

Document C: Revolutionary Foundations & Goals

PROCLAMATION

Whereas the Nation depends for its progress and existence upon the work and services of women as well as men;

Whereas the State is organised for the mutual protection and co-operation of all its citizens, women as well as men;

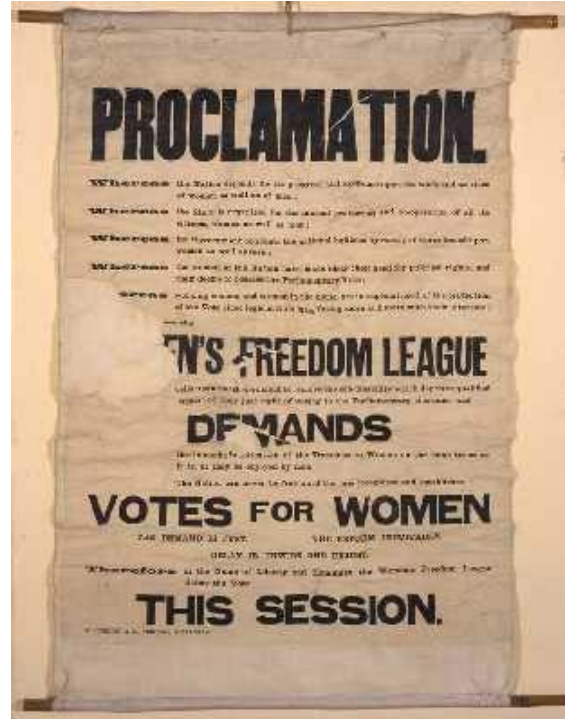
Whereas the Government conducts the national business by means of taxes levied upon women as well as men;

Whereas the women of the Nation have made it clear their need for political rights and their desire to possess the Parliamentary Vote;

Whereas working women and women in the home, are in special need of the protection of the Vote since legislation is interfering more and more with their interests;

Whereas the Women's Freedom League

Calls upon the Government to remove the sex-disability which deprives qualified women of their just right in voting in the Party elections, and



Demands

the immediate extension of the Franchise to Women on the same terms as it is or may be enjoyed by men.

The nation can never be free until the law recognises and establishes

Votes for Women

The demand is just. The reform inevitable.

Delay is unwise and unjust.

Therefore in the name of Liberty and Humanity the Women's Freedom League claims the Vote

this session.

This banner, demanding the right to vote for women, was unfurled from the Ladies' Gallery in the chamber of the House of Commons by suffragettes during a protest on 28 October 1908.

The banners were an important feature in suffragette marches and helped to distinguish between the various groups.

Many banners were made of simple white cotton or calico, with lettering in black, but others were very colourful and woven from a variety of materials.

Source:

Suffragette Banner, October 1908 (HC/SA/SJ/3/1)
Parliamentary Archives

www.parliament.uk

Accessed: Oct. 21, 2011