

Volume 3

Section I

1 Jan. 1907

to

24 Dec. 1909

(fols. 1-267)

to precede fol. 1

Vol. 3

1907

(fols. 1 - 98)

by George Lansbury [1907: see fol. 71]

[on Trade Unionism; ? lecture]

The relation of Social Democrats to Trade Unions has been the subject of endless discussion during the past few years & the S. D. P. has specially been singled out time after time as being in opposition to what is known as the Labour movement as apart from the Socialist movements of our time. & no where is the difference more marked than at those International Congresses where English Trade Unionist & English Social Democrats meet the same kind of people from the Continent. & one thing which the intelligent foreigner could not understand at Queen's Hall last year was the open hostility which undoubtedly existed between the delegates of the S. D. P. & those of the Trade Unions. & many open remonstrances were addressed to the ^{English} Socialist delegates by their foreign comrades because of this hostility. That those remonstrances were unnecessary would perhaps be too strong but it is true to say that if our Russian & German comrades knew as much of the Labour movement in England as we ourselves do they would not be astonished

Social Democrats
debated at Conference in London
from International Comrades.

Hostility did + is & does + is

Reason want of conception on our
opponents part of our position

Do not needlessly oppose even Radicals
it is simply the idea they represent.

How Trade Unions have been a great
power.

But they did not come into being all at once
They are the direct descendants of

Craft Guilds
London, Lincoln,
Object of Guild keep up Family in as
few hands as possible

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at the hostility which undoubtedly did & does exist between us. On the Continent an altogether different state of things exists there the Trade Unionist is a Social Democrat first & Unionist second & this is brought about by the fact that the Commercial history of our Country is rather older than theirs & because the development of our economical condition has enabled them, although not so far advanced, to learn the lessons which the development of industry & teaches those who choose to study it & therefore while forming their Trade organisations technically they recognise that any real improvement in the condition of the people must be brought about by a class conscious effort to realize a new order for the good of all. Here in England the Trade Unions are the direct descendants of the Trade guilds of the middle ages their continuity may be traced by any one who cares to read the history of our own country. briefly stated the Union

Trade Union
Part of Transformation from
Feudalism to Communism

brought about by Steam & Machinery

Trade Unionism has attempted ever
since 16th Century to keep up wages etc
with varying success.

But it has developed mostly during
past 60 years

{ Main object being to keep up wages
{ Sick & burial fund of work pay

To my mind reached its height with
rise of New Unionism

was part of the transformation which took place when steam & machinery were introduced, for these two undoubtedly destroyed once & for all the old guilds & made a new form of combination necessary. It is of course true that the guilds + it to day ^{but} they are made up of ornamental members & it is very doubtful indeed if a single one could produce a handicraftsman among all its members. The guilds of England no doubt did a useful work in their day, but the progress of invention & the growth of population all ~~tended~~ operated to make them of no effect except to find money from ground rents etc to provide jobs for those who don't need them & free funds on a huge scale for Royal & other paupers. It should however be remembered that the guilds differed from the Trade Union ~~by~~ in several matters one of which is very important. The craftsman who belonged to the guild was not necessarily a workman employed by some one else as a matter

History of Trade written
record heroic effort to achieve those ends
will also record often failure.

Although it has been argued by
Mr Saunders that caps had been

made in Wilt, Dorset etc by 25-30
men.

Look at agriculture is this true
certain it is more paid there or word
but what of those not at work.

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of fact he was his own master owning his own
tools, which were not many, & owning the products
which his labour produced. in many towns in
fact in all places where guilds existed the
object was to keep up the craft & to keep it in
as few hands as possible & many were the
difficulties which beset an outsider in his
attempts to gain a foothold within the magic circle,
the number of apprentices were limited & it is
not saying too much to say that at the beginning
many of these guilds were family corporations run
for the purpose of maintaining an industry
in the hands of a certain family. it does not
need much argument to show how futile such
combinations would be to day, neither will it need
much to demonstrate how impossible it is
to keep up a handicraft in these days of the
subdivision of labour for in many an industry
handicraftsmen have ceased to exist & it is
not doubtful if the present generation really

We hold however that the strike
lock out etc are played out

- Take Dockers Living Wage
- Book strike apt machinery & Team system
- fast workers
- Water Gas
- Miners Living Wage
- Cotton operators
- Gravelly Engineers Shorter hours etc

Agreed all men in Union

would enter all this

Nov 20

Unemployed etc

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understands the meaning of the word.

Machinery has so displaced ~~man~~ man
in the production of goods that the word is very
seldom if even used except in schools specially
subsidised to keep up even the semblance of
handicraft.

The Trade Unions which took the place of these
guilds were & are composed almost exclusively
of persons employed by others & have for their
object not so much the preservation of any special
industry, but as the obtaining of good conditions
~~for those engaged~~ & wages for its members.

I do not propose tracing the history of Trade Unions
beyond the present century as that is big enough subject
for a lecture in itself and I say that right
or from the 16th century to the present there was
one long continual struggle of the workman to
free himself & ^{improve} make his condition & that
this effort was met by the landlord &
employing class with the most deadly hostility

Introduction of Machinery

cannot be prevented

Fear if you undertake to regulate

" how factories shall be run you must

" put in order owners and laws"

Should that

" Trade Unionism has done its work

on Voluntary basis

Just as old fairs board

shall the new circumstances arising

every day demand new ideas etc

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all the power of Parliament & the law being used to crush the men. & it is a fact that despite the laws & every obstacle put in their way the artisan class managed to keep up some show of combination from the earliest days. it is however the present century which has seen the fullest development in Trade Unionism pure & simple. & that because laws have been passed first of all recognizing the legality of such combinations & giving the defence of the law against defamatory officers etc. when ^{however} the individual history of the past 60 years is written it will be one long chapter of heroic endeavour on the part of workmen to raise their status as men & in my opinion it will in a large degree record the utter failure of all such attempts to do so. for although victory has sometimes been recorded as the result of a strike or lock out we are able at this time of day to see that the employers ~~too~~ as a class have always won all along the line.

Trade Unions part of Capitalism

Part of old doctrine

Manchester School

Every one for himself etc

To day recognize that the interests
of all workers identical.

Labourer & Mechanic.

Must remember they are simply men,

It has nothing to say to justice

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The Trade Unions point to the wages paid
now & the wages paid 50 years ago it is true that
these have gone up but it is also true that
the output has enormously increased & that
in every staple industry of England there
are less people proportionate to the population
employed than ever. Take the agricultural
Labourers Union which Joseph Arch started
some years ago it was started avowedly to
raise wages & Mr W. Saunders in 1887 boasted that
it had so raised wages in Wilts & Dorset from 9/- to 12/-
per week in Norfolk from 10/- to 13/- in Warwick 9/- to 12/-
in Lincolnshire from 12/- to 17/- This was 20 years
ago & without questioning whether these rates still
obtain I hold that the workers have still the best
of it & that the Labourers as a class have not
benefited for in every agricultural district
there are less people employed to grow a
larger product than ever & many a
privilege enjoyed in the old days has been

This can only come by
mediating facts of life

Others I doubt not if not we the
issue of our life shall see & they forgotten
& unknown young children father as their own
the hammer that the dead have won.

Barnaby. Labour Leaders. Workmen generally.

It is many watching waves by wave

As the tide creeps onward, we climb like coral from log prometo reach
a pathway onward. Broken back in many a ^{work} ^{upon} ^{at} ^{from} ^{sets}

Food
Coal
Every thing that

Food
Rds

Labour's food
fighting

The cotton lock out & The Coal lock out.
Take the first the strike was for the tanner
& the men won with the result that work is
now better organized at the docks than ever
fewer men are employed & more work is
turned out these facts are so well known that I
shall not attempt to labour the point at all.
Take the Cotton lock out here again the men
& Women in this instance, stood out aghast a
reduction went back on a compromise
with what result every cotton centre in
England has for the past 18 months worked
short time & now on top of it the matters are
declaring for a reduction & the unions instead
of being in a position to fight it are in many
instances almost bankrupt through having to pay
out of work pay to so many of their members.
The coal lock out is familiar to all it was
for a living wage & according to all the
authorities the men won after 16 weeks struggle

Most important School Board.

Educator:

Free compulsory secular

and in connection we place Free
Maintenance of children etc

and guardians.

Unemployed, Sick, aged,

Town Council,

deals with life of Town ~~as far~~
~~as the~~ etc

~~By the~~ ~~Provisioning~~

Most important is

Provisioning of Homes for the
Workers.

& get in every morning distinct since the
 lockout short time has been worked & I question
 if within the memory of the present generation
 times have been so bad with the In mines &
 not only is this time of those at work, but of those
 not at work ~~also~~. have to be thought of too & it is
 a fact that larger numbers are out of work in
 those trades than for some time since it is the
 employers like the Dock owners are paying a
 living wage that is the price per ton or ship agreed
 to but if the output is limited the living wage
 becomes not a reality but a shadow.

There are two other cases I would mention
 which happened in London & the Country which
 are well known viz The Gas Stokers & The
 Boot & Shoe Operatives.

The first named went in for our plan
 day & succeeded in almost every instance
 in obtaining it without a strike & without
 a reduction in wages & for a time were

Local affairs

all affairs concern nation as an whole

Just as condition of individual concerns

all body, Society

In all districts various local bodies

{ School Boards }
nd in all }

{ Juvenile }
}

{ Town Council }
}

{ District }
}

{ County Council }
}

{ Parish }
}

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[11]

flocked into the Union, but after a the South
Republican strike the companies took heart &
instead of going back on the 8 hours put one &
two more reboots upon each Stoker & gradually forced
him to do as much work in 8 hours as he
previously did in 10 & in addition put down
machinery which would enable them to dispense
with a large number of hands altogether. & to day
it is quite within the mark to say there are less
people engaged in producing iron than before the
Union & that the output is considerably higher.

The ^{last} ~~best~~ strike & lock out was against Machinery
& the American Tannery system after weeks
of misery & suffering the men went back
beaten on all points. The strike before the last
was however said to be successful & its object
was ~~to~~ the abolition of home work &
the institution of Factories This as I say
was failed, but the next step of the Master
was to introduce machinery & against this the

But it ever needs on growing in
strength & intensity

and though to most of us it appears
weary watching wave by wave
and yet the tide heaves onward
we clink like corals piece by piece
to reach a pathway emerald
we are beaten back in many a fray
but never strength we borrow
and where the Vanquard camps today
the near will rest tomorrow.

Yes, history of our movement is that of

all new ideas etc

men struggled in vain. At the present moment the employers are fighting nobly for reduction of hours & to all appearances look like being beaten all round, but even if successful there is in my mind no doubt at all but that the employers will gain.

My view of Trade Unionism is then that it is powerless to really benefit the mass of the workers against this it may be argued that the reason is not in Trade Unionism itself but is due to the fact that many men stand outside the organization. This however is not so for even if all men belonged to a Trade Union it would still be impossible under Communism to find work open ways for all, ~~for~~ so just as the old fields were part of the system of production in their day & became obsolete when that system changed, so Trade Unions which are part of the present system become daily more obsolete & more powerless to really benefit the workers.

The growing power of monopoly

engineers colton owners etc etc

Society contains germs of its future

state, examples show how things
could be managed.

Take Post office why stamps necessary

- Railways

- Schools, man with no children etc,

- Roads etc etc.

Socialism will grow

Day pore by for thinking of violent
change, every piece of machinery
struggle for shorter hours etc.

It is true that we are a handful of
men & women struggling against the tide!
Here & there the tide seems to recede

& for this reason. The Trade Unionist recognizes
 the rights of the employers, sets out not to injure
 him & in many cases takes as its motto
 "defence not defiance" goes in for arbitration
 & conciliation boards, out of work pay etc
 etc. all of which are so much humbug so far
 as the general body of the people are concerned.
 On the other hand the Socialist recognizing
 the good work Trade Unions have done in
 educating men in the way of organizing &
 also in some small degree keeping a section
 of the workers from being trampled under
 foot, at the same time points out as I have
 tried to do where it fails & asks the workman
 to look beyond the wage system to an order of
 things which we think will naturally grow out
 of the present. We hear much about the
 power of combined labour but do we all
 recognize the power of combined Capital
 remember that combined Labour has to eat &

The contented ones is the direct
descendant of these others.

The condition of society grows fallacy of
Universal by political reforms only

This due to class War which steadily

grows worse through

A concentration of capital

B accentuated competition

between the nations of the world

Africa, Asia, & the Islands of
the Pacific.

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denial that under present circumstances
~~it~~ it must work before it may do
either. On the other hand combined capital
can hire & deny without working but
by employing those who need it.

The Socialist does not ask that Trade
Unions should be abolished, but that their
object & their methods should be changed. I
want the Unionist to see the futility of trying
to raise wages or keep wages up in the face of a
falling market for remembrance that is what the
colliers tried to do 3 years ago & what the cotton
operatives took of attempting during the next few
months. We want them to recognize the economic
facts of their time, to understand that monopoly
in the means of life means slavery for the
multitude. to look around & understand the
things which are happening under their very eyes
in America the Monopolists have beaten the
Unions in detail. In England the same

Social Democracy

A Society whose Labour is organised by
Democracy.

100 years The old Democrats
ago
French revolution } no hereditary legislators
 } no privilege
 } no Church
 } no King
Chartist movement

Trade Union movement

And now Socialist or

Social Democrat.

Possible to have Socialism
under a despotism.

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thing is being attempted with varying success.
Let the Socialist recognize the more excellent
way than the worn out strike, Let them
understand ^{an} that the ideal worth working for
is the abolition of Wages. Let them under-
stand that even to day after at least 50 years
of so-called successful Trade Union effort the
Capitalist & landlord class take £50 million more
per year than the working class, that strikes
do not & cannot prevent this discrepancy growing
larger & larger as the years pass. in 1891

1 million 500 thousand is recorded as having
been paid away for strike pay etc. to say nothing
of the misery & suffering entailed upon women
& children.

No whatever we do in the future one thing
to my mind is clear workmen whether skilled
or unskilled will have to recognize that the
Capitalist to be fought successfully must be
fought with his own weapons viz by the

Haye

Describe Trade Unions try to benefit themselves true so does Liberal Party.

Conversion of Trade Unions, Abuse men who are Unionists.

Macpherson's ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ? ?



absolutely no use, education.

Bad Trades Congress.

Davy's ? ? ? Writing.

Note Wily.

Treat them same as Liberals.

Same as Jones.

Justice. Vote for Working men

Ignorance destroyed, Hyde Park.

Something practical. Laughing at him

Hayden Plinston,

[16]

Legislature & administrative bodies throughout the Land & the Workmen will have to smother their miserable jealousies of one another & find their common bond of brotherhood in the fact that the salvation of each depends upon the salvation of all. The old idea of forming close organisations & allowing no one else to join as the Docters attempted & as many other Unions have tried to do by limiting apprentices must give place in dead earnest to the idea of one for all & all for each. We must further insist that both Unions & non Unions recognizing the solidarity of their interests. This should be easily enough done if men would really think. I don't want to be unkind but I can't help saying that much of the evil brought about through confusion of thought & aim is due to the jealousies of the Leaders & the self seeking of these men. The spectacle of knight Lee Bolton's medals being played off

W. J. Pearson H. M. Hurler
Oct 11

Dave Levy no better than before.

What would the position be without a Union.
Defiant defiance in the Park.

Trade Unions do good work as far as possible.

P. S. P. appanage of P. S. P. or vice versa

same Pot of 4 1/2

objekt of Trade Unions

Continental Commerce + Gasworks.

Homes demand supply.

Monopoly. Blackguard,

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by the employers and the employers is bad enough in all conscience but what is in my judgement far worse is men like Richard Sam Woods such like people backing Liberals at Elections & voting Socialist in Trade Union Congresses.

The Socialist asks the Trade Unions to change all this by removing those men or bringing them into line but our fathers had no other weapon but combination pure & simple we have the cabinet of parliament & although it is true we cannot eat the vote yet the vote may be made the means of finding us food & good conditions if only we determined it should do so. We must understand not only the economic power of that Trade Unions have done their work but what it is can take their place. In the past the powers of government have resided in the chief, the King, & the Lords, to day the Money Lords have control. no amount of combination will break

This down without taking from them the
 power which should should & could be used
 by the Trade Unions. I say that the
 Trade Unions could at any election secure
 a majority of Socialists in the House of Commons
 that they could capture every local body in
 the Country & that this is the true work
 of the man & woman who wishes to better
 the condition of the workers at any rate we
 who are Socialists while wishing to help in
 every attempt to organize laborers must always
 keep in view the fact that to us the object of
 all such organizing must be not to bolster
 up the present system but to destroy it
 not merely for the raising of wages & shortening of
 hours, but for the raising the standard of living
 all round.

The Socialist after all is not a utopian
 we see how the power of capital grows through
 concentration, how different individuals are all

nor slams & let us also remember as
~~Lewis Brownie~~ ~~but saying~~ that the result
of our must be ~~if not~~

That others will sing the song
Others will write the wrong
Finish what we begin
and all we hope for us

Others I do not see if not we the
issue of our life will see

Young Children gather us then on
The harvest that the dead have
sown

The dead people & our sown

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(19)

brought under one controlling head & from
day by day the employees under them the
men see the futility of competition & goes
in for unions trusts etc.

~~To the Trade Unionist we say~~

The problem of life to many of us grows sener
every day life is faster and all wear out earlier
than of yore our years are not on the average
I score then seven those who are looked on as
favourably situated in the wack of life labour
have each day to realize, that the army of the
so called unfit grows steadily larger day by
day

Trade Unionism has nothing to say
to the children who go hungry to school

To the housing problem

In fact all the important things are
disregarded. We on the other hand all
the mental & moral as well as physical
degradation of men & women

Worth their failures & their triumphs to help
us in our fight upward. The way no doubt
will at times be hard & dreary, many of
us will feel heart sick & tired of what at
times seems the hopeless struggle apt wrong.
but let us take heart of grace from the past
no doubt the road ~~we found~~ over Feathers
had seemed to many of them to lead us
where no doubt in that early days of Unionism
when Machinery was just coming many ~~from~~
~~Feathers~~ ~~had~~ thought it impossible to struggle
on & yet to day we are in a position to really
control our destinies if we had the will &
again say let us each one strive to
~~work~~ first of all understand whether
we are going ~~showing~~ ~~down~~ this go man.
- fully or determined to do what we
may in our day to mould the future &
prepare for the time when strikes will be
no more because there will be neither Masters

[see end on fol. 18 verso]

we wish that all should work
to overthrow those conditions.

Our Ideal to us is real we work
for the time to come spoken of in the
Bible when

Every people shall build houses & inhabit them
They shall plant vineyards & eat the fruit of them
They shall not build & another inhabit
They shall not plant & another gather
And they shall long enjoy the labour the work
of their hands.

We feel that this can only ^{come} ~~be done~~ when the facts
of life are realized we don't offer to our recruits
better conditions here & now we know that
all such promises are like the mirage of the
desert illusory & vain. On the other hand
we know that the march of human progress
makes not for the perpetuation of Wapadomee
[see reverse of this folio]



M449

but its destruction that even the defeats of
Trade Unions are but ^{teaching them} the lessons ^{they} must learn
before their fall can tread the path of victory. It has been
said that the advanced movement just now has
gone back. This cannot be the movement which
marches for Socialism onward despite
rulers be they ^{clergy} ~~clergies~~ ^{priests} ~~landlords~~ or Capitalists
human invention & human knowledge is ever
growing & every fresh tool every new discovery
goes to make the dawn of a new era inevitable.

When the Worker realises this he will welcome
the patentee. He will understand that his duty is
to fight side by side with all other workers not
to destroy or limit invention but to control it
not in the interests of the employing class
but of the whole community. Evil that we
are the days in which we live they are not
blacker than that through which our Fathers trod
They had not the light of experience to guide &
direct them, we on the contrary have all their

[contd. on fol. 19 verso]

STATION & TELEGRAMS,
CHIRNSIDE.

Mrs. May Tennant (wife of
Harold John Tennant; 1869
-1946)



Jan. 1. 1907

6 M449

Dear Mr Lausbury,

I have fringed
 one not being able to write
 for there is much I want
 to say. But I have had
 my eldest boy ill before I
 was well my self & then his
 little sister who is very ill indeed.

to who made me miserable &
anxious all through yesterday
& last night. She is a little
better today but she looks a sadly
different person to the little person
on the calendar who takes my
warm wishes for the New Year
to you & your wife. Those round
checks have gone to shadows.

It is impossible for me to
get to London for Ashley or

Saturday much as I want
to talk over things with you.
I can hardly leave them as
I am doing now for the
writing of a few urgent
letters.

I'll try to come for the
18th but I doubt if I can
manage anything earlier.

I don't know what to say
about Gumbing. Place in the
Body. If you stay ought it
we to make an effort for him?

(22)

And we can't look after
Hollerly without attending the
C.D. (By Hollerly I mean all
that our plans for another
state involve)

How can it be for you to sound
Bealidge? Or the person who
will best answer for the
reactionaries? And then if
he were favorable, we might
get out a little private statement
asking for support? If we
signed it no doubt it would frighten
a good many. But do you
think it would be possible to

Tennant
persuade

Reverend or

1 Jan. 1897

someone of that kind. (or
one or two of that kind)

to do so. They might

find weight & the fact of

his intimate knowledge a really

great interest.

If you think this

superfluous impossible to obtain

it is useless to a point to
the C. B. without it. And we
we better from like to
put him in ^{the} ~~that~~ position
of being rejected.

I wish we could talk
for I don't know how
much is of mind. I
can't tolerate the idea of
giving up our schemes

1 Jan. 1907

without a tremendous struggle.

Is there any way
apart from the C. B.
we could carry them out?

If there be by all
means. Let's leave it,
had some method.

I must not stay any longer.
p also
has returned

FROM

Red C. H. GRINLING,
17, RECTORY PLACE,
WOOLWICH.

Station: Woolwich Dockyard, S.E.Ry.

To George Lansbury,
103, S. Stephen's Rd.,
Bow, E.

2nd. January

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Dear Lansbury,

Until late yesterday I quite thought that Barefoot had arranged for you to come and meet our Executive Committee last evening. Then I found that he had very wisely waited to let the Executive make its own decision, as he had discovered that one or two members were thinking that it would be a bad thing to have Poplar mixed up with Woolwich. We had a long and very good discussion at the Executive, and pretty well every point of view was put forward and the whole situation thrashed out.

The result was that we finally unanimously decided to invite you to be in attendance next Friday when the Executive recommends to the General Council that you be invited to become our candidate for the L.C.C. You will of course have an official communication from Barefoot. The General Council is our deciding Body.

There was a strong feeling last night that the time has come for Woolwich to make another earnest fight for principle regardless of all difficulties; indeed my own feeling is that nothing short of such a fight is likely to give good results for this L.C.C. Election.

My feeling is that we ought to be prepared to spend almost as much money as for a Parliamentary contest and that we ought to put into the field even a better organisation than for Crooks's second Election. Indeed I think we should aim at nothing less than the effort which we made for the first Crooks fight. In that way, and in that way only I think that Woolwich can give a lead to London and the Labour Movement which will be of the utmost value at this juncture.

These communications of mine are of course informal and confidential. You know how easy it is to stir little jealousies in affairs of this kind.

Will you come and have a meal here on Friday at any time that will suit you? The General Council will meet at 8, and I shall have to be there then. But you might have a quiet rest here and a read or a chat with my sister for a bit longer while we do the earlier part of the business.

I have to leave Ethel in Nottingham. She has been in bed all the Christmas holidays. We fancy it must have been a

FROM

Rev. C. H. GRINLING,

17, RECTORY PLACE,
WOOLWICH.

Station: Woolwich Dockyard, S.E.Ry.

To

Gl.

(26)

2 Jan. 1907

second influenza. It has been speeding up her heart rather badly, and she will have to rest a bit until it settles down steadily again. I hope to go down again for the week end to be with her.

Yours Always,

CM

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Marion Coates
Hansen

Roman Road

~~OXFORD,~~

~~PHILLIPS AVENUE,~~

MIDDLESBROUGH.

Jan 4th 1907

Dear Mr. Lansbury.

All good greetings to you
and that dearest of dear
women Mrs. Lansbury.

She has gone to visit me
soon whether she likes it or
not. Wait until spring comes
and we pass through London
again on our way back from
Sweden. I shall drag her
along with me, lively and
all. If a person makes a
promise it is not honourable
not to keep it and she made
a promise. Now she would
not like to be considered
dishonourable, so she must
look forward to being hustled
worth shortly.

But what I want to write
about really is ~~Hilda~~
Mc. Cormick.

(28)

I don't think it is of the
slightest use for her to stay
in London trying to find
a post. I never wanted her
to go to that hospital and
told her father no. Why the
conditions are atrocious, and
she is much too young for
such work. Fancy your
Dolly nursing lunatics at
eighteen years old!

I've written for her to
come straight home. I spent
the morning with her
parents who are in a most
worried and anxious frame
of mind. The child has been
working fifteen hours a day!
Talk of Labour Representation
- where is it on the local
authority which controls
that hospital?

Her father wrote to you
about her. But I have been
with him this morning

I have some plans of
my own for Hilda so
don't worry about helping
her to get a post. She
will only spend money
needlessly. I've written
Walt to look after her
if she can get from
that hospital tomorrow.

Why she is leaving
five weeks at fifteen hours
a day without any holiday
whatever!

It is an abomination.
I've written to ask Mr.
Munggeridge to look into
the conditions and have
referred her to him
if the authorities make
any bones about her
leaving.

As usual I am

swamped with work -
got a family of seven
in the home at present
besides pleasant little
excitements such as a
war with the Trades
Council and an L.R.C.
meeting tomorrow and
other incidental little
occupations which fall
to my lot.

Again best of
greetings

Ever sincerely

Marion Coates Faussey



M449

Labour Representation Association.

Wm. Barefoot

Councillor L. JENKINS JONES, L.C.C., Chairman.
Mr. C. H. GRINLING, Vice-Chairman.
Councillor E. T. FENNELL, Hon. Treasurer
J. A. SMITH, Financial Secretary.
WM. BAREFOOT, Secretary.

3, NEW ROAD,
WOOLWICH,

Bankers: London & Provincial Bank
Telephone 262 Woolwich

5th January 1907

Dear W. Lansbury

The General Council last week after a very full discussion of all the pros cons decided now as to support

for + Jenkins Jones as our G.P. Candidate. I need hardly assure you that I heartily concur with this decision. I think we can now put up a fight that will make the working ring as did the 1903 Parliamentary election.

Our Executive Committee will meet on Monday at 8. To discuss the plan of campaign it will be well if you can manage to let me. In the meantime will feel we have all your vacant dates between now + the election day March 2nd. It is

important that you visit every corner of the
borough & send, if possible three, six if you will
let me have your dates I will agree then
with Jones' spirit & words.

I shall be sending you in course of
post a copy of your paper articles. Will
you let me have them back with final revision
at your earliest convenience as I want
to put them in pamphlet form for
distribution at every house in the borough.
I also want you to let me have your
best photographs by return if possible

With kind regards

Sincerely yours
W. S. [Signature]



M449

30

H.C. MOTT,
CLERK TO THE GUARDIANS,
AND
SUPERINTENDENT REGISTRAR.



Union Offices,
394, High Street,
Lewisham, S.E.

18. Jan'y 1907

[See also letters of 30 June, 10 July, 24 Sept., 1906
from W.A. Madley; and of 2 Sept. [1906] from
E. Madley.]
Dear Sir,

I think it only
right to express my thanks to
you and other members of the
Board and you the kindness
and consideration you have shown
to my sister, Mrs. Madley, in
her great sorrow and misery through
the unfortunate circumstances in
which she has been placed. It
is better just received from her,
she states her intention of doing

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her utmost to carry out the
duties of her present appointment,
although the school curriculum is
very different to what it
was 20 years ago when she
was a school-teacher. She
says very well is kind to her
at least that she is giving her
the best assistance.

She has always spoken most
gratefully of your personal
kindness and help.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully
H.C. Mott

By, *[Signature]*

M449

Feb 3 12th (1907).

32

Mrs. Thomas Fisher Munwin
(m. Jane Cobden)

3, ADELPHI TERRACE,

STRAND.

Dear Mr. Lambury:

Would you like
to have Wallace's help
during your election
campaign? If you
would he might just
as well be at
Worwich, as at
London City - later ~~if~~

on in the Season I
hope he will get work
there - His little boy
will remain with
the Wilkersons while
his father is away.
Let me hear what
you think of this
plan - and if you
approve of it I will

send Walsh to Brookwich.
He has had a good
cut, and so will be
fit for any amount
of election work -
I shall be glad to
be of some use to
you in your election
Campaign - for I
know you to be

(33)

Thoroughly touched as
to Suffrage -
Please let me have
back the enclosed
letter -

Yours very truly,
Jane Cadie Martin

Kindly send me a
line by return of
post -



M449

Manon Coates Hansen
to Mrs. G. L.

34

Hôtel "Randers"

Randers, den 20^{de} Feb. 1907

Telefon No. 81

Statstelefon No. 270



M449

Dear Mrs. Lansbury

We shall be in London towards the end of next week.

Have you got your things packed for I want to take you back home with me?

You had better prepare.

We shall go to Middlesbro either on Saturday March 2nd or else on Monday March 4th.

I want you really and truly to fulfil your promise to visit us, so you must not find any excuse.

The boys can look after the children and the girls can cook the dinner and Mrs. Lansbury can darn the

35

socks, and you can take the laundry with you if you wish, though a week or two without his royal highness would not hurt you. Not that we should object to him in the slightest.

The weather is sure to be nice and pleasant if you come back with us for you are such a dear "old lady" (!!!) yourself.

We shall be so glad to get back. For five long weeks we have been wandering in the wilderness, and really there is no place like England.

We have a few hours to wait here, so are just off to inspect one of Denmark's model workhouses. It snows on and off all this unfortunate day.

The trams here are most
sedate and proper. They
refuse to be hustled. They
jog pleasantly along the
rails and are quite unconcerned
about passing events and
English people's impatience.
I have also made a new
proverb which is "Time
and tide and Swedish and
Danish trams wait for
no man" for they are so
very punctual. They lumber
into the station on the stroke
and go out again on the stroke
just as serenely. But they are
few and far between, so
we often have to kick
our heels impatiently and
I listen demurely whilst
Friedrich swears at them.

He will deny the swearing

but believe me, he does, so
that is another reason for
you to spend some time
with us. You can attempt
to correct his morals. He is
growing quite beyond me.
(It is not true that I swear and
I am quite sure you know
me well enough not to believe it)
You see he can't even write
decently, let alone speak the
truth. Now get your
bags packed and be ready.

I don't hint at a refusal.
We will let you know where
we stay in London.

With love to you

Ever sincerely

Marion Coates Hansen

P.S. My writing is bad
because I've got a wretched pen
I don't agree but they
appeared every time they
touch the paper

TELEPHONE,
317 VICTORIA.
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS,
"ENCOURAGE", LONDON.

M. Bridges Adams

36

48, CARLISLE MANSIONS,
VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

Monday

[? March 1907]

Dear Comrade
Will you allow
me to say how deeply I
regret that such an attack
upon yourself should have
appeared in "Justice", and
I most sincerely trust that
although I am a member
of the I. D. F. you will continue
to regard me as a friend &
Comrade, who has the highest

48. CARLISLE MANSIONS,
VICTORIA STREET,
LONDON, S.W.

regard for yourself & a
very high appreciation of
the splendid work you have
done for Peruvian

With all good wishes
for the new year

Yours sincerely
M. Bridges Adams



M449

38

Will Crooks
(1852-1921)

81, Gough Street,

Poplar.

37

Sincerely yours
[3 March 1907]

Dear Laneburg

I wish to feel

you had got in

but my one my

vote myself could

have made so good

a figure as you did

7,661 and vote elected

is hard time and

1183 vote for my in

at ST groups in the East

but to increase
the Labourers Poll by
800 is no mean
thing to do in the
face of what we
had to stand up
to

God Bless you
and your wife
and the son
who worked right
hard & well and
all yours

Yours always
Truly

Will Crooks



M449

Septimus Dawson

The Anchorage
West Heath Road

Belvedere 3/3/07 M449

Dear Mr. Lansbury.

I feel I must join in with your more intimate friends, in congratulating you, on the Honest, Straightforward, and Courageous manner, in which you have fought in our recent contest at Woolwich, on behalf of the apathetic workers, and social purity. I know positively, that you have made many real friends at Woolwich, that will in future lend a willing ear to you, if you should



in time, be so forgiving as to come down here to advocate the sterling unselfish principles that are so near and dear to you. I sincerely hope that you are none the worse in health, for the real hard work that you have done during the past few weeks, and that in time, you may be enabled to forgive the ingratitude of the majority of those on whose behalf you came here.

Although at our Committee Room they claimed to have polled a fair percentage, it was very disheartening to some of us who were flitting about on our bikes like paper men in a gale of wind, to get the favorables

to the poll, for the reply was
oft repeated, ees gown ter the
Football Match, and that over
now ees a havin ees tea.

Unfortunately there are many
voters, who like myself, went
to work at a very early age,
before the School Board days,
these worthies dont quite know
what they want but they are
determined to have it, and
when I reflect on the way they
have allowed themselves to be
gulled yesterday, I reckon the
Ladies would use the vote
with more discretion.

I do not want to trouble you
with a long epistle, but I'm
sorry to tell you that Mrs J
had to leave for Wilts the

day after You were here, and
I am likely as (sic) (stop Mothers)
trustee to be sent for soon.

Although very disappointed
at the result of the Election
I have the consolation, that
this skirmish was the means
of renewing our acquaintance
after such a long interval
and now I dont want to lose
sight of You any more.

Mrs Dawson and I are hoping
to enjoy a picnic with Mrs H
and Yourself and the younger
members of your family, as soon
as the weather is warmer.

With kind regards to Mrs Lambury,
and sincere and best wishes
for the welfare of Yourself and
Yours, I remain
Yours in Friendship
Septimus Dawson



EVAN & SPORTSWOOD, London.

POST OFFICE TELEGRAPHS.

Office Stamp.



If the Receiver of an Inland Telegram doubts its accuracy, he may have it repeated on payment of half the amount originally paid for its transmission, any fraction of 1d. less than $\frac{1}{2}$ d. being reckoned as $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; and if it be found that there was any inaccuracy, the amount paid for repetition will be refunded. Special conditions are applicable to the repetition of Foreign Telegrams.

Charges } £ s. d.
to pay }

Handed } in at West Strand at 1.59 a.M., Received } here at 8.34 a.M.

TO { Lansbury 103 Stephens Rd
Bow

Hearty congratulations from National Liberal Club on your splendid fight
Barington President

N.B.—This Form must accompany any inquiry made respecting this Telegram.



25 BRV
Mrs. May Tennant
(1869 - 1946)

(41)

March 3. 1907

M449

Dear Mr. Lausbury,

It was
a brave fight; and

though the fight itself

has been lost much

has been won. And
in itself to have saved

so much out of that

tempest of lies was

no small thing.

My hopes were quite
high on Saturday as the

workers, particularly in St

Marys Ward, said our

people were picking well.

But — we've just got

to set to again.

We must hope a

Tuesday. And then on

on Saturday I would like to

(42)
talk to you about doing

something to get the women

in spirit with the right

spirit. There is difference

among some on Saturday

was the only discouraging thing.

We must let that remain.

To a victory next time!

J. W. C. Tennant

43

FROM
THE REV. H. RUSSELL WAKEFIELD,
86, GLOSTER PLACE,
PORTMAN SQUARE, W.

3rd March 1907

(Bp. of Birmingham; 1854-1933)

My dear Lansbury, The rest of the tide was
against you. You fought well & Woolwich
has refused to be represented by the softest
hearted, most earnest & unswerving man I
know in public life - Your day will come,
possibly with a rush. For the moment
keep to the C. W. B. work there for London.
God will give you greater work one day
(Your affectionate H. Russell Wakefield)



M449

Rev.
James Adderley
(Granville)

THE PARSONAGE
SALTLEY.

44

March 4
[1907]

Dear Ramsey

I am indeed grieved at the
lack of the Progressives and especially
^{Woolwich}
but I do hope he has been so foolish.

Now will you seriously consider
the Earl Bunsford's candidature?

Ramsay MacDonald thinks
you would be a good candidate if
it can be arranged.

It is a very important constituency. It is
the only one where there is the slightest
chance of breaking the "Joe" influence.

If we had a good candidate we

could have some in that time.

Liberalism is very weak. Socialism is

growing. My pupil will be

on your side! Come & talk it over.

Come & lecture here any Sunday night
after Easter.
for J. Adderley.

Woodmill Collection

45

3, AVENUE ROAD,

Rev. Andrew Binny Ritchie BOW, E.

March. 4. 07.

Dear Mr. Lausberg

It may seem needless
but I can't help sending one line to
say how awfully sick I am at the
result at Woodmill - You must have
made a splendid fight, for I see that
you increased the vote one thousand
men by about a thousand. But
the reaction has been too strong. The
Moderates have been able to bring
up their "reserves" in a way so far
unknown, that has turned the scale

nearly everywhere.

Still when all is said & done it's
a bad set-back.

Do you see Chamberlain's verses in
the "Daily News" this morning. Fine
I think, - certainly he has the
right temper in defeat. A man
who can take it in that spirit
is bound to "come again" - and
his party too.

I hope to see you soon - you
ought to take it easy all this week
anyhow, - after that I suppose
we shall be hard at it for the
"Guardian".

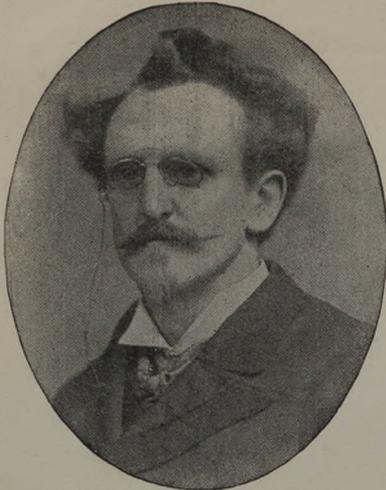
Ever yrs

A.M.

47

London County Council Election, 1907.

NORTH LAMBETH DIVISION.



FRANK SMITH, A.U.U.

PRESIDENT LAMBETH & DISTRICT TRADES AND LABOUR COUNCIL.

Labour Representation Committee.

FRANK SMITH, A.U.U.,
LABOUR CANDIDATE.

F. E. CARTER, S.L.F.P.,
ELECTION AGENT.

W. LOCK, G.W. & G.L.U.
TREASURER.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE ROOMS: 130, Westminster Bridge Road, S.E.

10. Cliftons Inn
S.C.

March 14th

1907

My dear George

Today I deplore your
defeat on Saturday is only employing
a very tame expression to voice my sentiments
when once my victory was assured my
one desire was to learn you false. I did
~~not~~ want to have you there to cooperate
with & now here I am, almost as my
lonely one! I do hope you are more
the nose for the struggle - I'm pretty flat
for it was a desperate fight - and unfortunately,

to add to my difficulties
my Agent - died last
week, just at the critical
moment.

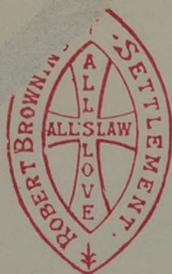
Ever Sincerely Yours

Frank Smith

W. E. Hauberg
Bow



M449



Francis Herbert Stead
(1857 - 1928)

29, GROSVENOR PARK, S.E.

March 4th, 1907.

WARDEN:
F. HERBERT STEAD, M.A.

My dear Mr. Lansbury,

We are evidently getting on. Never before in a municipal contest have we drawn the devil so completely out of his lair as this time. Whatever man could do has been done, and it is an honour to have been permitted to fight in so dread an encounter.

The Municipal Reformers have forced the people of London to a clearer consciousness of the collectivism that is approaching; and that the metropolis of Mammon in the modern world roused to face the import of coming changes, should have acted as it has done was perhaps all we could expect. But the forces of ^{the} anti-Mammonites have been mobilised with a clearer consciousness of their common aim and ultimate goal than ever before. If "every vote given to a Progressive was a vote for Socialism," you Socialists will have reason to claim the very largest poll ever cast in England for Socialism.

Very heartily yours,

F. Herbert Stead

James Keir ~~Hardie~~
(1836-1915)



7. 3. 07

(49)

Dearhaubing

Thanks for your letter
I meant to have written
to you but you know
my feelings without my
doing so.

I saw Anderson
the other night & learned
from him the particulars
of the fight & how well

Jenkins Jones had stood
by you. Efforts were made
to get the progressives
to leave 4 or 5 seats
free for us to contest,
& at first they seemed
inclined to be reasonable.
Some sinister influences
intervened however &
they resolved upon
fight all round, with
the exception of Hambeck

and Fulham where they could not
help themselves, perhaps they will
be wiser next time.

The organisation of London
on Labour Party lines, will take
some time and it is being attended
to.

I should be very glad to
see you, one evening soon & to
talk over the "Right to Work" Bill
which I have promised to draft for
the Party. Let me know which
evening you are at liberty

next week. If you have a chance of
seeing Crosses press upon him the need
of cooperating with Saunders & Gault
Smith in forming a district
Group on the Council. If this is done
it will be invaluable for the

next section.

Yours faithfully
George Hardie



M449