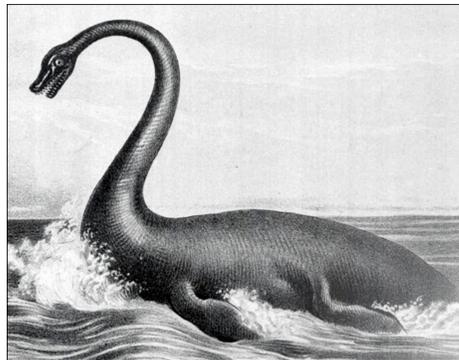


Women as Agents of *Change*

political rights | scientific understanding | medicine | social work
 industrial labor | education | peace | human rights



1792 -- Mary Wollstonecraft (England) publishes *A Vindication of the Rights of Woman*.



1823 -- Mary Anning, from a poor British family in a seaside town, excavates the first complete plesiosaur skeleton, upending scientific understandings of nature decades before Darwin's *On the Origin of the Species* (1859). Anning's other major discoveries include the pterodactyl and the ichthyosaur.



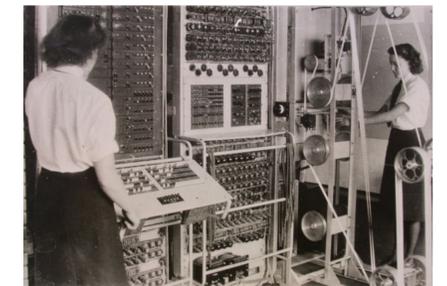
1894 -- National American Women's Suffrage Association organizes to unite the suffrage movement in the U.S.



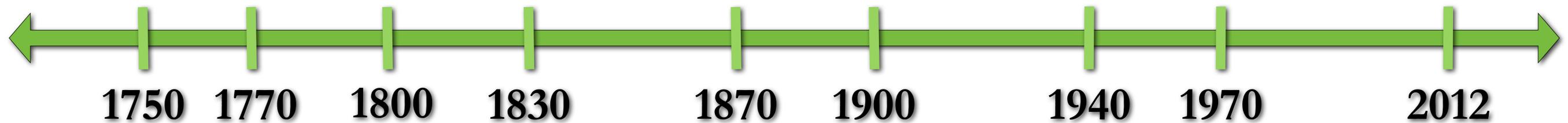
1914 -- Margaret Sanger publishes a newsletter in which she coins the term "birth control" and is indicted under obscenity laws. She flees to England but returns to open her first birth control clinic in 1918. Sanger's newsletter was called "The Woman Rebel."



1941 -- British women are drafted to work in the wartime industries during World War II.



1944 -- Women in the British Royal Navy operate one of the earliest computers, the Colossus, to break German codes and help orchestrate the D-Day landings. In the U.S., six American women program the ENIAC computer, which becomes the basis for UNIVAC.



1945 -- By the end of World War II, over 3 million American women have volunteered to work in war industries. At war's end, they lose their high-paying wartime jobs to men returning from the front.



1963 -- In an era when job listings were still segregated by gender, Gloria Steinem goes undercover as a Playboy bunny to write an exposé on women's objectification: "I identified with all the women who ended up an underpaid waitress in too-high heels... just trying to make a living."



1979 -- Lolita Lebrón, a Puerto Rican Nationalist, is freed from prison after serving twenty-five years in U.S. jails for fighting for the independence of her nation.



1988 -- Aung San Suu Kyi heads National League for Democracy to challenge military rule in Burma; in 1989 she is placed under house arrest while continuing to lead the NLD; in 1991 she receives the Nobel Peace Prize; in 2010 she is finally released from detention but forbidden to leave the country.



2005 -- Ellen Johnson Sirleaf is elected President of Liberia becoming first elected female leader of an African country.

