



The extension of suffrage

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Welcome to the tour of the Virtual Museum!

In this tour we will be going the events and campaigns leading up to everyone having suffrage in England rich, poor old, young male, female everyone could do it over the age of 18. People protested for hours so everyone could have the right to vote and these are things we take advantage for.



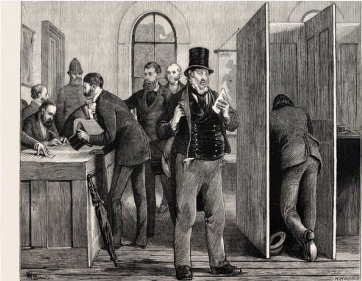
Voting Campaigns, After Peterloo



- This is a drawing from what people believe Peterloo would look like, ordinary people went to manchester St Peter's Field to campaign for votes and having a say.
- People walked for miles to go there and Henry Hunt was there to lead.
- Once peterloo went down hill and cavalry can killing people and arresting innocent citizens more campaigns started.
- Great reform act. In 1832 more people could vote if you had a property £10 or over you can now vote but still excluded 6 out of 7 men so now 8% of the population could vote.
- However this was just a trick to get people to stop protesting and campaigning getting richer people on their side.
- The Chartist movement 1837. A large group of working class men wanted the right to vote they can together with their leader William Lovett. When it was brought to parliament everyone laughed so they decided to take it into their own hand mass producing spears so they could not peacefully protest. Newspapers made the government aware that there were revolutions in othe countries so they hired 4000 police and 8000 soldiers therefore there was no revolution and nothing happened.



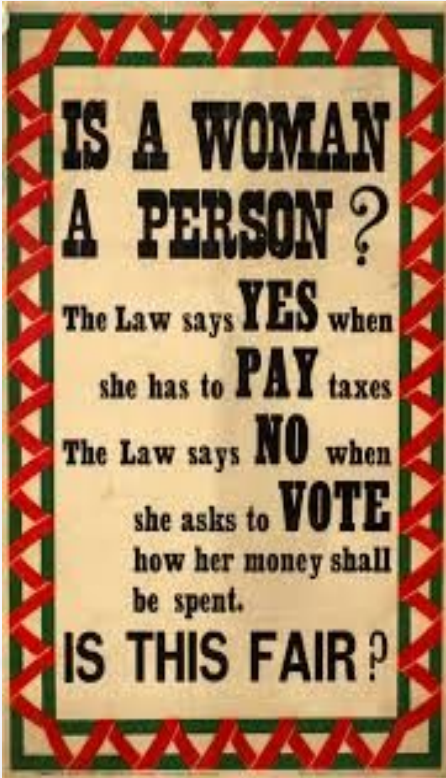
The Extension of Suffrage for Men...



- Second half of the 19th century some of the Chartists demands gradually came.
- 1867 most men in towns were allowed to vote they had to be skilled houses and own a house doubling the number to 2 million people being able to vote.
- 1872 the Ballot act. This made voting secret so that people could not be pressured to vote a particular person.
- 1884 men over 21 could vote. 6 million people could now vote.
- Night schools opened so people who had worked in factories when they were young could get an education
- Trains brought newspapers to town so men knew what was going on and had more of a political interest.
- By 1867 the Chartists had given up protesting and there had not been any violence for a long time. Working men seemed to be peaceful and hard-working, and increasingly educated. And since the protests had ended, it did not seem as if the government was being forced to give in to violence.

The first woman's campaigns

- Votes for women weren't included in the demands at St Peter's Field Manchester 1819. Though women were leading it Mary Fields and her fellow members weren't campaigning because they realised having the husband/father being able to vote would help a lot.
- Harriet Taylor Mill and her husband John Stuart Mill were dedicated campaigners for women's suffrage. They wanted women to have votes she said if we have to pay taxes we should be able to vote and everyone should be equal.
- Logham place group. In 1857 Logham place group was founded by Barbara Bodichon most of the members were successful middle-class women. They campaigned against all things unfair to women.
- Manchester Suffrage Society with Lydia Becker as their chosen leader their first meeting was January 1867. They were interested in women's/girls education suffrage and the working conditions.
- But everything was unsuccessful and nothing happened.



Later Women's Campaigns



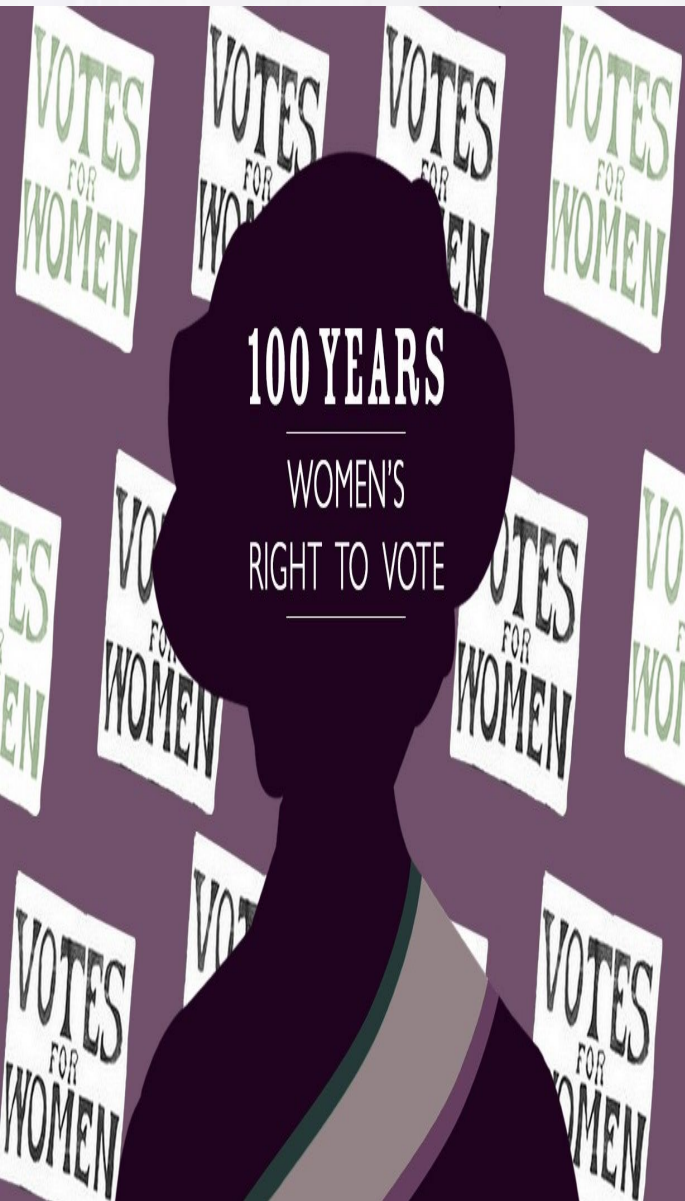
- The main logic behind women not having a vote is men were seen as more rational they went out got the money and provided but women were more emotional and after being married could enjoy a lifetime of motherhood. You only needed 1 vote for a household and the men could do it for the women.
- In 1901 mostly unmarried women went to parliament with a petition for unmarried women's votes- they didn't have a man to vote for them. But this was laughed at and it was claimed they couldn't understand such a thing
- All women's protests were peaceful but after 6 years they had had enough and turned to violence. After doing reckless things time and time again they were arrested. In the prisons they went on hunger strike so they were let out and brought back in once they regained strength. The crazy things they were doing just made people not want to get on board as it was too extreme and "un lady like".
- The world war made everyone pull together and women did all the men's jobs then by 1918 women had proved they were not the weaker sex. So February 1918 the people act was put in place and all women over 30 could vote!
- Millicent Fawcett was actively in with suffrage movement this happened when she was 19, she became a well known speaker and supported women's education. Then she became involved with Personal Rights Association. In 1880 she was elected to be the president of the NUWSS she wanted everyone to be treated equally and women's votes.

Later womens campaigns part 2



- Radical Suffragettes. The radical suffragettes were working class people they wanted to improve the lives of all working people, adult suffrage. In the nineteenth century there were growing of these so women could have their voice be heard. There was an 8 hour a day campaign that aimed at the lives off workers including women, they wanted more than the right to vote but equality and to improve conditions of women like themselves.
- Selina cooper was actively in with women's suffrage, in 1894 the local government act let women stand for election in the boards of guardians a local organisation helping the poor. Selina cooper was one of the first women to be elected. Her early work of improving working conditions of women led her to be a strong supporter of women's suffrage. She had worked in a mill from age 11 and was part of the NUWSS she had been involved with many things to do with suffrage and in 1910 ws 1 out of 4 women to go straight to the president with a case of women's suffrage.
- Eva Gore Booth and Esther Roper were bothe campaigners who worked to improve the lives of working women.they organised petitions and in 1900 they made a newspaper called Women's labour news. They wanted women to the vote so they could have power in the workplace.
- The women's social and political union (wspu) also known as the suffragettes was formed in 1903 by Emmeline Pankhurst and her daughters. It was formed in frustration that there was no progress in suffrage. The thing that set them aside from everyone else was their violence. They were like an army and by 1913 had started to burn down houses they were funded by emmilines husband and made flags to set them aside. They all went to prison every time the were caught and cruley force fed every time they refused to eat let out of prison just ti be put in again. But nothing happened and no one listened. Though when the ww came aroud everyone stopped the protest and started to work because

The final outcomes



- By 1914 WSUP wasn't going so well the home office had stated a major crackdown to deal with the suffragettes, the London office was raided and they had to abandon it. Though the women were losing funding as Pankhurst's husband wasn't giving them money anymore because of the amount of violence. However the NUWSS was more popular because not so many ladies wanted to risk their life and by 1913 they had nearly 100,000 members.
- The first world war broke out August 1914. The WSPU stopped campaigning immediately and the prisoners were let out. The Pankhursts and WSPU worked with the government to get women involved with the effort. In 1915 women went on a march demanding women had the right to serve. The women who joined WAAC (Women's Army Auxiliary Corps) would take the roles of men so they could fight this started in 1917.
- Louisa Garrett Anderson was a niece of Millicent and did numerous things to try and help the women's right to vote she joined the WSPU but later resigned as it was getting too violent. In the world war she became part of the women's hospital corps they adopted the motto 'deeds not words' for the WSPU.
- The Representation of the People Act gave women the right to vote though they had to be over 30 and have property, the 2 reasons this happened was because in the world war they proved they could do men's jobs also they wouldn't have had those skills if it wasn't for the protests.
- In 1928 the Equal Franchise Act gave women the right to vote on the same basis as men - over 21 and it didn't matter about property or wealth.