

auto-  
Books Biographical 3985

Annie Besant - Fisher Munn  
1908

Rachel Macmillan - wife  
R born (possibly 1860 ~~near of American~~ ~~independence~~) by Margaret -  
Died 1927.  
R. died 1916

M born  
died

### The Macmillans

Events that touched them in their

Inverness fastness in the north

Mrs Balgarnie lectures on Women's

Disfranchise at the Music Hall

W.T. Stead's Maiden Tribute reached  
them

Both there before 1887 when Rachel  
visited in Edinburgh

There was a Scottish Socialist League

there & Dr Glasse preached Christian

socialism boldly at Jeffrey's

Wm Morris was in the "Commonweal"  
also S.D.F. Justice was in being

Kiopsolkin's Advice to the Young <sup>3085</sup>

Rachel became a helper & then <sup>1888</sup>  
superintendent in Working Girls  
Home in Bloomsbury  
joined there by Margaret

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Sunday mornings being free they gave out  
or sold socialist literature at  
the docks

At Whitechapel they had a class of  
sail-gals & mill-gals - taught them  
sewing - "they led me a dreadful life"

after "companionship" to Lady X

both went to Bedford

helped ~~form~~ <sup>expand</sup> first socialist group there

1892-3

One of many of young women who were  
speaking for I.L.P. <sup>Katherine</sup> <sup>Emmeline</sup>  
Margaret Macmillan. <sup>Caroline</sup> <sup>Martin</sup>

1894 Bedford School Board  
elected

later Emmeline Parkhurst

Feature of the line of ferment the stir among  
women

meanwhile Rached returned to 3985  
Hostel work & qualified as a  
Sanitary Inspector

"In the young L.P. Equality was taken for  
granted. — —

The women later had to fight their  
own battle.

Opposition to education proper  
came from Catholics - not party  
(p. 84 M. Mack - in life of her sister)

"The condition of the poorer children in  
that day was worse than anything that was  
described or painted. The neglect of infants,  
the utter neglect almost of toddlers & older  
children, the blight of early labour, all  
combined to make a race vigorous  
people a race of under grown and spoiled  
adolescents; and just as people looked on  
at torture 200 years ago and less without  
any great indignation so in the nineteenth  
people saw the misery of poor children  
without perturbation!"

In 1838 Lord Shaftesbury found that practically  
all the <sup>factory</sup> children were so deformed that  
they looked "like letters of the alphabet"  
quoted on page 87-88.

In 1843 these awful atrocities had ceased  
— more or less

In 1894 Half times slept, exhausted at the desks  
& from allays & such children attended school

in every step & state of physical misery, 3985

Education Act - use of middle class  
had produce in many districts fine  
or adequate buildings - but the individual  
child & the family were still no concern  
of the public.

Church ignored these conditions - or  
rather ignored any effort to change  
them. Accepted them as it accepted in  
other ages the rack & the thumb screw,  
the dominance of wealth & the  
denial of individual recognition  
to the common human creature.

9 years in Bradford - 8 on School Bd  
Blocking of all M.M. efforts by the  
Catholic Church continued until 1897  
she carried the Board -  
Baths - voice production - <sup>beginning of</sup> medical  
treatment, such adaptation of Séguin's  
principles as were possible -  
let on to Childrens Open Air  
Nursery Schools -  
M.M. on Half time Depulchris  
asquith in 1895  
Reached 1895 years became haveling  
teacher of Hygiene for Kent C.C.

"In many ways" said Rachel "the collage girls do not grow up. They remain always at the age of 12 or thirteen."

This arrest of development was a calamity to her. Its full tragedy moved her to open-up Village Classes voluntarily run for young women & girls

(She found the village child of 12 was at least equal in school attainments to the young nation or the grown-up nation)

Already, doing this missionary work as she passed to & fro in the country visiting <sup>notably colleges</sup> <sup>of poor country folk</sup> she began to see schools in gardens & gardens ~~in~~ schools.

Meanwhile there were in the country and in cities & slum areas millions of children needing millions of women doing work for which they had no real preparation & no help. Already Rachel was thinking of all this want & waste & wondering how the two needs could be satisfied

in 1902 - both sisters took up  
residence in Bromley <sup>(Kent)</sup> - Margaret  
was appointed lecturer to the Ethical  
Society - made friends with Kropotkin,  
the Hyndmans were near, the Cobden  
Sandersons came frequently -

Adult Education movement just beginning

Albert Mansbridge - M M joined it  
Rachel continued her work in  
Health & planned <sup>for</sup> the future of  
organised child-culture schemes

The great revolt of the women - 1905 - the  
formation of the new Labour Party - 1900s  
not to mention the outbreak  
later of war - swung past us  
like storms

(I heard of the <sup>Open Air</sup> Nursery Schools while  
still in M/C - i.e. before 1905  
when I did my 1 L P year)

They visited Deptford - saw & asked  
They drafted plans - Health Centres -  
School Clinics - They sought

Bd of Education backing -

There was no Act in the Statute  
Book to cover the cost or control  
of these services. Sir Robert Mond

promised to have copies of the plans  
printed & circulated among his  
inspectors.

"There was no system of school baths  
anywhere except in Bradford - &  
Sir Robert was sent down here to find  
out how we had ever dared to open  
school baths at all!

Macmillan approaches Mr & Mrs  
Felds (the soap millionaire USA)

The aim of the Women's Institute is to help women to help themselves and their communities. It is a place where women can meet, talk, and work together for the betterment of their homes and their country.

Form with faint text and lines, possibly a membership or contact form.

Certainly After 1902 - 1904 or 5 -  
Joseph Fels - gave alone 3985  
£5,000

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L.C.C. - would take the money by  
not the scheme

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Began to work for medical  
inspection - "The public  
was ice-cold" in 1906

1905 election brought Progress  
Party - see to Birrell  
Minister of Education -

Ken Hardie - Fred Powell

Sir Victor Horsley Debate in  
Education Bill

Deputation - to H of C.

Medical inspection for School  
children - Ken Hardie

introduced - 1906 defeated  
carried 1907



Carls not take advantage  
of £5000 offer - so much  
they wanted to do was <sup>3985</sup>  
positively illegal for  
Local authorities -

But Fels gave £400 a  
year

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Rox Clinic opened in 1908

In June 1910 opened at

Deptford Green - gift of  
house of £400 - £500  
from Fels.

I <sup>decided</sup> ~~determined~~ that my first  
public lecture should be on behalf  
of my own sex, & I selected for my  
theme "The Political Status of Women"  
& thereon wrote a paper.

Cooperative Institute,  
Castle St. Oxford St. 25 Aug 1874

Annie Besant - an Autobiography  
page 181-182.

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second lecture in Monmouth  
Conway's Chapel, St Pauls Rd  
Camden Town (a few weeks later)  
True Basis of Morality -

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