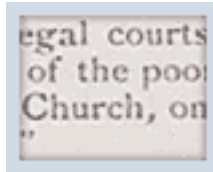
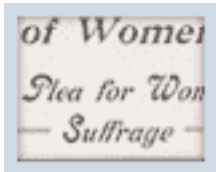


## SOURCE 3

Extract from a booklet written by Labour MP Keir Hardie in September 1906 calling for women's suffrage

(PRO ref: PRO 30/69/1834)



SOURCE 3A

SOURCE 3B

### HOW TO USE THIS SOURCE TO HELP YOU ANSWER THE BIG QUESTION :

Study this source carefully and consider what it tells you about why people thought women should get the vote. You should consider:

#### ASK YOURSELF:

- According to Hardie, what advances were women making in the world of work?
- How does Hardie think men should react?
- What does this phrase mean: 'The enfranchisement of women is not a party question'?
- Hardie quoted former British Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli at the end of this extract. What arguments did Disraeli put forward for supporting female suffrage?

*The Citizenship*  
— *of Women* —  
*A Plea for Women's*  
— *Suffrage* —

By

*J. Keir Hardie, M.P.*

Fourth Edition.



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## SOURCE 3B

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The “Half angel, half idiot,” period is over in the woman’s world. She is fighting her way into every sphere of human activity. Her labour is coming into competition with that of man in nearly every department of industry. The women’s Trade Union movement is growing by leaps and bounds. In the learned professions she is forcing herself to the front by sheer determination and force of intellect in a way that will not be denied. Sooner or later men will be compelled to treat with her and recognise her as a co-worker, and they could not begin better than by admitting her right to be a co-voter.

The enfranchisement of women is not a party question. Its supporters and opponents are distributed over all parties. The

Disraeli, speaking on this question in the House of Commons, said:—

“I say that in a country governed by a woman—where you allow women

not only to own land, but to be a lady of the manor and hold legal courts—where a woman by law may be a churchwarden and overseer of the poor—I do not see, where she has so much to do with the State and Church, on what reasons, if you come to right, she has not a right to vote.”

And with these words I conclude.

J. KEIR HARDIE.