

THE ORDER OF THE WHITE FEATHER

The Order of the white feather was founded in August 1914 by Charles Cooper Penrose-Fitzgerald. He assigned 30 women to roam around the streets of Folkestone and hand out white feathers to any of the men who were not wearing uniform. As the press heard and reported about this soon the nations women were handing out white feathers.

The white feather originated from cockfighting. If a cockerel had white feathers it was seen to be a coward and a bad fighter.

This made women feel accomplished as just before they were fighting for Votes for Women but that was postponed as they wanted to prove themselves in the war. They had found the perfect way to do it as well. Women were going to keep handing out white feathers to feel powerful and have a right over men.

Many of the men that lived in Britain enlisted for the army thanks to the white feather. They were forced to feel like cowards when they were harassed in the streets. It would make them feel nothingness and they would enlist for the army.

Although, there was some downsides to this as the women were not keeping track of who had already enlisted and been denied or had been discharged from the battlefield.

My opinion is that the women should know who it is they are giving a white feather as a ill person or a veteran could be roaming the streets and be given a feather even though they are incapable to join the army.

By Leo Knowles

