party) eagerly undertook the task of training the nations' girls for the future subordinate role as wives and mothers. The traditional ideal only began to be questioned seriously in the early 60's when economic circumstances made it longer longer expedient. Any genuine reform was, however, impossible under the repressive Franco regime and it was only after the dictators death in 1975, that the women's movement has been able to begin to organize itself effectively.

Dr. Geraldine Scanlon is the author of "The Feminist Debate in Modern Spain". Madrid 1976

Soon afterwards, C. E. Hobhouse, a Liberal MP, declared that the suffrage campaign had not seen a sentimental uprising such as the burning of Nottingham Castle in 1832 and the wrecking of the Hyde Park railings in 1867. Suffragettes had often been taunted for fighting with pin-pricks whereas men had won the vote by committing acts of violence. Consequently in March 1912 the WSPU organised the first massive attack on private property, an outbreak of window-smashing throughout the West End.

Emmeline Pankhurst and the Pethick-Lawrences were promptly arrested. Charged with conspiracy, they put up so powerful a defence that the all-male, property-owning jury added a strong recommendation for mercy to their verdict of guilty. Christabel, fearful of what would become of a leaderless WSPU, escaped to Boulogne. Later from Paris she organised a campaign of vandalism and arson in the hope that insurance companies would persuade Asquith to see reason where the women had failed. They had, after all, been waging their cam-

aign by every possible means for 45 years.

'Women will suffer violence only to themselves', Mrs Pankhurst repeated on every possible occasion. Just over 1,000 suffragettes went to prison and for every one, hundreds supported the WSPU in other ways. Yet no more than four or five extremists transgressed the official policy by assaulting Cabinet Ministers, and even then intending injury, not to their bodies, but to their pride. One woman shook Asquith as if he were a naughty schoolboy.

In August 1914 the situation changed. The WSPU, under the guidance of Mrs Pankhurst and Christabel, switched their efforts into war work. In February 1918 women of 30 and over were at last granted the vote (extended to all women in 1928). Christabel in one of her letters to Helen Pethick-Lawrence, wished Fulford to be reminded, that, when the measure was debated in the Lords, the arch anti-suffragist, Lord Crewe, pleaded with the Peers to let it go through to avert another suffragette campaign.

The author of 'New Social History', Dr Brian Harrison, insists that the achievement was an empty victory. Yet within 10 years no fewer than 29 Acts of Parliament of special benefit to women passed on to the Statute Book, including the Married Woman (maintenance) Act, Matrimonial Causes Act, Infanticide Act, Guardianship of Infants Legitimacy Act. Last year's Sex Discrimination Act would not have been passed if women had been without the vote. An empty victory?

Only one historian, Dr David Morgan, author of 'Suffragists and Liberals', has had sufficient objectivity to glance with suspicion at the history of masculine opposition to votes for women. A few others looking at different aspects of history, notably Edward Thompson, author of 'The Making of the English Working Class' (1970), also F. S. L. Lyons, authority on Irish politics, and John Grigg, biographer of Lloyd George, write about women with feeling and perception. Otherwise it seems as if Asquithianism still prevails within the academic walls.

Jill Craigie

The ABOLITIONISTS

Demands for the abolition of slavery started in 1774. Quakers in England and America had formed abolitionists' committees. The growing industry in the Northern States needed a pool of free labourers, so the North associated itself with the abolitionists. Politically conscious women in England and America mobilised support. 300,000 housewives in Liverpool organised a sugar boycott to punish the slave owning planters. Women's fight against slavery became a catalyst for their own aspirations for freedom.

A d a m s Abigail Smith (1744-1818)
G o d d a r d Mary Catherine printed the first copies of American Declaration of Independence.
S t o n e Lucy (1818-93)
A n t h o n y Susan B. (1820-1906) Founder of "The Revolution"
S t a n t o n Elizabeth Cady (1815-1902) Co-founder 'International Council of Women' (1848)
H o w e Julia Ward (1819-1917) Leading anti-slavery and human rights fighter.
C a t t Cary Chapman (1859-1947) International Women's Suffrage Alliance
M o t t Lucrezia (1793-1880)
T u b m a n Harriet (1820-1913)
 An ex-slave who became the great liberator of her people. Led singlehanded 300 slaves into freedom. Poet and philosopher.

BRITAIN NEW VOICES

W o l l s t o n e c r a f t Mary (1759-97) Pioneer of feminism. Wk: "Vindication of of Women". Died after giving birth to her daughter.
F r y Elizabeth (1780-1845) Quaker; Prison reformer.
M i l l John St. (1806-1873) Philosopher. Leading supporter of women's emancipation in conjunction with his wife a journalist.
M a r t i n e a u Harriet (1803-76) Radical journalist, social critic.
G a s k e l l Elizabeth (1810-65) Novelist; wrote anonymously socially critical books
B u t l e r Josephine (1828-1906) Fought heroically against hypocrisy, ignorance and male chauvinism for human rights for Prostitutes
B l a c k w e l l Elizabeth (1821-1910) First woman doctor. Graduated in Geneva.
N i g h t i n g a l e Florence (1820-1910) First Midwives and Nurses' Training College; campaigner for day nurseries for children; pioneer of nursing profession.
H i l l Octavia (1838- 1912) Social reformer re: Housing.
B e s a n t Annie (1847-1919) Socialist; supported Matchgirls' Strike 1888, and Indian National Liberation Movement.
M a r x Eleanore (1855-98) Writer and translator, lecturer for Internationale.
S c h r e i n e r Olive (1855-1920) Writer, feminist, anti-colonialist.
P a n k h u r s t Emily (1858-1928) Leading figure of suffrage movement. Her daughter:
P a n k h u r s t: Sylvia (1882-1960) Built up East London Fed. of Suffragettes a mainly working class organisation. 1914: War resister; founded: League of Rights for Soldiers & Sailors' Wives and Relatives. Anti-fascist.
P a n k h u r s t Christabel: see Jill Craigie

B a r r y Dr James Miranda; (1794-1865) Her sex was her secret. She served with distinction as Inspector General and Surgeon of the British Army.
A n d e r s o n Elizabeth Garrett; (1836-1917) First MD to graduate in England.
F a w c e t t Millicent Garrett (1847-1918) Pioneer suffragette.
M c M i l l a n Margaret (1861-1931) Indefatigable fighter for child welfare.
W e b b Beatrice (1858-1943) Pioneer social and industrial investigator and writer.
C a v e l l Edith (1865-1915) Military nurse. Defied orders of the German military and helped 200 allied soldiers to escape. Executed.
J e b b Eglantyne (1876-1958) Founder of 'Save the Children's Fund. (1920)
S t o p e s Marie (1880-1958) First M.Sc. of Manchester University. Pioneer of Birth Control.
G o u l d Barbara Ayrton; Fought for the protection of children against brutality in their homes. Chmn. Labour Party 1939-40.
W o o l f Virginia (1882-1941) Novelist. Her book "A Room of One's Own" explains women's problems.
L o n s d a l e Dame Kathleen 1903, Quaker, Prof. Chemistry Pres. British Association
M i t c h i s o n Naomi: Writer, socialist.
M i t f o r d Jessica 1917: Investigative journalist; Civil Rights Worker in USA
H o d g k i n Dorothy FRS; OM. Physicist; Campaign Nuclear Disarmament: Prix Nobel.
W a r d Dame Barbara (1914-81) Economist; deeply concerned about the Third World's poor; for international cooperation for developemnt. Nehru Award for International Understanding.
L i n d o p Patricia: Prof. (Radiology)
R o w b o t h a m Sheila: Historian, feminist, socialist. "Women Resistance and Revolution"; 'Hidden from History'; etc.
H e w e t t Patricia Lawyer; Council for
H a r m a n Harriet: (Civil Liberties

FRANCE

A. M. C o n d o r c e t (1743-1794), leading representative of the Enlightenment and encyclopaedist and his wife Sophia de Grouchy advocated equal political rights and equal education for women. He was a sponsor of the 'Friends of the Black Race' society and Min. of Education in 1789. Died in prison in 1794.
 The centre of political and cultural life in 19th century Paris were the salons of society women, in contrast to the Clubs in London were women were banned. Yet, women's suffrage came only in 1945.
G o u g e s Olympe Marie (1748-93) Feminist. Executed.
S t a e l Anna Louise (1804-76) Political writer; opponent of Napoleon; exiled.
S a n d George (1804-76) Her novel 'Indiana' deals with women's need for emancipation.
A g o u l t Marie Catherine (1805-76) Historian; political writer; friend of many radicals whom she supported.
T r i s t a n Flora (1803-44) Early socialist, feminist writer. Edited "L'Union Ouvriere" (1844). Friend of the Chartists. Of French-Peruvian parentage.
M i c h e l Louise (1830-1905) Leader of the 1871 Commune. Took part in the defence of Paris. After the defeat of the Commune she was deported with many others to New Caledonia where she helped the indigenous population. She was later amnestied, died in Paris. Thousands followed her coffin to the cemetery.

J o l i o t - C u r i e Irene (1897-1956) Physicist; disc. with F. Joliot artificial radioactivity; mem. Resistance; co-author Stockholm Appeal 1951: Ban atomic weapons.

L a b o u i s s e - C u r i e Eve 1904-
Org. Free French Women's Corps (1940); with Henry Labouisse, U.N. High Commissioner for Palestine Refugees work in Middle East.

d e B e a u v o i r Simone, 1908:
Foremost theoretician of post-war women's liberation movement. Her book "Second Sex" publ. 1949 met with ridicule and indignation. Supporter of liberation movements.

B a r d o t Bridget:
Film star. Defied the OAS and helped Algerians during the Algerian war.

H a l i m i Gisele:
Of Tunisian parentage. She defended Djamilia Boupacha who was tortured together with other Algerian resistance fighters. Now an M.P. Fights for women's right to chose.

C o t t o n Eugenie (1881-1967) Scientist; pacifist; Stockholm Conf; Hunger and Underdevelopment; Chev. Legion d'Honneur.

C a s a n o v a Danielle (1909 - 1943) Heroine of the Resistance. Murdered Auschwitz.

F r o m o n d Francine: Heroine of Resistance shot by Nazis 1944.

F r a n c e B l o c h France: " " " 1943

SWEDEN

B r e m e r Frederica (1801-65) Early feminist writer.

K e y Ellen (1849-1926) For children rights

W a g n e r Elis: (Humanist, writer.

B r a n d s t r o e m Elas (1888-1948) Saved hundreds of lives at great risk during World War I

M y r d a l Alva 1902; Social philosopher. Expert on economic development; disarmament and world affairs. Held important posts at UNO

AUSTRALIA

H a l l Joyce: Aborigine J.P. For native rights.

C a l d i c o t t Dr Helen: Leading CND campaigner

G r e e r Germaine: Author: "Female Eunuch"

W a l k e r Kath: Aborigine poet.

B r o w n Freda: Pres. World Congress of Women

SPAIN GREECE ITALY

L a P a s s i o n a r i a (Dolores Ibarruri) Republican M.P. of Oviedo; leader in the resistance against fascist rebela led by Franco

V l a c h o s Helen: Liberal newspaper editor

M e r c o u r i Maria: actress; fought the fascist junta; now Min. for the Arts.

A m b a t i e l o s Betty: of Welsh parentage. Campaigner for Greek democracy.

M o n t e s s o r i Maria (1879-1949) Educationalist. Anti-fascist. Exile during Mussolini era in India.

SWITZERLAND

M u e l i n e n Helene (1850-1924) Swiss feminist. Org. 1869 first congress of women workers and peasants.

R a g a z Clara (1874-?) Org. 1915 Peace Congress as a follow-up to the one in the Hague. Fought f. Conscientious objectors.

INDIA

N a i d u Sarojini (1879-1949) leader National Movement, often imprisoned; poet.

N a l i n i Saroj (1887-1910) F. Women's Institutes; Arts & Crafts Centres; frd. of Tagore.

R a j k u m a r i K.A. Min. Health; Pres. W.H.O.

P a n d i t V.L. 1900 Diplomat; Pres. U.N. Gen. Assembly

T h e r e s a Mother: Catholic Albanian who tends India's poor. Prix Nobel.

U S S R

K o l l o n t a i Alexandra (1873-1952) Minister for Social Welfare in the first post-revolutionary government in the USSR. The first woman who served as a diplomat. She was a generation ahead in her views on man-woman relations and the future of the liberated woman.

R e i s n e r Larissa (1895-) Writer. Went in 1925 to Afghanistan and wrote a book about the abysmal conditions of women in a backward, semi-colonial country.

O r u j e v a Mirza Izzet: born in an Islamic society she was the first who in 1920 discarded the veil. Now an oil engineer and member of Academy of Sciences in Azerbaidjan.

S o y a (1923-41) Heroine of the resistance. Was tortured to death by the Nazi.

P O L A N D

P l a t e r Emilia (1806-31) Heroine of the 1830 Independence Movement

O r z e s z o w a Eliza (1841-1910) Writer, fought for the rights of women, peasants Jews, etc. against ignorance and injustice

W i l c z y n s k a Stefania (1886-1942) Head of Korczak's Children's Home. Murdered by Nazis

F o r n a l s k a Malgorzata (1902-1944) Leader in resistance against Nazi. Executed

S z a p i r a Hawicka Hanka (1917-43) Leader of revolutionary youth movement wounded in fighting the Nazis; died in prison.

L u x e m b u r g Rosa (Poland 1871-Berlin 1919) Outstanding theoretician of the Polish and international socialist movement. Elected M.P. by German Social Democrats. Voted against the raising of war loans and was imprisoned as a traitor. Murdered by fascist mercenaries.

C u r i e - S k l o d o w s k a Marie (Poland 1867-France 1934) Discovered with her husband Pierre Curie (1859-1906) radium (Prix Nobel 1903) Polonium (Prix Nobel 1911) Her daughters see: France: Joliot; labouisse.

S k a r b e k Krystyna (1917-52) Heroine of World War II. Escaped to England. Parachuted many times behind enemy lines into Nazi occupied Europe. Rescued hundreds of people. O.B.M. Croix de Guerre; Heroine of French Resistance. Was murdered by a psychopath in London.

H O L L A N D

G e s i n a van der M o l e n; resistance; saved innumerable Jewish children with Dr. H o l t e . Mem. Intern. Court Hague; Chmn. Anti-Apartheid Defence & Aid. Hannie S c h a f t heroine of resistance; saved Jews: executed aged 22. Annie van O m m e r e n Averink: leader of Resistance

T r u u s M e n g e r s artist; Freddie Overstegen; The underground movement was very strong; a monument to the dockers who helped unselfishly and heroically hundreds to escape from Gestapo has been erected. D u t c h women produce an excellent journal Frouwen strong anti-war and anti-racist commitment.

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USA

- A d d a m s Jane** (1860-1935) Born into a well-off quaker family she spent most of her money to improve living conditions for working class people. Studied public sanitation and other essential disciplines to implement her scheme.
Co-organiser of 1915 Peace Congress in the Hague. Peace Nobel Prize 1931
- B a l c h Emily** (1867-1961) Educationalist and pacifist. Founder: International Women's League for Peace and Freedom. Nobel Peace Prize 1931
- K e l l e r Helen;** (1880-19)
Although severely disabled (blind and deaf) since childhood, she managed through the persistent help of her companion and teacher Ann Sullivan Tracy to educate herself, acquire the knowledge of German, French, Latin, science and mathematics. She took part in further education of the blind all over the world, dedicated herself to the peace movement and international cooperation.
- T h o m p s o n Dorothy;** (1894-1961) One of the most influential political journalists of the inter-war years. Head of Berlin Office of New York Evening Post. Warned since 1923 about the Nazi menace while others minimized the danger. Sponsor: 'Mothers for Peace'
- R o s e v e l t Eleanor;** (1884-1962)
1946-52 Chmn. UN Commission for Human Rights.
- M e a d Margaret;** 1901; Anthropologist. Broke new ground with her investigations into cultural patterns. Lived with the Samoans and had much to say about the arch evils of western society: aggression and violence.
'Mothers for Peace'
- A b z u g Bella;** 1921
US Congress woman. Lawyer who defends civil rights cases. Founder Women strike for Peace
- M c C a r t h y Mary;** Celebrated novelist. Went to V i e t n a m to write about 'things.'
- G r a h a m Katherine;** Editor Washington Post. Opened the watergate affair.
- D a v i s Angela;** Black Civil Rights Worker. University lecturer. Had been kept in prison, but after months of campaigning all over the world, she was acquitted.

BLACK VOICES

- S e a c o l e Mary** Jamaican nurse who worked with F. Nightingale in the Crimean war.
"Had brilliant medical and organising abilities". Obituary Times: 1881
- J o n e s: Claudia** (Trinidad-1918-London 1964) Civil Rights worker in the US. Indicted during the McCarthy witch hunt. Acquitted. Editor: West Indian Gazette in London. Died Christmas 1964 Lisbourne Rd

AUSTRIA

- S u t t n e r Bertha v.** (1843-1914)
Pacifist. Publ: "Down with Armaments" in 1893. Persuaded Alfred N o b e l of the Explosives's Trust to set up the Nobel Peace Prize Foundation.
- W a c h t e l Erica** (Austria 1912- London 1980) Prof of Gynaecological Cytology. One of the pioneers of the smear test for early diagnosis of malignant growths. Pres. Brit. Society of Cytology. Died June 1980 in her home Lawn Rd. NW3
- M e i t n e r Lise** (Austria 1878-England 1968)
Scientist: nuclear physics.
Refused to work on the bomb.

GERMANY

- B e b e l August** (1840-1913) His book "Woman and Socialism" was the first historical survey and analysis of women in society.
- H u c h Ricarda** (1864-1947)
Historian, novelist, pacifist. Goethe Prize 1931
- K o l l w i t z Kaethe** (1867-1945)
Outstanding artist of working class life.
- Z e t k i n Clara** (1857-1933) Leading socialist. Demanded equal rights for women at the 1889 Congress of the Internationale in Paris. 1907 elected secretary of the Socialist Women's Internationale. Editor of 'Die Gleichheit' (Equality). Demanded the 8 hour day and May 1, Workers Day. 1910: she proposed to mark March 8, "International W o m e n's D a y" at the Copenhagen Congress. A year later millions of women, the world over, celebrated it. 1914 Outbreak of World War I.

1914: WORLD WAR

R e s i s t a n c e against the war was strong in socialist circles. In Germany Rosa L u x e m b u r g and Karl Liebknecht voted against war credits in Parliament and were imprisoned. In Britain Sylvia P a n k h u r s t and Fenner B r o c k w a y campaigned against the war. In 1915 German women demonstrated against the war in Berlin.

1915: WOMEN'S PEACE Conference

In 1915 the Dutch pacifist Aletta Jacobs organised the International Women's Peace Conference in the Hague. In spite of the greatest obstacles from the belligerent governments 1136 delegates of 12 nations met. Britain was represented by the suffragette J. Pethick Lawrence, Germany by Lida Heymann, the US by Jane Addams. It was a heroic struggle against the war and militarism in general. A committee for 'eternal Peace' was founded which was the beginning of the International League for Peace and Freedom. Their appeals fell on deaf ears. Yet, it was the way women began to dissociate themselves from official policies. They were on the way to become a force. The march of the Russian women on March 8, 1917 for Bread Peace and Freedom heralded the revolution, and the end of the war. In 1917 Russian women were declared equal citizens; in Britain women were given the vote in 1918, in Germany in 1919.

1921: NAZI POLICY on WOMEN

But already new forces were at work to prepare Germany for the next war. The powerful women's peace movement had to be crushed. So, at the first meeting of the newly formed Nazi Party in 1921 it was stated: Women must under no circumstances yield any influence. When Hitler, in 1933 seized power women were removed from all positions of influence. Female students were not allowed to exceed 10% of the university entrants. "Women's Place is the Home" said Hitler. At the end of the war 6 million Germans were dead and millions of homes bombed to pieces. The exhibition shows photographs of the heroic women who fought in the resistance against Nazism all over Europe. German women too. Official histories of the war gave them little space. Their photos did not appear in the press. They worked in deepest secrecy and tens of thousands if not more, were put to death.

GERTRUDE ELIAS

February
1982

WOMEN'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE LIBERATION

RESISTANCE TO NAZISM

1940-1945

By the middle of 1942, the Germans had overrun the bulk of continental Europe but these occupied countries had a resource the Nazis did not count with: their own people.

In the secret war against the Nazis women without numbers played an invaluable part, participating on terms of perfect equality with men.

They acted as couriers, cipher operators, authors and printers of pamphlets, drivers, guides, nurses, assassins and spies.

They needed the courage, ingenuity and foremost the ability to fight without the companionship of military life.

Above all they needed the ability to keep their mouth shut.

Innumerable were executed.

(M.R.D.:Foot: Resistance. Methuen 1976)



INDIA

Women played an important role in the long struggle for the independence of India, won in 1947. They took their men's places when they were taken to prison. It was a real mass movement of women. The most famous was the poet Sarojini Naidu, The wives of the leaders Kasturba Gandhi and Kamala Nehru also played their part. So did Indira Gandhi Nehru's daughter, the present Prime Minister.

ALGERIA

The Algerian revolution (1954-61) against French colonialism brought women in an Islamic society on an unprecedented scale into the forefront. Djamilia Boupacha and Djamilia Bouhired became heroines of the fight for liberation. Assia Djebar, novelist and film director tries to work now to show women their rightful place in society.

EGYPT

Egypt produced a great number of women academics. Dr. Nawal el-Sadaawi, a doctor, was the first woman to be appointed director of Public Health but her outspoken criticism of conditions led to her dismissal. She turned to writing and her books written in simple Arabic try to bring home to the villagers new ideas and the need for change.

She has little time for radical feminism. We cannot speak about equality as an aim as long as our own men, too, are victims of a system which keeps them poor, illiterate and unemployed. It makes little sense. We have to change the system to prevent our resources being sucked out by foreign powers and the multi-nationals. First things first. (Copenhagen Conf.)

Nawal had been imprisoned in the last wave under Sadat but we hope she had been released by the new president who had recently released 70 imprisoned intellectuals.

SUDAN

Another famous woman journalist is Fatima Ahmed Ibrahim of the Sudan. She edited a woman's paper which was so well-informed that all men bought it for themselves. It was banned by Numeiri and her husband, President of the Sudanese Workers' Union, was executed.

IRAQ

Education and political awareness among the women of Iraq have made terrific strides forward. They have oil engineers and mathematicians. They have also taken a heroic part in the struggle for democracy and peace. The principal voice of Iraq's oppressed women is the Iraqi Women's League (now banned) who have a long history of resistance against tyranny. In recent years Dr. Suad Khairy journalist, and Aieda Mutar Yassin were imprisoned and tortured. Amina al-Sadr, writer and thinker was executed in April 1980 and Dr. Salwa al Bahrani died from poisoning in May 1980.

BOLIVIA

In most of the Third World countries it's not merely, a struggle for women's rights but for human rights. The happenings in Chile are too well known. We quote therefore the problems of Domotila Chungara, leader of the Bolivian Miners' Wives Union:

"I am a woman of the Bolivian mines. My husband is a tin miner. Around 60% of our national revenue comes from mining.

70,000 miners work under appalling conditions. They die from the dust they breathe into their lungs and by 35 they are finished.

Liberation means to us liberation from squalor and hunger. Liberation from fascist repression which tortures the whole people. Our land is rich but our children die on our breasts."

Ref: Committee against Repression and for Democratic Rights in Iraq.
Sponsors: Lord Brockway, Syd Bidwell M.P.
Bob Hughes M.P. Frank Allaun; Jo Richardson,
George Morton M.P.S

Ref: Norman Lewis in the 'Observer Magazine' 1977.

PEACE

DEVELOPMENT

EQUALITY

RESISTANCE TO NAZISM

1940-1945
EXECUTED

EXECUTED

GERMANY (EXECUTED)

- Judith Auer (1905-44)
- Gerda Boenke (1913-44)
- Elisabeth Bruhn (1894-44)
- Eva-Maria Buch (1921-43)
- Helene Glatzer (1902-35)
- Dr Maria Grollmuss (1896-1944)
- Tilde Klose (1892-1942)
- Paula Lohagen (1897-1947)
- Franziska Kessel (1906-34)
- Margarete walter (1913-35)
- Olga Benario-Prestes (1908-42)
- Erika v. Brockdorff (1911-43)
- Elvira Eisenschneider (1924-44)
- Hilde Jadamowitz (1916-42)
- Liselotte Hermann (1909-38)
- Rosa Menzer (1886-1942)
- Otilie Pohl (1867-1943)
- Gertrude Seele (1917-45)
- Sophia Scholl (1921-43)
- Klara Schabbel (1894-1943)
- Gerda Taro (1911-37 died fighting in Spain)
- Johanna Tesch (1875-1945)
- Lotte Rotholz (1925-1947)
- Helene Fleischer (1899-1941)
- Irene Wosikowski (1910-44)
- Charlotte Eisenblatter (03-44)
- Dr Mildred Harnack (1902-43)
- Cato Bontje van Beek (1920-43)



18 year old Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya hanged after torture by the Nazis.

AUSTRIA

- Kaethe Leichter (1896-1942) Vienna
- Hedi Urach (aged 31) Salzburg (survived)
- Karoline Redler (aged 60) Tirol
- Rosa Hofmann (Salzburg)
- Maria Olip (Carinthia)
- Leopoldine Kovarik "
- Sister Restituta and 28 nuns (survived)
- Sister Schleimer (survived)
- Steffi Kunke
- Annie Graef (17)
- Hermine Zaynard (Nanny)
- Leopoldine Sicka

POLAND

- Isabela Lapuska
- Krystine Maysiak
- Aleksandra Sokal
- Krystyine Milli
- Janina Szlaminska
- Wanda Kirchmayer
- Helena Emich
- Alicia Markiewicz
- Wanda Zielenczyk
- Anna Kosminska
- Irena Kruglowska
- Walesia Domanienska
- Helena Dabronska
- Eva Polinska
- Halina Seyda
- Maria Brodzyka
- Krystyna Matysiak
- Lubienska Countess
- Wanda Krakowska

BRITAIN

- Nancy wake F i o c c a (Australian)
- Noor Inayat K h a n (Indian executed)
- Violette Szabo (executed)
- Andree B o r r e l l (executed)
- Muriel B y c k (died on active service)
- Yvonne Rudelatt (executed) (France)
- Diana R o w d e n (executed)
- Virginia Hall (survived never captured)

FRANCE

- Micheline Goldschmidt
- Christiane Battu
- Jeannine Rousseau
- Henriette Anable.
- Madeleine Crozet
- Margarete Brouillet
- Berthie Albrecht
- Marie Madeleine Fourcade

NORWAY

Sigrid H e l l i e s e n Quaker; WWII: resistance; helped Jews escape Nazism.



Danielle Casanova Kaethe Leichter Hedi Urach

IRELAND

- D e s p a r d Charlotte (1844-1939) Suffragette; militant anti-fascist and fighter for Irish independence. Founder of workers' and children's centres.
- C o m e r f o r d Maire One of the early republican leaders.
- M a r k i e v i c z Constance (1876-1927) nee Gore Booth wife of the Polish painter and poet Count M. She took a leading part in the 1916 Easter uprising in Dublin. She was sentenced to death but amnestied. In 1918 she was the first woman to be elected MP for Dublin but refused to take her seat in Westminster. She always identified with the poor and the oppressed.

G i f f o r d Grace Artist, took part in the 1916 uprising.

C a s s i d y Dr Sheila Worked as a doctor in Chile during the fascist coup which overthrew the Allende government. She was tortured for giving aid to a wounded anti-fascist.

D e v l i n McAliskey Bernadette Elected MP at the age of 22 in 1969. Public relations officer for National H Block Armagh Cttee. Badly wounded in an attack by protestant extremists.

W i l l i a m s Betty (1941-) Fought for peace in Northern Ireland. Shared Nobel Prize 1977 with Mairead Corrigan.

D a l y Dr. Miriam University lecturer. Supporter of Vietnam (1960's). Worked for Civil Rights and political prisoners in N.Ireland. Killed.

AUSTRIA

K a u t s k y Louise (1860-193) Socialist. Delegate to the 1893 Congress of the Internationale at Zurich. Opponent of her husband Karl Kautsky whom she left to join Engels in London assisting him in the final edition of Marx' Das Kapital.

E r d m a n n Rhoda (1870- 1926) Pioneer cytologist, biologist. Editor of the first journal on cytology.

S o c h a c z e w s k i Annie (1886- 1967) Pioneer ecologist; researcher in soil chemistry.



Diana Rowden Executed Natzweiler Noor Inayat Khan executed Dachau Malgorzata Fornalska Hanna Czaki Maria Olip Lilo Hermann

RESISTANCE



Marie Curie



Edith Cavell



Mary Seacole



Jane Addams



Naomi Mitchison



Djamila Boupacha



Gisele Halimi



Julia Aravalo



Felicia Langer



Amina Dabhour



Fatima Ahmed Ibrahim



Lillian Ngoyi, Pres. South African Fed. Women ANC



Bernadette McAliskey



Claudia Jones



Jayaben Desai



Vanessa Redgrave

Dorothy Hodgkin FRS



Dr. Helen Caldicott



Prof. Patricia Lindop



Jane McKay TGNU



SOUTH AFRICA

Helen Joseph Albertina Sisulu Rita Ndzanga
Lillian Ngoyi (Leader) Joyce Sikanene
Winnie Mandela Ntisi Biko

SOUTH AMERICA

Mexico: Adelina. Uruguay: Julia Aravalo. Brazil: Maria, Isobel Carneiro Ribeiro. Chile: Isobel Letelier. Gladys Diaz.

ISRAEL PALESTINE

Felicia Langer: Israeli lawyer who has been defending the rights of Palestinians in Israeli military courts since 1967 against the Israeli authorities. Amina Dabhour: Palestinian leader. Redgrave Vanessa: actress; fighter for Palestinian rights.

WOMEN FOR PEACE

will work untiringly
disarmament and th
ishing of all nuclear

John Pau
Feb. 1



Eileen Bernal



Alva Myrdal

RESISTANCE

Conceived and produced by

GERTRUDE ELIAS

with the cooperation of

**JILL CRAIGIE • GERALDINE SCANLON •
WOLF SUSCHITZKY • HILDA BERNSTEIN •
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