

100

Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W.1.

CONFIDENTIAL.

8th May, 1939.

Dear Private Secretary,

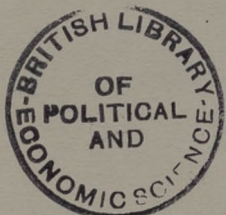
You wrote to me on April 12th about the case of Henry F. Pulitzer, whose friends had approached Mr. Lansbury on his behalf.

The Home Office have, as you know, written on several occasions to Pulitzer's solicitors - the last letter was dated as recently as April 20th - stating that his case has been carefully considered and that the Home Secretary adheres to the decision that Pulitzer is required to leave the country forthwith.

For Mr. Lansbury's confidential information, the following are the main reasons for the decision.

Pulitzer arrived in this country in December, 1934, and has since been connected with a Uruguayan named Otto Grueger, who has been "gated" by the Home Office, in the promotion of two companies which failed badly and came under adverse notice to the authorities. In addition, he formed a third company which has never

The Private Secretary to  
The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.



M449

Home Office

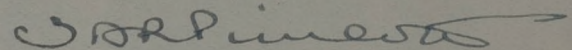
8 May 1939

101

functioned. Further activities include the sale of a typewriter before the hire purchase instalments had been paid, a debt of £200 rent in connection with his third company, and the embezzlement of £400 which was placed by two British subjects in a proposed riding-school. He is also in debt for his rent at his private address and to the income tax authorities.

I am afraid that in the circumstances the Home Secretary does not see his way to modify his decision, and Mr. Lansbury will probably agree, after reading the above, that Pulitzer is an undesirable person whose further residence in this country should not be allowed.

Yours truly,



Private Secretary.

102



W.1422.

Home Office,  
Whitehall,

S.W. 1.

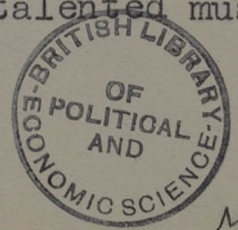
13th May, 1939.

Dear Private Secretary,

I am writing in reply to your letter of the 12th February to let you know the Home Secretary's decision in the case of Mr. Joseph Weingarten.

Mr. Lansbury will be aware that there are certain statutory conditions as regards residence which govern a person's eligibility to apply for naturalisation and Mr. Weingarten, as he himself realises, does not satisfy these conditions. It has therefore been necessary for the Home Secretary to consider his application as one for permission to establish himself in this country as either a teacher of music or an executant. The difficulty with which the Home Secretary was faced was that the position of musicians in this country at the present time is most precarious and it has been found necessary to restrict very closely the admission of foreign musicians to live here permanently and practise their profession. The Home Secretary has no reason to question Mr. Weingarten's submission that he is a very talented musician but he does

/not



M479

Home Office

13 May 1939

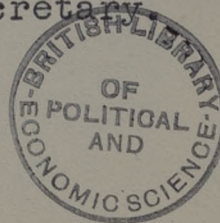
not think, after consultation with competent authorities, that Mr. Weingarten can be regarded as sufficiently eminent in his profession to justify an exception being made in his case from the general rule. In these circumstances, the Home Secretary thinks that Mr. Weingarten might begin to explore the possibility of emigration to some other country where the musical profession is less crowded than it is here, and it has been suggested to him that Australia might afford Mr. Weingarten the necessary scope for building up a reputation as artist and teacher. At present Mr. Weingarten's permission to stay in this country extends until the 30th June, but if he is unable by that date to make suitable arrangements for his future elsewhere, the Home Secretary will be prepared to grant him a further short extension to enable him to complete his arrangements, but he would, nevertheless, suggest that Mr. Weingarten should begin to make his preparations without delay.

Yours faithfully,

Saboy

Private Secretary

The Private Secretary to  
The Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury, JP., MP.



M449

104

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR THE CARE OF CRIPPLES.

34, Eccleston Square,  
London. S.W.1.

Case No. 3485.

18th May, 1939.

The Secretary,  
International Fellowship of Reconciliation,  
16, Victoria Street,  
S. W. 1.

Dear Sir,

re:- Lily Frankl, Neue Weltgasse 19, Vienna.

You will probably remember writing to us about this girl early this year, when efforts were being made to find her a home to which she could be admitted temporarily.

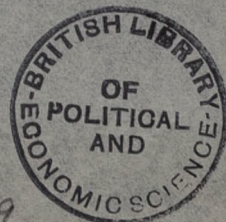
Since that time, I have had a visit from an aunt of this girl, just before she left for the United States and I have also heard from the father direct. You will be glad to know we have received an offer from the Ascot Priory Home of accommodation for approximately six months at a reduced charge of 16/- per week, and Herr Frankl writes that his son in America has guaranteed to send five dollars monthly and also that a friend in Palestine will guarantee up to £40. All this information has been passed on to the German Jewish Aid Committee and we hope that they will now be able to put through the formalities with regard to a permit.

Meantime, I thought you would be interested to know what had been done.

Yours sincerely,

signed. MARY R. SIMPSON.

Assitant Secretary.



EMBASSIES OF RECONCILIATION

105

Canon Charles E. Raven, D.D., *Chairman*  
Barrow Cadbury, J.P. }  
The Rev. J. Nevin Sayre, B.D. } *Treasurers*  
The Rev. Henry Carter, C.B.E.  
H. Runham Brown  
Prof. F. Siegmund-Schultze, D.D.  
Percy W. Bartlett, *Secretary*

16, VICTORIA STREET  
LONDON, S.W.1.

Tube Stations: St. James's Park  
and Westminster.

Telephone No.: Whitehall 4089

PWB/IKF

19th May, 1939.

Mrs. D. Postgate,  
45 Hendon Lane,  
N.3.

Dear Mrs. Postgate,

You may possibly remember sending on to me on the 1st January a letter addressed to G.L. from Vienna by Lily Frankl, a young Jewish cripple girl. Attached is a copy of a letter received this morning from the Central Council for the Care of Cripples. L

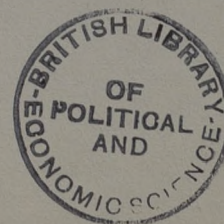
See 18 May above

Slow as this business is, we are glad of some encouragement. I do not know whether you are in a position to urge the German Jewish Aid Committee to be quick. Ordinarily, things are frightfully slow at Bloomsbury House.

G.L. would be interested to know that, in dealing with this case, we have been in correspondence with no fewer than seven different relief bodies.

Yours sincerely,

*Percy W. Bartlett*



M449

*Erwin Pressburger*

1, Crediton Hill, N.W.6.

June, 10th 1939.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
London, E.3.

106

Dear Sir,

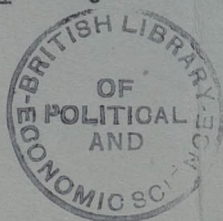
I am very sorry to inform you that last night - in spite of the promise given to me at the High Commissioner's Office of which I told you in my last letter - I received a letter from the Comptroller of Customs in New-Zealand of the 25th of May 1939 according which my application for a permit to enter New-Zealand has been turned down by the Minister of Customs. (AN. N° C. 33/135/2427). - There is no reason given in this letter for this decision.

I cannot imagine that this decision - which decides about the "to be or not to be" of my wife and me - is definite. I believe that the Minister of Customs had come to his decision before he received your recommendation through the High Commissioner. I cannot believe that otherwise the Minister had allowed a fighter for Socialism during dark days to be excluded for ever from the community of people doing useful work and from the Socialistic country he loves (although I had never been there in this incarnation).

I strongly feel that something can still be done for a repeal of this severe decision. Therefore I should be mostly grateful to you if you could let me know for when and where you could arrange another discussion between us.

Could you find out for me if a sum similar to the landing-fee necessary for Australia had been inserted on my application-form for New-Zealand would have changed the Minister's decision?

I dare to ask you for this new kindness as I know from your letter of recommendation of your great kindness and sympathy for my wife and me.



Thanking you once more

yours sincerely

*Erwin Pressburger*

(Dr. Erwin Pressburger).

Will you ring up  
Jordan & ask if anything  
more can be done & about  
the money sent the  
writer we are doing so



NEW ZEALAND, H.C. for

107

HIGH COMMISSIONER  
FOR NEW ZEALAND.



NEW ZEALAND GOVERNMENT OFFICES,  
415, STRAND,  
LONDON, W. C. 2.

15th June, 1939.

Dear Private Secretary,

In reply to your letter of the 12th instant concerning Dr. Erwin Pressburger, I am sorry to be unable to advise you as to the reason for this gentleman's application for permit being declined. As a matter of fact no advice is sent to this Office from New Zealand in the case of adverse decisions regarding applications for permits.

While the financial circumstances of the applicant are, of course, taken into account by the Minister of Customs in dealing with an application, the main consideration, it is understood, is the likelihood of the applicant readily securing employment in New Zealand without thereby displacing a local resident, and generally the probability of his becoming a useful asset to the country. It is doubtful whether the political convictions of the applicant are allowed to influence the decision.

As Dr. Pressburger has evidently friends in New Zealand, the only course I could suggest would be that these friends might again approach the Minister of Customs at Wellington in the hope of reconsideration.

If there is any possibility of Dr. Pressburger's being able to take to the Dominion a larger amount of money than was stated on his original application, this would certainly be reasonable ground for his friends in New Zealand asking for further consideration of the case. It would be advisable, therefore, for Dr. Pressburger to supply them with any further information available on this point.

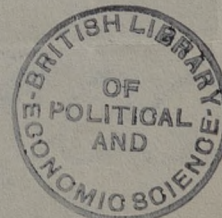
Dr. Pressburger's letter to Mr. Lansbury is returned herewith.

Yours sincerely,

*Sturrow*

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
Mr. George Lansbury,  
39, Bow Road,  
E.3.



M449

Erwin Pressburger

1, Crediton Hill,  
London, N.W.6.

108

The Private Secretary to  
Mr. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
London, E.3.

June, 20th 1939.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your kind letter and sending me the letter you received from the New Zealand Government Offices, (which I am returning herewith).

I am sorry that you were not able to do more; at any rate I am more hopeful again as I received a letter from my New Zealand friends this morning stating that they are in contact with the New Zealand Government and hoping to bring the matter to a good end.

Should this be so then I am convinced that Mr. Lansbury's recommendation and your kind efforts had not been without any influence to the eventual decision.

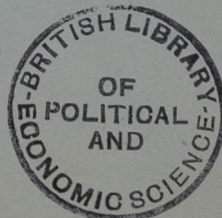
At any rate - as soon as I learn about any further decision I shall take the liberty to let you know.

Will you, please, kindly convey to Mr. Lansbury my wife's and my own heartiest thanks for his sympathy and efforts and take also for yourself our sincerest thanks for your kind help?

Yours faithfully

*Dr. Erwin Pressburger*

(Dr. Erwin Pressburger).



M449

CONFIDENTIAL

109

Statement presented by George Lansbury to Mr. Pierlot, Prime Minister of Belgium.

Brussels, July 11th, 1939.

I am here in an unofficial capacity, as I was when I visited Brussels on a former occasion and had an interview with M. Van Zeeland. In the same way I have had unofficial interviews with rulers and statesmen throughout Europe and with President Roosevelt in the United States.

My friend, the Reverend Henry Carter, has accompanied me on many of my journeys. If convenient, I should like him to be with me during this interview to assist me, if necessary, in putting my case.

I am greatly obliged by your kindness in receiving me. I should be especially grateful if His Majesty King Leopold would also allow us to have a short audience with him, in order that our case and respectful request may be made clear to him. Our purpose is as follows:-

In Bucharest, last September, His Majesty King Carol granted me an interview, during which we discussed the world situation, and the proposals put forward by M. Van Zeeland in his Report. I ventured to suggest that H.M. King Carol might approach H.M. King Leopold, to consider whether representatives of the Scandinavian Governments, Holland, Belgium, Hungary and the Balkan States could unite in making an appeal to the Great Powers - to Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Russia - asking that, before Europe is plunged into a devastating war, there should be held a Conference of the Great Powers under the presidency of a neutral. Such a Conference should meet in a friendly, informal manner, without conditions, to discuss:-

1. The possibility of arranging an immediate standstill in the armaments race, accompanied, if necessary by inspection;
2. In what manner and by what means Europe may be saved from the disaster of war.



M449

11 July 1939

110

3. The possibility of using the Van Zeeland Report and its suggestions as a basis of discussion for dealing with the economic plight of Europe.

King Carol promised to consider these suggestions and, if possible, discuss them with King Leopold.

Since my visit to Bucharest a series of new troubles has confronted Europe - the Czecho-Slovakian crisis and its sequel, the seizure of Albania, the agitation about Tunis and the present tension over Danzig. But all this makes peaceful action more urgent.

We come, therefore, to Brussels to ask His Excellency the Prime Minister to use his good offices with His Majesty King Leopold, for the purpose of granting me and my friend an interview.

There is a universal cry from the masses of people in all lands that means shall be found to avert the threatened catastrophe. The peoples are looking to the rulers, to the statesmen, and to the leaders of religious life for such action as will save Youth and manhood from the horrors of war, and from the futility of the terrible sacrifices it demands. The memory of the four years of the Great War, and of the broken hopes of the following years, impel us to make this appeal to-day.

We recall that King Leopold has again and again appealed to the world in the name of the Christian Faith and of our common humanity. We recall especially his letter to M. Van Zeeland in July 1937; his great appeal in London during his visit to our capital city; and his recent statement, on the occasion of the visit of Her Majesty the Queen of Holland to Brussels, in which he expressed the hope that spiritual rearmament might be tried in the international field, and that the smaller Powers of Europe might have a lasting common mind in the moral and economic spheres.

We have noted, also, with appreciation the statement of international policy made by the Prime Minister in the Chamber on June 8th, and venture to hope that Belgium's freedom from alliance obligations may make possible the kind of neutral action on behalf of European peace for which we speak.

We are thankful for the continuance of the efforts of His Holiness the Pope on behalf of world peace, and pray that they may be prospered.

It is encouraging to note, too, the statement by the Regent of Hungary on June 14th, in the Hungarian Parliament. Admiral Horthy said,

"There are no problems which cannot be solved in a peaceful way. The nations must sit around the conference table and discuss peaceably and with good will every question which bears the germ of possible conflict."

We can, from our own knowledge, add that His Majesty King Boris of Bulgaria, His Highness Prince Paul of Jugo-Slavia, and the Ministers we have met in the Scandinavian countries all hold the same views.

We are aware of the manifold difficulties in the way of successful action, yet are convinced that, if His Majesty King Leopold - whose love of Peace is universally known - would appeal to the Great Powers at this eleventh hour, his voice would be listened to. Alternatively, would His Majesty take the initiative in drawing together the smaller Powers of Europe which ardently desire Peace, that collectively they might appeal on behalf of a peaceful settlement to the Great Powers?

May I close by saying that although we come as members of the Christian Pacifist Group, known as "Embassies of Reconciliation" we do not disguise from ourselves the fact that the British and other nations earnestly desirous of Peace are none the less increasing their armaments, because they are resolved to unite to preserve what they consider is the Rule of Law. We state this plainly because we, on our part, are convinced that all peoples would welcome the abandonment of armaments, and the establishment of Peace and prosperity by means of conference, goodwill and continuous cooperation.

CONFIDENTIAL

(112)

Memorandum by Henry Carter of interview with M. Pierlot, Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs

Brussels, July 11th, 1939.

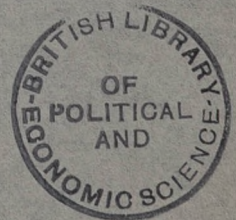
3 p.m. Aveling, from British Embassy, called for us (G.L. and H.C.) and took us to Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Interpreter read our M.S. M. Le Chait, Cabinet Sec. joined us, read M.S. and asked questions; then took M.S. to P.M. When taken to P.M. we found that Le Chait was acting as interpreter.

G.L. referred first to report in "Times" of speech by P.M. to journalists affirming Belgian neutrality and stand for peace; then read M.S. para. by para, Le C. interpreting.

Evident that P.M. impressed by practical proposition, that King Leopold should initiate joint appeal by neutral Powers to Great Powers to confer and avert war. It would require Government consideration, he said. He would try to secure an interview for us with the King, though the King's full programme might make that impracticable.

Very friendly and sympathetic reception. Interview lasted three-quarters of an hour.

7.15 Le Chait phoned. G.L. to see King to-morrow morning for "heart to heart" talk.



M449

Brussels, July 18th. 39.

Memorandum by George Lansbury of interview with  
the King of the Belgians.

113

My interview with King Leopold which has just taken place was far and away the most satisfactory of all. There is this to be said at the outset: whilst I should be very glad indeed to tell the public why Henry Carter and myself came to Belgium under the auspices of the E.O.R, and of the success we seem to have gained, I am absolutely certain that any public statement of our proceedings, suggestions, etc, would do nothing but harm at the present time.

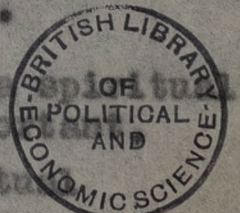
The King of the Belgians is young, both in years and in mind; he received me kindly, and as a friend; we were at home with each other from the start. Henry Carter will have told the story of our interview with the Prime Minister, M. Pierlot, and it is not necessary for me to do so again, nor need I state what was in the memorandum left both with the P.M. and the King.

In this interview I concentrated on the proposition that King Leopold should constitute himself leader of the smaller powers in an effort to bring about a conference between the great powers. We discussed this from different angles. It was obvious that the King had thought a very great deal about how to avert war. His first idea was to bring about economic unity between the small powers leading on to an economic unity for all Europe. But he is now convinced that something much simpler is needed; and he agrees that if he can get the small powers together, and they will agree to make a united appeal for a conference of the great powers - Britain, France, Italy, Germany, Russia possibly Poland, and U.S.A. - without conditions, that would be the most practical step.

The nations he would ask to join in making the appeal are Scandinavian Governments, Switzerland, Holland, Portugal, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugo-slavia, perhaps Rumania and Greece. He is doubtful about the two latter, but I pointed out that agreement would depend entirely on how the document was drafted. He considers the Portuguese dictator one of the wisest statesmen in Europe, and also has a very high opinion of the Swiss statesman.

The conference for which the small powers should call must be one without any conditions, and without any recriminations - a conference of the handful of men whose actions the future of civilisation depends. He agreed with the President Roosevelt's suggestion to me, that these great men should meet as friends and start discussions informally, trying most earnestly to discover some way of true appeasement.

He thinks mankind is unconsciously waiting and ready for a spiritual awakening. He agrees that the economic factor is urgently important, but it must wait for solution until we have aroused the spiritual



M449

Gl. memo. 12 July 1939  
- 2 -

114

conscience of rulers, statesmen and peoples, for this is the problem which confronts us all in individual and national life.

W

At the close of our 30 minutes talk he thanked me for seeing him, and said it was good for him to know that there were people in the world willing to support him in the efforts he has been making, and will continue to make - especially the effort to get the Governments of the smaller States to make the appeal to the big five or six who hold our destinies in their hands. I came away convinced that the cause of Peace is by no means as yet defeated, and very hopeful that the miracle will happen, and we shall at last get started along the road leading to Peace in our time. Both Henry Carter and I are sure that we came here at a very opportune moment, and the outcome was indeed Providential.

As to the immediate future, I am strongly of opinion that someone should go to Lisbon as soon as possible, and if at all possible I should see someone at Berne while at the W.R.I. Conference in Basle. How other visits can be fixed we must discuss. As to Scandinavia, I am doubtful if we should move until we know King Leopold has moved. When he does we could more easily take supporting action. But about Lisbon and Berne, King Leopold thinks both are of the utmost importance, to win over to our side. I am sure he himself feels the need of support, and is a little disheartened that his previous <sup>efforts</sup> have not met with support. He is however determined to try again. My only reason for urging privacy just now about our visit and proposals is not to queer his pitch beforehand. Once he is on the job we can go full steam ahead. Of course this does not mean that we should stop advocating a conference of the big powers in our own way. What we must not do is to discuss publicly what he hopes the smaller powers may be persuaded to do.

One other thing, Henry Carter is going to Finland shortly. We have not been there. It seems to me we should get in touch with the Finnish Legation, tell them about ourselves, and ask that he may see their Foreign Minister while he is in Helsinki.



115

14 July 1939

[re G.L., see on fol. 116]

# The Reply to English Propaganda

By

Reich Minister Dr. Goebbels

In a pamphlet-letter which you, Mr. Stephen King-Hall, have so kindly addressed to various residents in this country, you state—to use your own words—that you are desirous of reaching the German people. The fact that we take the trouble at all to reply to your stylistic effort must not, please, be construed to mean that we are overestimating your importance. Your action in taking upon yourself the right of commencing an argument with the German nation and distributing among all classes of the German people tokens of English “affection” in the shape of anti-German propaganda leaflets—would have been ignored in this country if, as you say, you were merely doing so in a private capacity. But unfortunately for you and all the more fortunate for us, it so happens that quite by chance we have learnt that you are in the service of the British Foreign Office,—that your letters or pamphlets are written, printed and dispatched by order and with the benevolent and inspired help of Lord Halifax himself. In other words, these letters of yours possess an official character, a fact which gives this whole affair a totally different complexion.

It does not mean that this childish and absurd schoolboy bit of propaganda need necessarily be regarded as less pronounced. On the contrary. The fact that such propaganda emanates from the Downing Street workshop is sufficient to stamp it as all the more crude and repugnant.

But, as you say, you are desirous of addressing yourself to the German people and you hope to receive replies to all your letters. Well, we can at least be thankful for that. “Do not mince matters when replying”, you say. This very friendly request no one with any feeling at all could withstand; therefore let us make a start:

You commence your letter with “My dear German reader”. It will be obvious to all that the recipient of your letter is a German. But whether he is a “dear” you will best be able to judge after reading this article.

You write that you are a British naval officer and that you have served 21 years—from 1906 to 1928—in the Royal Navy. That in itself is most important and decisive. You there-

BRITISH LIBRARY

fore served in that particular Royal Navy which from 1914 to 1918 carried out a starvation blockade against Germany. Time-honoured principles of British policy were applied in starving to death hundreds of defenceless women and children; the same principles had been applied during the Boer war when British concentration camps accounted for the deaths of 27,000 Boer women and children.

That indeed is a convincing moral qualification to permit you to speak of justice and humanity.

You go on to say that after this, you commenced to prepare yourself for "public life". But evidently only in a haphazard manner as your letter reveals. You worked "seven years in the Scientific Research Department of the Royal Institute for International Affairs". No doubt you had ample opportunity in this period of closely studying British colonial history and learning something about the brutal methods which the British Empire employed against defenceless people, who either surrendered unconditionally to London or were ruthlessly crushed.

Was your attention not drawn to the fact that in 1771 Liverpool was singled out as the principle port for shipments of coloured human cargoes to all parts of the world? Also to the fact that Liverpool in those days possessed 105, London 58 and Bristol 25 slave-carrying ships? That in those days and under the English flag, 30,000 blacks were annually shipped, and that this fact accounts for a good deal of British wealth today? Can you recall to mind the English bombardment of Zanzibar in 1896 when 20,000 rounds of shrapnel were fired on a totally defenceless town?

Have you any idea of the methods applied in 1896 in the conquest of the former Kingdom of Burma? If not, then let us refresh your memory. Burma was incorporated in the British-Indian Empire by means of a one-sided British declaration; those who offered resistance were treated as insurgents and shot as robbers.

Have you ever heard of the Amritsar blood-bath in 1919? Just listen to this: On April 11, 1919, English soldiers opened up rapid fire on a gathering of 5000 people. Five-hundred were killed in cold blood within ten minutes; 1500 were severely wounded and 261 others were sentenced to be flogged.

Is it possible that during the course of your research work you have overlooked to take note of the manner in which the Waziristan rising in 1937 was suppressed—when 720 insurgents were killed, practically the same number severely wounded and 10 villages bombarded?

And have you ever read what thoughtful Englishmen have said on the subject of these blissful methods of British colonial policy?

Mr. William Ewart Gladstone, the English statesman, is doubtless no stranger to you. In a debate in the House of Commons on the opium war, he stated on April 8, 1840: "I am not competent to judge how long this war may last, . . ., but this I can say, that a war more unjust in its origin, a war more calculated in its progress to cover this country with disgrace, I do not know and I have not read of."

James Anthony Froude, the English historian, is an authority who will also not have escaped notice during your research work. Relating his experiences and impressions during the course of a world tour in 1884—1885 he states in his book "Oceana": "We have ourselves three times invaded Afghanistan, burnt the bazar at Cabul, and killed a great many thousand

people to teach them to love us . . . Only seven years ago we had formed a deliberate plan to stir up a revolt in Turkestan. We satisfy ourselves that when we do these things it is for the good of mankind, but when others do them it is wicked and not to be permitted. Such a plea as this will hardly pass current in the intercourse of nations."

Well, Captain, what have you got to say now? And what is your opinion of the remarks made by your former Minister, Mr. George Lansbury, who writes in his book "My England": "None of our fathers who conquered India went there to make her prosperous. They went for purposes of robbery with violence or—with the more civilized—as traders out to make a very large profit."

In your letter to us you say that you want us to think independently. Well, here is enough material for independent thought—not forgetting what Edith Sitwell has to say in her book "Victoria of England". Miss Sitwell writes sarcastically: "Unhappily, side-by-side with this increasing enlightenment on the part of the governing classes, grew a wish to interfere with all nations possessing a different pigmentation of the skin—purely, of course, for their good, and because Britain had been appointed to this work by Heaven."

You will reply and say all that is stale. Alright. Read the "Daily Express" of February 3, 1939, in which Lord Beaverbrook advises the British Government to get on with the work of building a colonial empire "which does us credit instead of bringing shame upon us".

Is it not these self-same English colonial tactics that you would so much like to employ in regard to Germany? Can you remember how many times you have tried this game?

The old, old dodge. By means of disruption and corruption you prepare the way for your final brutal onslaught on other people. That is the classical English way of doing things. But you cannot work it on us. We have experienced that sort of thing once in 1918/1919. That was the most terrible experience in all our history. You can take it from us there will be no repetition.

You proudly state that you "have been nominated as a candidate for parliament". Do you expect the Germans to receive this notification with awe and respect? That indeed would be enough to wrinkle the face of a cab-horse.

Mr. Candidate-for-Parliament,—you say that the staff of your news agency "works five days a week and has a month's holiday on full pay". Dear, dear; and is that really possible in England? Very modestly you add: "The practice of five days per week is becoming more and more customary in Great Britain". Well, that is really no cause for surprise considering the fact that Englishmen have so many other nations working for them. If the English experiment of once again crushing the German people should succeed, then doubtless Englishmen would have no need to work at all. According to their formula, their work would then be done by those Germans who today are merely your "dear readers".

As far as we are aware exemplary English social policy has not yet penetrated sufficiently into the English distressed areas. In those districts there are people who even work less—in fact, they do no work at all for the simple reason that for years they have been unemployed. Their standard of living is in keeping with this state of affairs. Perhaps you will make a note of this, Mr. King-Hall, and not forget to say something on this subject to your "dear German readers" the next time.

You say that you want to give us "absolute independent information". But the question is: independent of what? In all probability, however, independent of truth—which in

recent times has been such a marked feature of English news. Your news service is "a privately directed public service". Ha, ha, ha! That really was well said. Your chief, Lord Halifax, can certainly be well satisfied with your schoolboy efforts.

You then go on and put a somewhat scurrilous question to your German reader: "Why do I write to you". All that now remains for you to do, Mr. Paid-Propagandist, is to talk about humanity and understanding. And, by Jove, here it comes. "I am writing to you because I want peace." Now we know where we stand.

No doubt you are referring to that self-same brand of peace which prompted England at Versailles to throttle a defenceless nation; which oppressed that nation for 14 years—plundered and looted it. That same spirit of "peace" prompted England to demand delivery not only of our navy but also of our mercantile fleet,—robbed us of our colonies, and never lost an opportunity to torture and humiliate us.

Where were you, Mr. King-Hall, in those days? Why did you never raise your voice or take up your pen in the interests of peace, justice and understanding?

Why did you not direct all your rage towards your own countrymen when they were busy plunging Germany and therewith the whole of Europe into distress?

But you were serving in the Royal Navy or busy at the Royal Institute for International Affairs. You subscribed to all these measures probably because you thought it was fashionable to do so. No doubt you thought it right at the time to steal the bread from the mouths of your "dear German readers" of today,—plunge our country into currency inflation and economic ruin—and by means of hypocritical and oily phraseology, rob the Germans of one vital right after another. Or did you perchance moralize on your brutalities in those days with a lot of gibberish talk of humanity and civilization?

You write that you know "what war is like". The Führer will certainly know this better than you. He did not wage war against women and children but was to be found in the firing line opposed to Englishmen.

That is why he has taken care to prevent you and other English gentry from springing another surprise on us.

You are a man . . . "middle-aged, 46 years old with three children, and you want peace if you can obtain it on honourable conditions". Who has ever expected you to exact a dishonourable peace?

Is Versailles a German or an English product?

Or is Versailles perchance an honourable peace?

No. Right up to the present day England has denied us an honourable peace. In direct contradiction of all solemn pledges you have robbed us of our colonies. You administrate them under the mandatory system. They are useless to you. Your country is incapable—as many Englishmen have confirmed—of making profitable use of our colonies. You have neither the people and perhaps not even the inclination to work them. And yet you do not return them. Why not? For the simple reason that not only a thirst for power prevents you from granting Germany those "honourable peace terms" which England claimed for herself, but these self-same terms were designed to completely crush our people. And despite this, you raise the question as to whether we shall have peace. You reply that you are doubtful on this point and are desirous of stating why.

117

There is no need for you to inform us of what people are thinking in Great Britain. We have known that for a long time and have nothing to add to it. You do not of course want us to believe that your viewpoint is correct, as everybody in Germany knows that you are in the wrong. Your additional remark is delightful: "It may be possible", you say, "that we are wrong but that it is most important that the Germans should realize what we believe to be right." You dear old chatterbox! Throw a sprat to catch a mackerel! We know these dodges. Good old English objectivity . . . *we do not know whether we are right, all we know is that we know nothing.* That suits Englishmen admirably.

The average Englishman—according to what you tell us—is "so disgusted with the despicable way in which the German Government have broken the Munich Agreement, that he is becoming more and more convinced that its leaders—Ribbentrop, Goebbels and Himmler at least—are impossible people with whom one can never conclude agreements that will be kept." If that is so, then these gentlemen have qualified to become honorary Englishmen for the simple reason that the charge preferred against them is based on nothing less than the centuries-old distinctive features of British policy.

During your research studies at the Royal Institute for International Affairs did you ever come across a book on Anglo-American Treaties, written by John Bigelow, Major in the U.S.A. army? Bigelow's investigations led him to the conclusion that of the 30 treaties and agreements concluded between the U.S.A. and England in the period 1783—1913, eight were violated by England and five of them by the U.S.A. on approved British lines.

Major Bigelow's inference is as follows: . . . it is an old stratagem of British diplomacy for a powerful state, negotiating with a comparatively weak one, to make the terms equivocal, and when the convention is ratified to impose its own construction of it upon the other party.

You will agree, Mr. King-Hall, that that is pretty emphatic. From where do you obtain the moral right to reproach Germany for something you cannot prove—because like your letter it is a pack of lies. And where is your right to reproach us for something which throughout the centuries has been an established practice in English policy?

You say that it will be hard for us to hear the news but that you are compelled to say it . . . "that very little reliance is nowadays placed on Hitler's word in England." But that does not sound harsh or terrible to us. It would be terrible indeed if it were otherwise. Hitler's word, you see, is believed in Germany.

The Führer has created a mighty and powerful German nation. That is why Englishmen of your stamp hate us with all the venom they are capable of. But we are proud of that.

This hatred is not only an honour to the Führer himself but at the same time it strengthens our affection for him. You, Mr. Propaganda-Candidate, are only capable of showing an affectionate feeling for those Germans who are traitors to their own country.

You go on to say that . . . "there is not the slightest hope that Great Britain will make any concessions to Germany until faith in Germany's word has been restored." This shows up your crass ignorance of the real situation. No one is asking you to make concessions. No one expects them.

We do not want your mercy. We want our rights.

We do not stand before your capitalistic democracies as beggars or supplicating "have-nots". If our rights are denied us we shall seek to secure them ourselves. But let no one then hypocritically bemoan the fact that Europe is plunging from one crisis into another.

The blame for this attaches to your superiors in command, Mr. Propaganda-Candidate. All of a sudden you are concerned about the "liberty" of the Czechs. You weep crocodile tears for people to whom no harm is being done and who are no business of yours. Yet you turn a deaf ear to the national sufferings of other people whom England is torturing and brutally putting to death — as for example the unfortunate Arabs in Palestine. We wonder what you would have to say if we adopted your Palestine policy in the Bohemia-Moravia Protectorate? We refrain from doing so as we are Germans and not Englishmen.

In many respects, you say, "Germany's policy is not understandable" to you. That is why you, Sir, are but a mere candidate—a beginner in fact. It seems that at your age it is impossible to grasp everything. But the Führer's policy finds complete understanding in this country. It is almost ludicrous, therefore, when you raise the question whether we were aware that . . . "prior to the Czecho-Slovak act of robbery, the whole of our colonial demands had been the subject of very serious consideration in Great Britain?"

Oh yes, we were fully aware of that. We know from past experience what these "serious deliberations and considerations" have brought about. You also seriously discussed our disarmament proposals until we were finally forced to re-arm ourselves. You no doubt also seriously discussed an increase in the size of the German army. You kept on discussing the matter until Germany was forced to introduce general conscription. You seriously discussed military sovereignty in the Rhineland until German troops marched across the Rhine bridges and brought about an established fact. You seriously discussed the Austrian problem until the Führer concluded his historical mission at Vienna. You seriously discussed the Sudeten German problem until you were confronted by a *fait accompli*.

Why appear more stupid than you really are? But above all, do not make the mistake of believing that the Germans are more stupid than you yourself appear to be.

And now all of a sudden you take strong exception to our reproach that England is attempting to encircle us. Not only do we say this but actually we observe and are witness to it. Therefore do not raise the hypocritical question: what should prompt England to encircle Germany; the reply to that is only too obvious. You want to crush us—because our demands for vital rights are becoming irksome to you,—because in the course of your history you have always counted on being confronted with a weak and defenceless Germany, which today is no longer the case. You want to crush us because you begrudge us our vital rights as in your opinion we are "have-nots" and must forever remain so.

That a well-to-do Germany should be an active factor in world trade is indeed a new English theory which you expound for the first time. Before the war, you held a different opinion. At any rate, this new realism of yours is admirably supported by a widespread English boycott of German goods.

If it were possible you would effectively strangle us economically. But, thank Heaven, that is impossible now.

You then go on to discuss war. You will probably be surprised when we tell you that this subject is well-nigh foreign to us. The so-called nervous crisis is really your own product. You say it would have to be . . . "a short war, a lightning war according to our experts". The question of a future war depends entirely upon England. The question as to how it will end is a matter which you can safely leave to us. Our own impression is that England's

chances of being victorious in that war are not particularly rosy today. Perhaps you are not aware of it but the German nation today is resolved to defend its national honour and existence to the last man.

Had there been no treachery in Germany in 1918 you would never have won the world war. But in those days, unfortunately, policy in Germany was conducted by *candidates*. Today, we see that candidates are responsible for propaganda in England whereas in this country, experts are at work. All those who have not yet grasped this fact will realize it later on.

You often think—as you put it—"that we have something to learn from you in regard to conducting foreign policy". Heaven forbid! During the last few years you have not set us many exemplary object lessons in this respect. We refer, for example, to the settlement of the Abyssinian conflict, the re-occupation of the Rhineland zone, the solution of the Austrian and Sudeten problems etc. And yet you invite us . . . "to come to you and organize things in England like our road transport which is in a chaotic condition." No thanks!

You clean up your own mess. We are not universal traffic cops.

Apart from this, it seems to us that a serious state of chaos exists in the minds of English propagandists. At least your letter points to this.

You continue by venting your wrath on Italy. We can take it for granted that the Italians are quite able to give you their direct reply if you care to address yourself to them. You say that the Italians are short of raw materials and possess very little power of resistance etc. Why then did you not attack them during the Abyssinian conflict? You certainly threatened enough—or were you unable to carry out those threats?

You continue painting the horrors of a coming war and cheerfully broach the subject of another British blockade. It's the same old tactic you employed during the last war, you English disciple of humanity! And is it that brand of cynicism you want to employ as an argument against us, Mr. Beginner?

You say . . . "After such a war a peace treaty will be concluded compared with which the Treaty of Versailles was child's play". That lets the cat out of the bag. Now we know where we stand.

You have put in plain words something that we have long ago foreshadowed; this is yet another reason for us to prepare ourselves for such an eventuality and to take care that when you are ready to pounce on us, you will not be met by a nation economically and militarily unprepared, as was the case in 1914.

You write that . . . "the more you contemplate these things, the more you will realize that people like you and us must find ways and means of preventing such matters". Carry on by all means with trying to find ways and means, but carry on without us. Over here the Führer is busy on this question. In his case we all know that he deliberates the matter calmly and in our own interests. Any English help in this respect is not wanted and has been declined for years past.

You assert that the final decision rests with us. "It is your Führer and not my aged Prime Minister who will give the signal for the attack if the worst comes to the worst . . . and honestly speaking, I fear that Goebbels and Ribbentrop are keeping important information away from the Führer". That is a rough cross-section of English opinion on German foreign policy as envisaged by Lord Halifax, Stephen King-Hall and Ikey Moses.

Indeed you do us a great honour when you believe . . . "the German nation possesses an equally high percentage of intelligent men and women as other nations, if not perhaps even greater than certain other nations". You can certainly bank upon that, my dear sir! The Germans do certainly possess that much intelligence; not only do they possess it but in contrast to former times, they make use of it.

You ask us . . . "why we are averse to thinking matters over independently". Why don't you follow this line? You advise us . . . "to discuss matters with our friends and show them this letter". That we cannot do; we need your letter for other and better purposes. We have stated our point of view, which is what you wanted. Acting on your suggestion, we have not minced matters and called a spade a spade. Let us hope that you now realize all the facts in regard to both sides of the question.

And that now brings us to the crucial point. We have purposely been at pains to be somewhat detailed in our reply as it appeared necessary to thoroughly unmask your flow of phraseology. Let us hope that you will not lose interest in honouring us with further letters of yours. It is a treat to discuss matters with a beginner like yourself. In fact, we profit by it. By the way, if stupidity were painful, then your cries would resound throughout the British Empire. But apparently experience has made you immune.

At any rate, let us tell you this.

Your English propaganda tricks are absurd. There was a time when we National Socialists possessed no power, and yet we were able to overcome our political opponents at home. That trained us in the work of propaganda. From 1914 to 1918 you were dealing with a nation that was practically unprepared. The position today is different. We are now a politically-minded nation and we know what is at stake. Tomfoolery such as that contained in your letter can no longer bamboozle us. You can tell those little tales to the marines, you honest old British Jack-tar.

"*Völkischer Beobachter*"  
14/7/39

[Captain Gazalet.]

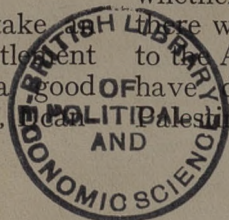
this pleasure, comfort and consolation. I and non. Members feel convinced that nothing can stop the development of the Jewish National Home. After all, we have very definite Scriptural authority for it, and that is better even than the promise of a National Government. We believe that the great work which has been so magnificently begun and established in Palestine, a work which benefits Jew, Arab and Christian alike, will continue. No White Paper can stop it. It must and it will go on, and I beg His Majesty's Government to change their policy and to help it to go on, so that they may make some real, permanent contribution to a solution of the Jewish problem and, incidentally, consolidate the interests and the security of the British Empire in the neighbourhood of that thrice Holy Land.

7.47 p.m.

**Mr. Lansbury:** I should like to congratulate the hon. and gallant Member on the speech to which we have just listened. I should have been inclined to leave the case where he left it, so far as I am concerned, were it not for some considerations which I might be allowed to put to the Committee. This question of the persecution of the Jews and of the National Home in Palestine is not a new one. I have been connected with the movement for the National Home ever since it started, and I have seen the hope grow and have seen it almost brought to fruition. Now there is a possibility, a bare possibility, that it all may be smashed. I could not help noticing one remark in the right hon. Gentleman's speech, and that was when he said there were other questions concerning Palestine besides the interests of Jews and Arabs as two separate peoples—I am putting what I think he said in my own way—and that was, the British Imperial interest in connection with Arab populations outside Palestine. What I think he meant to convey was that there are 80,000,000 Mohammedans in India and a very large number in between Palestine and India. That complicates this problem so far as we in this country are concerned.

Having met many Jews who take an official part in this business of settlement in Palestine, and having met a good many members of the Arab Centre, I do not believe that it would have been impossible to have brought about an agreement if there had been no other question at stake but how best to develop Palestine. I do not think that there is the terrible hatred and bitterness between the ordinary people in Palestine that events sometimes appear to show and that speakers on either side tell us does exist. I do not propose to enter into a discussion as to whether partition will be a good or a bad thing, or whether it is possible now to take up the question of a federal settlement. I have my own views about that. Everybody has a scheme, schemes of all kinds come from all kinds of quarters. We are told that if this or that were done the difficulties in Palestine would be determined. The House might well take an unconventional or a heterodox step in regard to Palestine. We have had two or three official investigations, certainly with responsible men engaged on the last two occasions—I mean responsible in the sense that they were representative of different opinions here, and they had very good official people to aid them; but in the end they failed. I should like to see half a dozen men, perhaps some women, from this House visiting Palestine and meeting, not the representatives of any official bodies that claim to speak for the Arabs or the Jews, but meeting at first hand the people who are most concerned—the peasants and the workers.

As I have thought about Palestine during the last 25 years, I have realised the miracles that have been achieved by the Jews. My own information, for what it is worth, is that the Jewish trade unions and co-operative bodies are, when left alone, in quite friendly relationship with the Arab population. When I have said that, some people have flatly contradicted me; but I have heard from both sides in the matter. It has been said to me over and over again that if the Jew and the Arab in Palestine were left alone from the outside they would very soon come to an agreement. Knowing the intense interest which this House takes in this question, I think that if a few men went out, not as partisans, but definitely with the intention of making an endeavour to discover whether it is possible to find a solution, there would be hope. It must be obvious to the Arab population that what the Jews have done has been to turn part of Palestine which was a desert into gardens.



M449

120

and places where an abundance of food and other things necessary for life are produced.

That is all that I wish to say on the question as to what is to be done at the present time. I do not want to attempt to pass judgment on the score of schemes that have been sent to me and to other hon. Members, but realising that this is a question on which the House feels very intensely, I think that if, without any guidance from the Government and without any connection either with the Arab centre here or with the Jewish Committee, some group of members representative of us all would go out and make an endeavour—I am going to use a hateful word—to promote true appeasement, it would be very useful. There is no crime in wanting to bring about a righteous appeasement between people who are in disagreement with one another.

I should like to say a few words on illegal immigration. For a considerable time I have been chairman of a committee which has been trying to raise money on behalf of Polish Jew refugees. Let me say this about the Polish Jews. I never knew them under the Czarist rule ever to be free of pogroms and persecutions. The hon. and gallant Member for Chippenham (Captain Cazalet) said that to-day the persecution was probably worse than at any other period in the history of the Jewish race. I do not know whether that is true or not, but I do know that in the East of London at one time we received tens of thousands of poor destitute Jews from Russian Poland, and also Jews from German Poland, who were driven out by pogroms and persecutions of the most foul kind. That has been going on to my knowledge for 50 or 60 years. I have met these poor people coming with their baggage. At one time it appeared as if in East London, all those years ago, we should have serious anti-Semitism. We did have a wave of it, and had there not been a true, decent, Christian democratic nation here that anti-Semitism might have produced terribly evil results.

When I was in Poland two years ago—and we ought to keep this in mind when we are considering the attitude of European Governments towards the Jews—I was told, and the Mandates Commission of the League of Nations was told by the Polish authorities, that there were

3,500,000 people, mainly Jews, in Poland for whom the League must find a place. That was reported in a Debate that took place at a meeting of the League of Nations Mandates Commission. It is no use putting our heads in the sand and imagining that this is a new problem or that it is a problem connected merely with Nazi-ism. There has been an educational wave through Europe since the War, and I was told by those in authority in Poland that as Polish children were being educated more and more they would demand that the places filled by Jews before must be filled by them in the future. There is no secret about this because, if you read the Debates in the Polish Parliament, these things are stated quite openly though it is denied, and I believe to some extent truthfully denied, that there is anything approaching the pogroms that used to take place under the Tsar. You will never understand the attitude of certain people towards the Jews unless you understand that a Jew can never become a Polish citizen. It was quite in vain that I said that I lived in London amongst a thousand or more Jews and they were just ordinary citizens of London like myself. That had no effect on the people with whom I was discussing the question. In Rumania I was told, less than a year ago, that the problem there was not the descendants of the old Jewish families but the new flood of Jews that had come into the country. I was told that it was quite impossible that a Jew could ever become a Rumanian citizen in the sense that a Rumanian national is.

At the present moment the committee of which I am chairman has on its hands a problem in what is called no-man's-land, between Poland and Germany, of what to do with 17,000 to 20,000 men, women and children. I could tell the most harrowing stories of what these people have endured during the last 15 or 18 months, how they have died of privation and semi-starvation, how they have committed suicide and how again and again they have appealed for something to be done. We hold meetings in this country, and the Jewish people and those who attend respond magnificently to appeals for funds, but those that we can get out are a drop in the ocean. Some of them have been got out quite illegally. The authorities have assisted in getting them

20 July 1939

(121)

[Mr. Lansbury.]  
 out, but they have been taken to Palestine illegally. I know the difficulty that the Colonial Secretary has to face. I know that every Government considers it its duty to administer the law and not to allow it to be thought that the law can be contravened with impunity. But I beg the Government to understand that it is dealing with abnormal circumstances. These people who, we are told, have gone from Poland were originally Poles who emigrated to Germany, and their Polish visas allowed them to settle there and to travel in the country if permitted to do so. The Polish authorities have taken away their papers now and they have been chased to the border with the bayonets, the guns or the bludgeons of the German soldiers on the one side and the bar of the Polish authorities on the other. That condition of affairs is a scandal and a disgrace to the whole of Europe. It is well known by every Government and every organisation dealing with this question.

You may pass all the laws you please, and you may say that people like myself ought not directly or indirectly to sanction getting them out in the way they are being got out from that part of Central Europe or from Rumania. I agree with the hon. Member who spoke last. I am very doubtful whether many of those who are said to have gone from Rumania did go from that country. I believe a fair number have come from Vienna and the district around. You must not say it to me, anyhow, that I ought not to sanction, as it were, getting them out in this way. You may pile up the safeguards as they have been piled up. No one certainly recognises more than I do the position that the Colonial Secretary has to face. Everyone must recognise that we would not care to change places with him in present circumstances. Whatever you do will be difficult, but I should like him to realise that there is something higher than the law of man, and that is the law of humanity, which some people call the law of God. These people ought to be dealt with in some way. I think the Noble Lord the Member for Horsham (Earl Winterton) does not realise the depth of feeling that there is here and elsewhere on this subject. It is, perhaps, impossible to deal with as many of these people in Palestine at this moment as many of us

think should be dealt with, but when the Colonial Secretary tells us what has been done in Australia and what is going to be done somewhere else, I would implore the House to remember that this thing has been going on now for years and that, while the kernel of the refugee problem is the Jews, it concerns tens of thousands, if not millions, of other men and women who are denied the right of freedom of life from one end of Europe to the other.

I appeal to the House to do something further than send a small commission unofficially to Palestine. I should like the House to tell the Government that we want to vote a very large sum of money to be used for the purpose of enabling the Dominions to take, not a paltry 5,000 over a period of years but tens of thousands now. I deny altogether that there is no room for these people. There are only 17,000,000 Jews in the world, and in the British Commonwealth of Nations and in the United States there is room for many more than 17,000,000. It is a denial of intelligence to tell us that there is no room in the world for them. It is something to which none of us at this time of day ought to give the least credence. We are dealing with a tremendous problem in dealing with the Jews in Palestine. I believe they are destined to go back there and to help to build a new civilisation in the world. Why should we not hope that, out of the blend of knowledge and comradeship between Arabs and Jews living, as these people are trying to live, in a co-operative and not a competitive sense, they will make a start at teaching us how we can live and how we can co-operate with one another for life instead of for death? Why should we not also say that the great British Commonwealth of Nations, with its vast open spaces, should be thrown open not only for the Jews but for the tens of thousands of people of other races who are being driven out and persecuted in a fashion altogether unknown in the past? I appeal to the House to take the question very seriously and make up their minds not to take any excuses from the Government at all, but to tell the Noble Lord that we expect him to enter into the heart of this refugee problem and throw himself into its service with the same enthusiasm that he used to throw into the service of half-baked Toryism.



Wendelsberg, Sweden 20. 7. 1939.

122

War Resisters' International

Dear George Lansbury

Assembled at the International W.R.I. - Youth Camp at Wendelsberg, Sweden, we thank you heartily for your inspiring message to us, and send you, our dear President, our cordial greetings and good wishes for your work for the great cause of peace on earth.

Art Bohm mei Sten Rimdalin  
Lilly Heber Svend Haugaard Chr. Vib  
Solveig Pustad. Agnes Marie Wulff

Agnes Tangerud Rakel Hoed

Juga Berge Hanna Otterbeck Aksel Larsen.

Aslaug Björvik Lemart Bergström Olov Björvik  
Olina Björvik L. G. Henriksen Helga Andersberg

Alvina Ahren Sylvia Svärd Ellen Rog. Jensen  
Valborg Bente Jansen Ane Jørgensen Otto Jonassen  
Ruth Selma Maduen Nils Haugaard Györfuudenesen

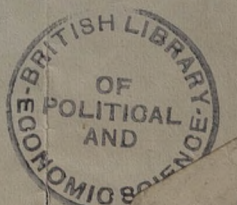
Alec B. Eason Perge Amundsen Jarzen Haugaard  
Ingrid Andreassen Brittadarsen Inge Egelund

Oskar Wendellborg Chr. Andersen

Afr. Grovner M. Johannesen, Thorkin Hilbert

Johannes Hävik Your Sister. Karl Palmer Annie Palmer  
Tom Emborg. Charles Paulsen Roland Dahlvik

Ruth Hagb. Jonassen Maj Fridén



123

Thomas Sargant

N. M. ROTHSCHILD & SONS.

LIONEL N. DE ROTHSCHILD.  
ANTHONY G. DE ROTHSCHILD.

TELEPHONE NO ROYAL 7061.



Royal Mint Refinery,  
19, Royal Mint Street, E.1.

London 24th July, 1939.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.

39 Bow Rd. E. 8. 3.

Dear Sir,

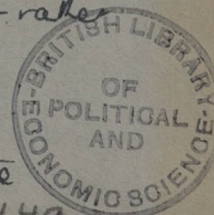
I am sending to you, confidentially, a memorandum on a matter which will, I am sure, be of greatest interest to you. It was brought to my notice about three months ago, and I have been at some pains to investigate it and correlate the evidence. I have at last been able to bring it to the notice of someone who will, I believe, see that the necessary steps are taken.

I decided to acquaint you of it for two reasons. Firstly, because of the magnificent fight you have always waged for the Christian faith and principles and my own desire that you should know that all such efforts will see their fulfilment. Secondly, because, should my negotiations not proceed as smoothly as I would like, I may need your advice and help. I should be very glad to come and discuss the matter with you at any time - or rather any evening. - Meanwhile you will of course appreciate that this matter is for your personal consideration alone. I have never had the pleasure of meeting you - but you no doubt knew my uncle, the late Rev.

C. E. S. or Walters.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Sargant



Return to me  
before you go away

[with letter 24 July 1939 from Thomas Sargant]

(124)

Strictly Confidential

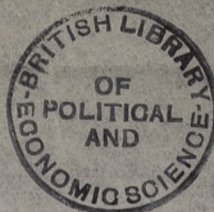
AN ACCOUNT OF KARK SCHAPPELLER.

Aurolzaunster, Upper Austria.

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Submitted by Thomas Sargant, 19 Royal Mint St. E.1.

Member of the staff of The Royal Mint Refinery.  
Son of Mr. Norman Sargant, director of the London Metal Exchange.  
Nephew of the late Rev C. Ensor Walters (ex-President of the  
Methodist Conference)



M449

Thomas Sergeant  
NOTES ON KARL SCHAPPELLER.  
-----

24 July 1939

125

Karl Schappeller is an Austrian scientific worker, aged 65. He is not a recognized authority or a University professor, but an original worker like Faraday. He has always enquired after first causes, and this has led him to the discovery of the primary physical laws of the Universe, the nature of atomic or cosmic power and the means by which it can be harnessed.

He claims that this original energy, of which electricity, steam, coal, petroleum, etc. are only secondary manifestations, can be tapped and controlled for all purposes of man.

He has never published his discoveries for fear that they might be seized by irresponsible people and produce chaos and calamity.

He has refused enormous sums of money from various European Governments, including the German, Italian & Russian, and from big commercial groups. He has always said that his secrets are not for sale, and that they will only be put into the hands of those who will use them solely for promoting world peace, social justice, and international economic unity.

He has never produced or demonstrated his power, as to do this he needs an electric plant and apparatus costing about £30,000, which sum he has never been able to obtain on his own terms from the right people. His life has been one of continual poverty and persecution, accentuated by conspiracy, attack and intrigue on the part of people whose power and monopolies he threatens.

He has for many years sought to get his work financed by Great Britain, purposing to hand the power over to this country, since he believes that she is the trustee for civilization and religion.

For the last few years he has been supported and financed by a small group of Englishmen who have now come to the end of their resources and who have appealed in vain to the public spirit and imagination of men in this country, who could, if they wished, make the production of this power possible and bring an end to the present world situation. The main difficulty has been to produce sufficient evidence in support of Schappeller's claims, and this point is dealt with in a further memorandum.

Schappeller has not disclosed his discoveries to the world, but he has revealed them in whole or in part to various people.

1. Herr Joseph Bauer was a highly qualified electrical engineer of Vienna, sent to investigate the discoveries by his firm. He found them so important that he left his firm, decided to stay with Schappeller, and became his adopted son. He has been with him for fifteen years and has worked out with him the technical details of the production and application of the power, for which he will be responsible. Bauer is a man of great technical knowledge and very keen intellect.
2. Two or three Englishmen, including Sir John Biles, of the Admiralty, and Mr. I. Cooper (M.I.N.A.) visited him and were instrumental in getting Mr. Davson to go out and make a complete investigation.
3. Mr. Cyril Davson (M.I. Mech. E. A. M. Inst. P) was the senior partner in the Westminster firm of Consultants, Messrs. Mangin, Davson & Partners. Mr. Davson built up this firm to its position and reputation, after spending many years as a consultant engineer in various parts of the world. He himself had a great reputation for the mercantile examination of new inventions. Mr. Davson spent in all about three and a half years with Schappeller, giving up his own firm and financing Schappeller with his own money. During this time he examined and checked all aspects of Schappeller's work, corroborating and cross-checking it with every branch of physics and chemistry. He gives it as his opinion that Schappeller is entirely correct in his theories and claims, and that this power both exists and can be produced. Mr. Davson's qualifications to make this examination are supported by Mr. Rudolph Erren.
4. Mr. Rudolph Erren is a German inventor who came to this country about 8 years ago with certain revolutionary ideas about fuel for internal combustion engines. He claimed to be able to run an engine on oxygen and hydrogen, but could find no consultant in London to take him seriously. Eventually he was sent to Mr. Davson, who saw that there was something in the idea, worked it out with Erren, and produced a report on which Mr. Erren was able to market his invention. Mr. Davson's prophecies have since been proved to be correct, and to have erred on the side of caution. On the strength of his report, the German Government have incorporated Mr. Erren's engines in the Four Year Plan, and have recently made a large contract with him. Mr. Erren has had the principles of Schappeller's work disclosed to him, and believes in them absolutely. His knowledge of Mr. Davson leads him to say that Schappeller must be right if Mr. Davson says so. In addition several inventions which Mr. Erren has patented recently are based indirectly on Schappeller's ideas. Mr. Erren has been made, for his work in this country, a Member of the Institute of Fuel.
5. Professor Sir James Henderson, a naval physicist and the designer of the Henderson instruments for the Admiralty, has stayed with Schappeller for a week. While he will not give a professional scientific opinion, since he had no time to make a proper investigation, he found Schappeller an honest and clever scientist, and is prepared to say to any one that it would be dangerous for this country not to go in with him.

Thomas Sargent

24 July 1939

(127)

6. Admiral J.V.Creagh, D.S.O., has spent several months with Schappeller at different times, and knows and approves most of his ideas, particularly those which relate to hydrostatics.
7. Lieut.P.Creagh, an engineer of the Indian Army, visited Schappeller a year ago, and was so impressed with his work that he gave up his commission, and has been living with him ever since, protecting the interests of this country.
8. Dr.C.F.Huskkax Hacker (of Bournemouth) has visited Schappeller and discussed with him the medical side of his work, of which he approves.
9. Several noted European scientists have had talks with Schappeller and told him, or written to him, that he has found what they are all looking for.
10. I myself have stayed with Schappeller for a week, was given the outline of his ideas, and found them to be logical and sound. The only branch of science with which I am acquainted practically is that of metals, and he was able to give me the solution of many mysteries. I further checked up on his history, and examined the documents relating to his previous negotiations, together with various letters which had been written to him. I was greatly impressed by his character, honesty and understanding, and am of the opinion that he would not make a claim which he is unable to fulfil.

Thomas Sargent  
POLITICAL SITUATION OF SCHAPPELLER.  
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128

24 July 1939

So long as Austria was free, Schappeller's situation was comparatively simple. Since the Anschluss, it has become very complex.

The German Government has taken a keen interest in him, since several of its scientists believe that Schappeller can do what he says. Luckily some of the mud slung at him in the past by his enemies has stuck, and there is just a sufficient element of doubt.

Up to the present he has been able to say to the Nazis that he must stand by his English friends who have financed him, and they think that as he is in Germany it is quite safe, and that he might just as well take the Englishmen's money. They are however anxious for him to proceed, and the week before I was there, Joseph Schappeller was summoned to Vienna to see Hitler and Buerckel. I saw the original telegram of this summons. Hitler was called away, but Joseph Schappeller saw Buerckel for an hour, and had some difficulty in persuading him to allow the work to go on in peace. Mr. Davson was summoned to Austria last week by Schappeller and has just returned saying that the position is very precarious.

There are actually many cross-currents and much intrigue. Certain high Nazis would welcome the co-operation of England, and Schappeller actually hopes that the power will be a bridge between the two countries, and provide the realization of Hitler's fundamental desire not to fight this country.

Should this fail, he has friends very high up in the Nazi Government with whose aid, he will, when the power is produced, be able to dictate his own terms to the regime. This he says will disappear at once when the encirclement bogey is laid.

He will also be master of the situation because of the nature of the power itself, and the fact that only he, his son and Mr. Davson will know how to work it.



Thomas Sargent

24 July 1939

129

DIFFICULTIES OF RAISING MONEY FOR SCHAPPELLER.

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Mr. Davson has found great difficulty in raising money for Schappeller for various reasons.

1. The magnitude of his claims has led many people to regard them with suspicion.
2. He has been unable to furnish any concrete evidence or proof.
3. He has been unable to disclose the secrets, as they are not his, and therefore no other English scientist can give an opinion. Schappeller's ideas are so revolutionary that they can only be proved by an investigation such as Mr. Davson undertook.
4. It is difficult to convince anyone that it is safe to send the money for the power to be produced in Germany, and Schappeller would not be allowed to come to England.
5. The rights in the discovery are not for sale.

Thomas Sargant

The Nature of Schappeler's Power.  
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24 July 1939

130

Schappellers discoveries centre round his one great discovery, that the sun, the stars, and the interior of the earth are composed of living, radiant magnetism, in a form unknown to present day science, this magnetism being born out of the ether. Both Sir Oliver Lodge and Sir James Jeans have speculated on such a possibility, but have been unable to find the confirmation and work out its implications.

This radiant, or glowing magnetism, as Schappeller calls it, is the fundamental source of power in the universe, and contains both the energy which builds substance and provides mechanical power, together with that which makes the whole of nature live and grow, and gives man his will, thought, and life energy.

Prof. Sir Julian Huxley has also stated very strongly that there must be one source for all these energies.

Schappeller proposes to create such glowing magnetism by reproducing the conditions in which nature creates it, and to draw unlimited primary magnetic power from the cycle of the earth and the sun. This power can be harnessed in many forms.

1. As a means of producing heat and light.
2. As a source of power for locomotion and industrial plant.
3. As a defence weapon which will render aeroplanes, guns, torpedos etc. harmless.
4. As a means for medical healing.

Thomas Sargent

The Nature of Schappeller's Power - 2.

131

24 July 1939

Schappeller believes that the spiritual and physical principle of the Universe is a conflict between two opposite poles. This he demonstrates quite clearly in the physical world.

In the spiritual world, these forces are represented by good and evil energies. They reproduce the beautiful and beneficent things of nature, and the ugly and poisonous things respectively. In man they are manifested as good-will and ill-will.

As in the material world we only have secondary manifestations of the primary force (like electricity), so in human life we only have secondary manifestations of these good and evil energies (thought and will), limited in their scope by the capacity of the individual to act as a transmitting agent for the..

But the primary force of the universe is the reserve and source of all these energies, and if Schappeller is going to produce the primary force, he must release on the earth the will and thought energy contained in it. Both the evil and the good energy could be tapped, which is why Schappeller has not dared to disclose his discoveries. He has the knowledge, however, of how to release the good energy alone, making available on earth as a primary, transcending magnetic radiation that which only exists in a feeble way as a radiation from the human brain.

Such a power cannot be attacked or violated by man; only such a power, the Christ-power if you like to call it such, could deal with the present world situation.

Thomas Sargant

132

SCHAPPELLER'S LIFE AND CHARACTER.

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Personal Observations.  
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24 July 1939

I had not been talking to Schappeller for very long before I realized that I was up against a mind of far greater power and vision than I had previously experienced.

He spoke with such quiet authority and deep knowledge of every subject he touched, that I quickly realized he had acquired it under some kind of guidance. He had fathomed mysteries over which other great minds had merely speculated, and presented a correlation of physical, mental and spiritual phenomena which was entirely convincing.

Towards the end of the week he told me, in answer to a question, that he was an instrument of God, that much of his knowledge had been revealed, and that his task was to bring the present nightmare phase of civilization to a close by means of his power.

Having some generations of religious ancestry, and having lived a great part of my life in contact with people of great spiritual understanding, I was, I think, capable of forming a sound judgement on this aspect of Schappeller, and I agreed with the truth of every thing he told me.

Checking up the story of his life, I found abundant evidence to shew that he had been continually and protected, against conspiracies and attacks on his life. All his enemies have gradually faded out, and even the Nazis who put him on their removal list have left him in peace. I have further checked up on the careers and histories of those people who have visited him and helped him, and found the same evidence in each case.

Schappeller described to me in great detail, and with truth, how the world situation was being guided until such time as this power could be made available, attributing great vision and receptiveness

his respect to the British Prime Minister.

(COPY)

Rev. Henry ~~Cadell~~

133

My address (for Air Mail) from August 4th to 8th will be:

Manor House Hotel,  
Tiuruniemi,  
Lake Siamaa,  
nr. Imatra,  
Finland.

Should be in London Aug. 14th (1939)

[say 1 Aug. 1939]

My dear G.L. and P.B.,

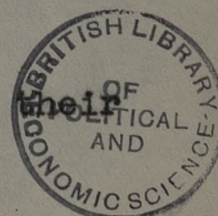
Have just come from a very satisfactory half hour's interview with the Foreign Minister, M. Ekkro. Will name at once its practical outcome: the 4 Scandinavian States will confer shortly prior to meeting of League Assembly, and M. Ekkro will himself raise then and there the same proposal which G.L. presented in Brussels with so favourable a response.

The interview was frank and friendly throughout. The Foreign Minister had heard from London, and was expecting my call. Fortunately I found that the Chairman of International Temperance Congress, M. Voionmaa, was Private Secretary to M. Ekkro; Voionmaa was in chair at Congress session at which I spoke, and we got into friendly touch at once.

Interview took place at Foreign Office. Minister spoke English freely; I hear that he married an English lady.

I disclaimed any official standing, explained E.o.R. as group of Christian citizens of various Churches and countries who disown war and work positively for peace - G.L. being ambassador-in-chief. I outlined E.o.R. visits up to Balkan journey, defining object (to that date) as an all-in economic conference to under-cut international tensions. Referred to change in situation after Czechoslovakian and Albanian events, and said that we recognised that action to hold back war was now prime necessity. With that in view G.L. and I had seen Belgian P.M., and G.L. had seen King Leopold; his proposal for a Belgian initiative for common action by neutral European States in form of joint appeal to Governments of both European blocs to confer, deal justly with one another, and save their peoples - and the neutrals - from destructive war, had been well received. I asked for indication of view of Finnish Government, and got it in the plainest and most satisfactory terms.

Already, he said, there had been talks between Scandinavian statesmen as to common action by neutrals;



M449

[say 1 Aug. 1939] Rev. Henry Carter

- 2 -

134

difficulties concerned initiative - who could take it? - and line of policy that might be proposed. A Belgian initiative had much to commend it; and the larger the body of neutrals who would act together the better, since separately the smaller countries might be handled as pawns by the larger States. (You will understand this reference).

Finland was unwillingly spending money and labour on armaments which she knew could yield no good return. Her difficulty with Sweden over the Åland Islands had long since been adjusted; she only asked to be left to develop her own vast country in peace, and to give what she could to the progress of humanity. Finland did not desire to be in either bloc, though her feelings towards England were most friendly, for England was primarily a trading not a war-making nation, and world-trade made for world-peace.

I then asked what Finland could do to help common action by neutrals to promote European peace, and it was at this point that he undertook to bring our project before the Scandinavian ministers prior to League Assembly. This undertaking he renewed as we parted.

Finally, I asked his view as to way in which a nation organised on a war-economy basis (e.g. Germany) could get back to a peace-economy without war. He said that he had considered this, and a little while ago had told Dr. Funk (German Economic chief) that it would be essential to reopen trade with the world. I asked whether - leaving details - the Van Zeeland Report presented the first steps of such a programme; M. Ekkro answered, "Yes, certainly".

So much for the interview. I wonder whether G.L. would think it a good plan for himself to make touch with other Scandinavian Ministers (perhaps through Embassies or Legations in London) to promote common action, in view of their coming meeting before League Assembly.

Hope the Swiss visit has been encouraging also.

Yours,

HENRY CARTER.

135

MEMORANDUM ON PEACE AIMS.

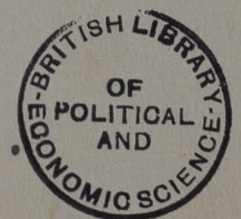
10.11.39.

It is vital that the present opportunity for negotiation should not be lost. It is an opportunity which may not occur again for a long time. We should press for further and much more considered reply to Hitler's speech and a clear declaration that this Country is ready to join in a genuine European conference.

1. We aim at securing a negotiated peace at an as early a date as possible. We believe such a peace better in itself and more likely to endure. We think the longer it is delayed the more difficult it will be to achieve.

2. The necessary foundations of such a peace must include -

- (a) A new European system, in which every country, including our own, would be prepared to sacrifice some measure of national sovereignty in the interests of general security internationally guaranteed. In forming such a European system no existing frontier can be excluded from review, the aim being to secure for every people full national and economic freedom.
- (b) Discussion and organisation of a standstill in armaments under agreed supervision as a preliminary to universal disarmament; this must proceed simultaneously with the discussion of territorial, financial, economic and other questions; disarmament should be discussed by civilians.
- (c) Economic internationalism with regard to raw materials and food; free use for all of the great waterways; free access to all major sea and airports for all nations, and the removal of trade barriers.



M449

(d) The widest possible extension of self-government in the dependent areas of the world, and for the remaining colonial areas some form of international control and organisation, Germany coming in on the same terms and subject to the same limitations as other colonial powers. (It is in this field that Great Britain can and should make a contribution to the new world order; in particular she should immediately recognise without reserve the right of the Indian people to determine for themselves their relationship with the British and other people. This means conceding to India the right of democratic self-determination.)

3. We urge the Government to offer here and now to enter into conference at any time with enemy, allied and neutral nations who are prepared to co-operate with us in such a conference to see how far these things - without which the danger of war will be always and imminently with us - may be achieved. We exclude no country and no government. So soon as such a conference is agreed upon and the date of its meeting fixed, we are prepared to agree to an immediate armistice.

- (Signed) James Barr  
G. Buchanan  
W. G. Cove  
T. E. Groves  
Agnes Hardie  
David Kirkwood  
George Lansbury  
W. Leonard  
Neil Maclean  
M. K. Macmillan  
George Mathers  
H. G. McGhee  
F. Messer  
J. Rhys Davies  
Alfred Salter  
S. Silverman  
A. Sloan  
W. R. Sorensen  
R. R. Stokes  
Cecil Wilson



137

GL

10th November, 1939.

To:  
Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina,  
Royal Palace,  
The Hague,  
Holland.

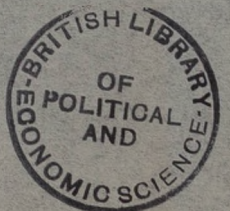
May I, respectfully, in the name of many millions of men and women living in all parts of the world, congratulate and thank Your Majesty for your latest noble and courageous effort in cooperation with His Majesty King Leopold of Belgium on behalf of peace. We trust your efforts will be crowned with success and mankind be saved from universal slaughter and destruction.

Again warmly thanking Your Majesty,

I am,

Yours gratefully and respectfully,

(George Lansbury, M.P.)



M449

138

Sent to R.W. Postgate by Mary Stewart with her letter of 8 July 1940, q.v. in

Copy of letter from George Lansbury to

Section II Idon  
[ols. 366-8.]

Miss Mary Stewart,  
Pebble Hill Cottage,  
Limpsfield, Surrey.

39 Bow Road,

E.2. 24.11.39.

Dear Comrade,

Thank you very much indeed for your kind letter, which I appreciate very much indeed. Yes, I know Arthur Clough's poem very well; I read it first about 50 years ago, and at that time vainly imagined the "masses" would rise silently and surely to a fuller and better life. Since then we have gained a vast advance on materialist lines. I am not sure how much we have gained in unselfish "idealism." I am however sure there are millions in all lands as anxious and hopeful of a better day as we think we are. There are many ways and roads to heaven and heaven is here or nowhere. "They kingdom come" is not a dream but in our minds a reality which in time will become part of life itself.

We mortals can never see everything or understand all there is to know whether we like it or not our life amid ideals must be one of faith, always, though we must be sure our "ideals" are real to us.

I like to think at times of Mrs. Humphrey Ward's lines:-

"Others I doubt not if not we  
The issue of our life shall see  
And they forgotten and unknown  
Young children gather as their own  
The harvest that the Dead have sown."



M449

Again thanks and good wishes,

(Signed) George Lansbury.

139

Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W. 1.

P 12590

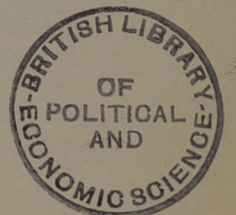
25th November, 1939.

*Dear Lansbury.*

I write in reply to your letter to the Home Secretary of 16th November on the question of Mrs. Magda-Yoors Peeters being allowed to come to this country with her husband. This case has been carefully considered, but I am afraid that on the information before us at the present time no facts are disclosed which would justify the Home Secretary in admitting these people to this country. You will be aware that our policy since the war has perforce been to admit further refugees or prospective refugees to this country only in exceptional circumstances, and I am afraid the possibility of a German invasion of Belgium is insufficient ground for a departure from the general rule.

*Yours sincerely,  
George Lansbury*

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury,  
J.P., M.P.



M449

£ 10 from the Joyce Green Dodge for  
St. John's Sister Appeal.

(140)

Richard H. Green

KINGSLEY DENE  
KINGSLEY GREEN  
HASLEMERE.  
TEL. HASLEMERE 307.

[(shipowner and - builder)  
see Ch. "My life", 1928,  
p. 168.]

28. Nov. 1939

Dear Leinster,

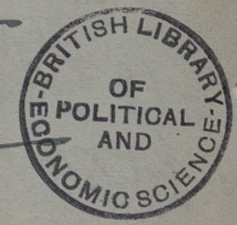
I enclose cheque for your Xmas  
Appeal, use it as you see fit. Xmas was a special  
sentiment but for you Opstar has a further pull &  
what I have the means I will always rally to  
the call.

You, the world is in an awful state & you see  
the whole civilized (?) structure crumbling about  
our ears. If we keep steady & look upwards &  
forward, good many come off it, by giving us  
a clear foundation on which to build a fresh.  
The more you rely on such problems, the more  
you come back to the individual. I remember  
Perry who was Vicar of the Church in Opstar  
by the Hon Bridge, saying that the individual  
was the unit to work for & that radiation  
from the individual was the germ in the  
group. I believe this is right.  
Conclusion: This do ~~not~~ in my mind has  
been a great mistake. It has produced  
domestic & economic chaos & has done much

to us. The only good thing about  
it is that it has shown the half of the  
world how the other half lives & they are  
appalled by the conditions. Even here it is  
Chaos. A widely scattered poverty district, which  
might have been so had the authorities  
in very small numbers. The Central Authorities  
have no other choice than to be brought to  
into the conditions & capabilities of the  
Country side. People have played up a splendid  
but we get up & there will be a lot of trouble  
if we believe they are serious. The bodies  
have been very good, but the Towny cannot  
do in the Country. It is all very well in some  
of the Country towns, they have the facilities  
that would be there at home. The local  
Authority does as they see fit & how we shall get  
through the winter I don't know. I believe  
London is the safest place to be in & the sooner  
everyone goes back, the better.

I am glad to hear from you & hope you are  
keeping well. I will be hoping about with a scientist in  
a front (for news)

Yrs sincerely  
Richard Green



M449

Reginald H. Pott

(141)

TELEPHONE:  
METROPOLITAN 2355.

BASILDON HOUSE,  
MOORGATE,

E.C.2.

29 Nov. / 1939

My dear Mr Gausbury,

You continue to write  
to me & Miss Walkden  
my secretary (25 years) as  
a friend or a brother &  
I and she (matters would  
say she is) are delighted  
to help you in this good  
- but only full time work.

Our personal wishes  
for your good health  
when some distant day  
you die, you can die  
happy.

Yours  
R. H. Pott

Sir Benjamin Drage

GROSVENOR HOUSE  
PARK STREET W. I.  
GROSVENOR 6363

142

November 30<sup>15</sup>/<sub>39</sub>

My dear Mr Lansbury

I am so very glad to have  
a letter from you - you these  
are serious traffic days -  
my only son is on war service  
in one way and another the  
girls are all doing theirs but  
you must please be content  
with the enclosed I must cheer  
for you Christmas fund do  
all I can afford.

I should like to keep in touch  
with your party so that if  
at any time you can arrange  
for me to meet say Mrs.  
Greenwood on my adce I

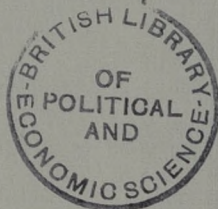
should be glad.

Do not forget my Country  
house is always ready to

Welcome you.

Yours sincerely  
Ralph Drage

M449



The Rt Hon  
George Lansbury M.P.



Edward Noel-Buxton  
(1st Baron Noel-Buxton)  
18 COWLEY STREET  
WESTMINSTER  
S.W.1

143

7th. December 1939.

Dear George,

Thanks for your letter about  
Bow. I am glad to be able to send my usual  
cheque for £5 from my Trust.

All best wishes,  
Yours ever  
Noel Buxton



M449

Sir John Anderson  
(1st Viscount Waverley) 1882-



144

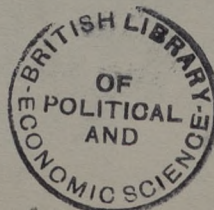
8th December, 1939.

Dear Mr. Laurbury,

You sent me on the 11th November the enclosed letter from Mr. John Gillan who, at the Manchester Assizes on the 21st April, 1938, was convicted of bigamy and sentenced to nine months' imprisonment.

The question of granting Gillan legal aid at his trial or for his appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal was, in each case, a matter entirely within the discretion of the appropriate court. Legal aid was not in fact granted. I am afraid I do not understand his statement that he was granted a certificate of appeal - no certificate was necessary to enable him to apply to the Court of Criminal Appeal; his appeal application was made to the court in the usual way and was refused.

The allegations which he mentions in his letter have been made to this office in petitions which he submitted from prison and in letters which he has written



M449

Sir John Anderson  
(2<sup>d</sup> Viscount Waverley); 1882 -  
2.

8 Dec. 1839

(145)

since his discharge; they have been carefully considered,  
but they have not disclosed any ground for any action  
on my part.

Yours sincerely  
John Anderson

The Right Honourable  
George Lansbury, M.P.

Leslie Gamage and General Electric Company  
(1887—)

Contractors to H.M. Admiralty, India Office, War Office,  
G.P.O. and the Leading Home & Foreign Railways.

Codes Used

NEW STANDARD, LOMBARD,  
WESTERN UNION (5 LETTER ED.)  
A.B.C. (6TH EDITION) AND PRIVATE.

Telephone: (LONDON)  
TEMPLE BAR 8000.  
(90 LINES.)

Telegrams:  
ELECTRICITY, WESTCENT, LONDON.

Cable Address:  
POLYPHASE, LONDON.



HEAD OFFICE

MAGNET HOUSE,  
KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C.2.

REGISTERED



TRADE MARK



Ref.  
L.C.G.

14th Dec. 1939.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
E. 3.

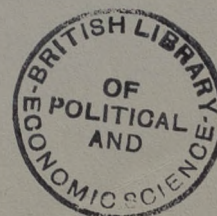
Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Lord Hirst has shown me your letter to him, asking for help for the Children for Christmas. I understand he is sending a personal cheque, but my Company feel they would like to do something as well, and I have, therefore, much pleasure in enclosing herewith our cheque for £5. 5. 0.

Yours very truly,

DIRECTOR & SECRETARY.

Encl.



M449

Hugo Hirst (1st Baron Hirst;  
1863 - 1943)

MAGNET HOUSE,  
KINGSWAY, W.C.2.

TEMPLE BAR  
8000

(147)

14th December, 1939.

Dear Sir,

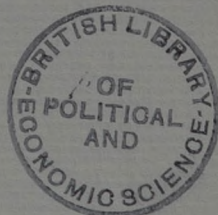
In reply to your letter of 27th ult.,  
Lord Hirst wishes me to forward you the enclosed  
cheque for Two Guineas, with his best wishes,  
towards your Christmas Fund.

Yours faithfully,

*E. C. Bradshaw*  
Private Secretary.

Encl.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
39, Bow Road,  
LONDON,  
E.3.



M449

Richard Raper Stokes  
1897-

148

32, Victoria Street,  
London, S.W.1

15. 12. 39,

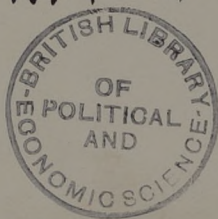
Dear George

Herewith something to  
help along the happiness of those  
who are poor and woe through  
no fault of their own this  
Christmas tide. Don't say I sent it.

Yrs with the greatest regard &  
affection

Rich Raper

M449



Rev. George Wilfred Lechmere Stanhope Lovell

THE VICARAGE,  
ASTON,  
OXFORD.

149

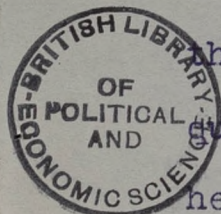
Tuesday - 19 - xii - 39.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

With regard to your query as to the water (drinking) & sanitary arrangements in this village & parish of ASTON (Bampton) :- This is one of the backward villages BECAUSE the local representatives are farmers who appear quite unable to think of anything but their own "pocket" interests. However, after being 3 years at it, we were actually going to have the water from the Witney District supply brought here this September-December. Hitler prevented. The water is not really safe for drinking in ANY of the wells, except possibly my own, & the analysis of the water in mine is not perfect. I warned the masters of the Fairfield School when they came here, & they have taken precautions which, so far, are effective. The natives are immune by use.

As to the sanitary arrangements - these are pretty filthy, because the farmers own the cottages, & if any more decent cottages were built, they would have to modernise their own, or find them condemned, as they ought to be. Again, the local representatives are entirely to blame, as the <sup>E</sup>Witney R.D. Council as a whole would certainly have helped us. After causing a good deal of smoke & getting myself unpopular with the money-hoarders, the Council was actually going to put up half-a-dozen houses; but, Hitler again!

One of the possible results of this insanitary housing is the looseness of the young men & girls; so housing becomes a moral question. I quite horrified a public meeting of labourers & farmers here by saying that I should like to see & work for such amenities



M449

Stanhope Lovell  
19 Dec. 1939  
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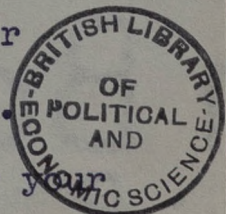
for every labourer as I myself enjoyed ! What is so trying for me is that these people & their progenitors have had CHRISTIANITY preached & taught to them for 1000 years, & I can find no real, practical, everyday Christianity in action; & when I put it, as I understand it, before them, they do not like it.

I might add that in this village at least, the local government only acts for repression of labourers & for the pocket interests of farmers. I am altogether a " reformed " & yet I cannot help thinking that the methods of local government in Holland are much superior, where the Chairman is a H.Q.'s trained official. I suppose, Sir, you are enjoying your WELL-DESERVED relaxation from strenuous work; but it would be well worth while for a good & efficient, painstaking man to be sent, ONE DAY, to study local governments in Holland, Switzerland & Russia (perhaps).

I cannot suggest anything for you to do in the local matters, as but for the war some of my friends on the <sup>Witney</sup> ~~Witney~~ R.D. Council were beginning to get something done; but on the general question you might know of some young administrator who could specialise in local government in other countries, not merely by reading reports & figures, but by getting introductions to suitable people in those countries & studying the problems & their solution on the spot. The only other R.D. administration that I have known at all well was that of Torrington in N. Devon, & the farmers were just as selfish & callous there; & I suspect it is the same all over England & Wales. People count more than paper-organization.

Yours most respectfully with gratitude for your  
interest,

W. Stanhope - Lovell.



M449