CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
0521412471 - Labour Women: Women in British Working-Class Politics 1918-1939
Pamela M. Graves
Table of Contents
More information

Contents

List of illustrations *page* xi
Acknowledgements xii
List of abbreviations xv

Introduction 1

1 'The doors are open' – women's entry into labour politics, 1918–1921 5
The legacy 7
The vote at last 16
Joining the Labour Party 22
The debate over women's place 28
Women and the postwar Labour insurgency 33
Conclusions 37

2 'Their devotion was about equal' – women and men in interwar working-class politics 41
Family background 43
The influence of school 57
The workplace 59
Marriage 64
Political ideas 67
The gender issue 73
Conclusions 76

3 '... But the seats are reserved for men' – the gender struggles of the twenties 80
The birth control conflict 81
The campaign for family allowances 98
Changing the 1918 Labour party constitution 108
Conclusions 114

© Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org

CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge University Press
0521412471 - Labour Women: Women in British Working-Class Politics 1918-1939
Pamela M. Graves
Table of Contents
More information

4 'A sex question or a class question?' – labour women and feminism in the twenties 118
Labour women and middle-class feminists 119
Married women's right to work 126
Equal pay for equal work 132
Social welfare legislation 135
Protective or restrictive legislation 138
Conclusions 151

5 'Helping others' – women in local labour politics, 1919–1939 154
Women in local labour organizations 155
Labour women in local government 168
Conclusions 178

6 'Doing our bit to see that the people are not dragged down' – class struggle in the thirties 181
Gender issues disappear from the records of the Labour Party 183
A new approach to gender issues 187
Coming to the aid of the party 200
Dissent across gender lines 204
Gender integration in local labour politics 212
Conclusions 216

Conclusion 220

Appendix 226
Notes 231
Bibliography 258
Index 267

© Cambridge University Press www.cambridge.org