



# 100 years of WI Campaigning: Suffrage, Water and Women Police

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## Lady Isabel Margesson

We are making war to provide peace.

Recent developments in post offices were an object lesson to people too stupid to appreciate reason.

Women were justified in resisting taxation until women had the same control over national expenditure as male taxpayers possess.



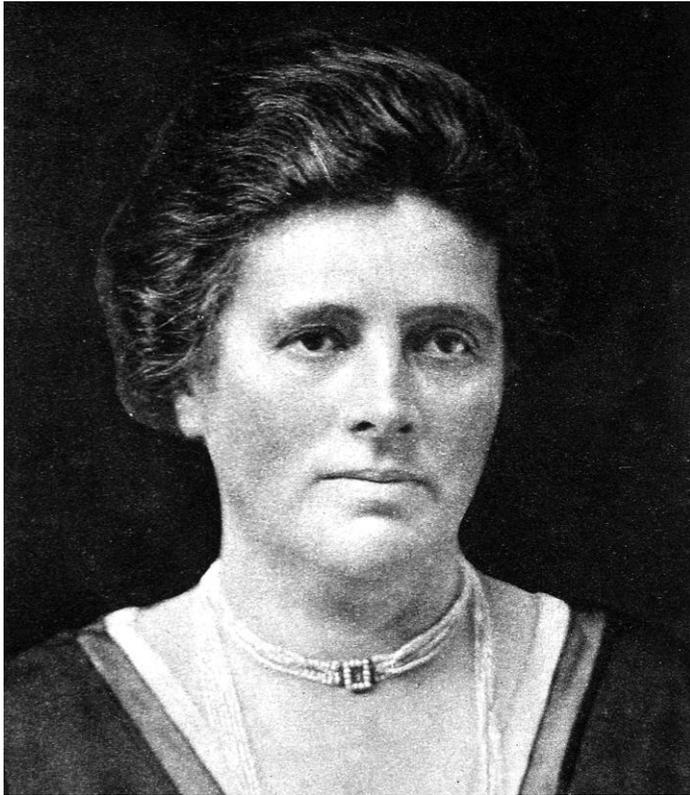
# Grace Hadow and Catherine Blair



# Mrs Fawcett

the exhilaration of  
feeling the power of  
the vote





Lady Astor and Mrs Wintringham, who are fighting for women police in the House, are waiting to hear *the opinion of all women in the country on this question.*

# Margaret Wintringham

I visualised that room in my mind, and I compared it with the Table in front of the Treasury bench, and afterwards I was interested to go down and measure the Table. I found that the smallest bedroom would be half-a-foot less in length than the Table. I ask the Minister, how would it be possible to use such a room as a bedroom for the accommodation of two girls or two boys?



# Water and Housing

That the provision of a sufficient supply of convenient and sanitary houses being of vital importance to women in the country, County Federations and Women's Institutes are urged to bring pressure to bear upon their local councils and, through the National Federation, upon the Local Government board to ensure that full advantage is taken in their districts of the Government scheme for state-aided housing.

NFWI AGM Resolution 1918



# The importance of piped water

A Staffordshire housewife from Longdon explained:

I have lived in this cottage for over six years and for the first four and half years we had not water supply on the premises and had to fetch it from a draw well 40 feet deep from a cottage 70 yards away. We had to make three journeys a day which would take about half an hour..... My supply is now from a sink in the back kitchen ... You will understand what a blessing it is to us.

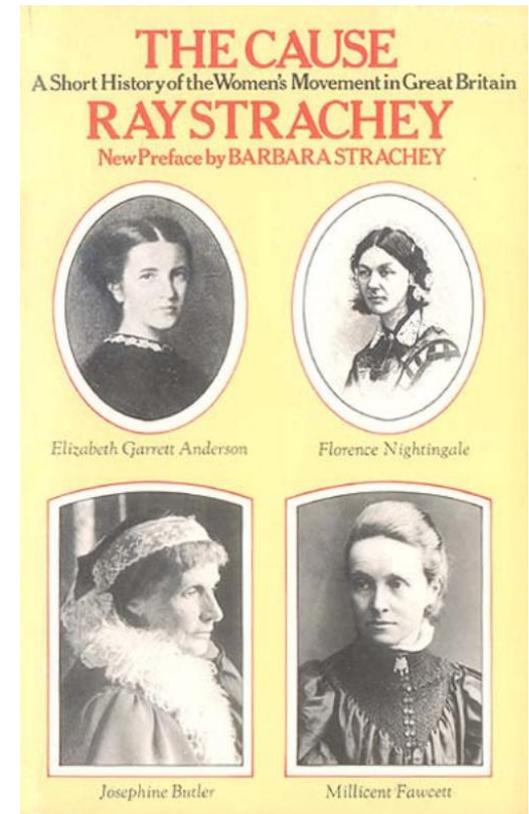
*Home and Country* 1936



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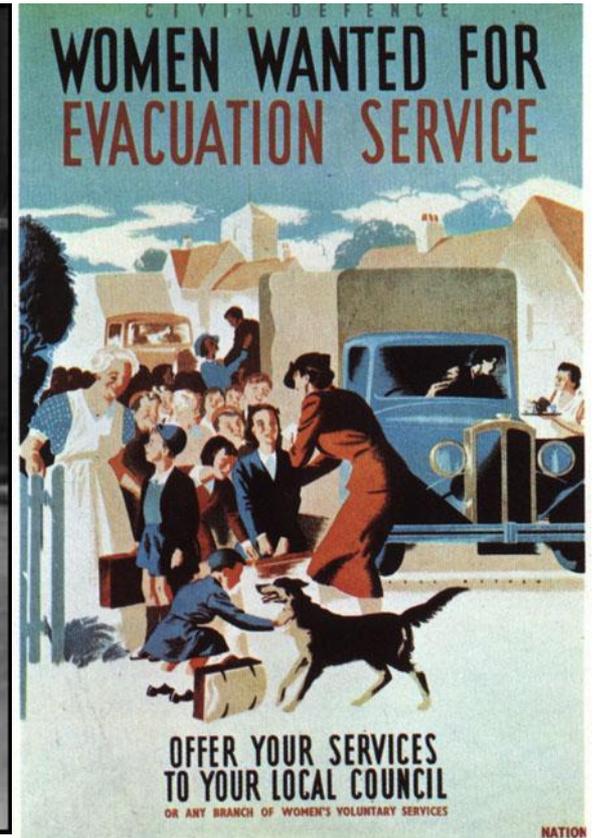
# Ray Strachey *The Cause* (1928)

It is not too much to say that the lives of country women were transformed by the coming of this organisation, which brought instruction and variety just at the moment when enfranchisement and short skirts were bringing physical and mental development; and it is not surprising that women of all ages and classes who had worked in the suffrage movement turned their energies to this field.



# Countrywomen's Parliament





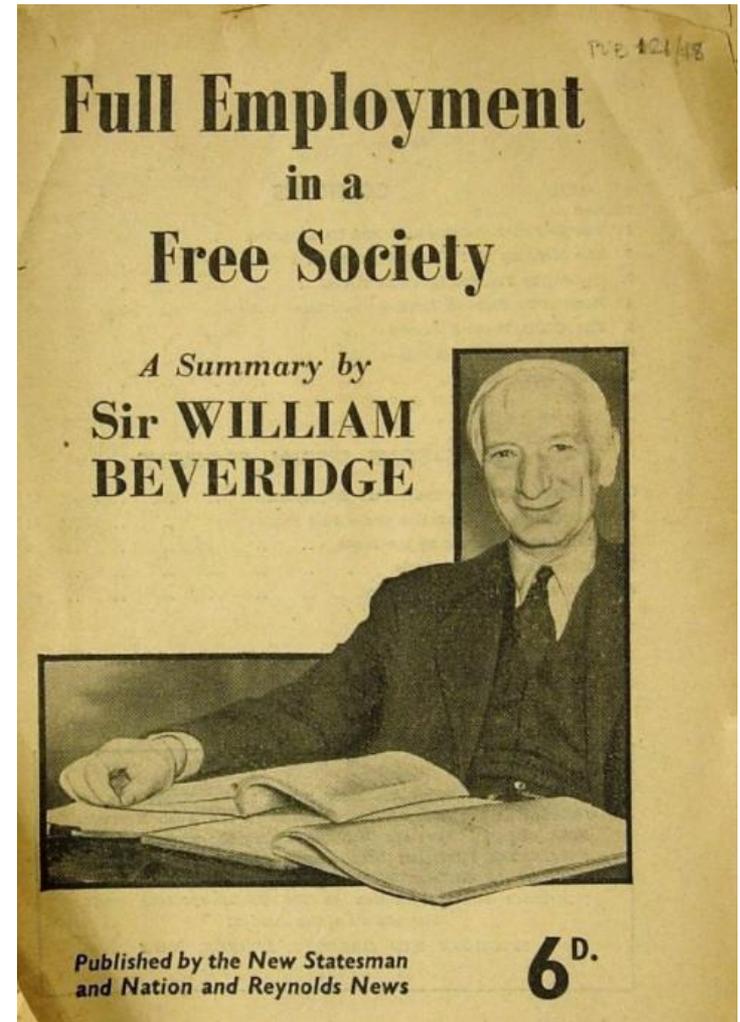
The planners of the evacuation scheme could – and did – calmly assume that the housewife need not be paid anything for the time, energy, labour and skill spent in cooking, washing, ironing, mending and ‘minding’ and doing housework for three or four extra children.



To show that women doing their own traditional and specific job of running a household and bringing up a family should be considered as important, as responsible and as much worthy of respect as women doing the kind of job that can be done equally well by either sex; and that their work is just as vital if not more so.

# 1943 AGM resolution

This meeting records its appreciation of Sir William Beveridge's great work for social security and particularly of his recognition that health insurance for housewives and family allowances are essential if family life is to be free from want.





**1943 - equal pay for equal work**