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DURRANT'S PRESS CUTTINGS,

St. Andrew's House, 32 to 34 Holborn Viaduct,
and 3 St. Andrew Street, Holborn Circus, E.C.1.

TELEPHONE: CITY 4983.

Gravesend Reporter

44-46 Harmer Street, Gravesend.

21 MAR 1931

cutting from issue dated.....193

MR. LANSBURY AT SWANSCOMBE.

Inspiring Address to Local Brotherhood.

LIFE'S FUNDAMENTAL LAW.

"Brotherhood is the fundamental law of life," said Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works in the Labour Ministry, in an address at the Galley Hill Primitive Methodist Church on Sunday afternoon.

The meeting was under the auspices of the Swanscombe Brotherhood, and Mr. E. Munn, who presided, was supported by Mr. Jack Mills, Member for the Division. Vocal solos were rendered by Mr. W. J. Brand, of Greenhithe, and a pianoforte solo by Mr. G. Dudney, of Greenhithe.

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Mr. Lansbury, in his address, said the Brotherhood movement started many centuries ago, and it came into being when men and women began to think about religion and about their relationships with one another and their duty towards one another.

SELFISHNESS.

Since the beginning of the world selfishness had been one of the things mankind had had to combat—perhaps the selfishness of an individual or of a group or of a nation. All religious teachers—those who taught before our Lord came, and those who had since—had taught the very simple truth that the law of life was not what you got, but what you gave. If mankind would be happy they must find their happiness, not in the pursuit of pure and simple selfishness, but in the pursuit of the common well-being. Mankind had been struggling right down the centuries to find the way of life, but all the time had refused to submit to the impersonal teachings of those who were inspired with a message of humanity.

"Love the Lord thy God and thy neighbour as thyself. Do this and thou shalt live." That was simple enough, and because it was simple people did not think it was important. They did not realise how fundamental it was to the peace and happiness of life. If people accepted it at its face value they would not want to be taught about it—they would be just practising it everywhere, in the street and market place, in councils and in parliament.

Brotherhood was the fundamental law of life.

DAILY BREAD.

"The thing that worries us to-day," Mr. Lansbury continued, "is the problem of our daily bread, the problem of our existence. We talk about God's poor and God's rich, but you can search the Book right through and you won't find a word in the Master's philosophy that has anything to do with the creating of rich and poor. If there is one thing that stands out in the teaching and life of Christ it is that with Him there was neither Jew nor Samaritan. All men were the same to Him.

"But here we are in 1931, nearly two thousand years after Him, bothered over many things and one great fundamental thing—how can we live like brothers and sisters. No one can deny that we do not live like brothers and sisters at the present time. We sing and pray on Sunday, and we go out on Monday forced to be in competition with one another. If there are a dozen unemployed workmen and there is a job going, it is considered the social duty of each of them to race for the job and get it before their fellows. You are not allowed to think of your brotherhood. You have got to think of your own family.

"The whole of Christ's life and teaching had to do with life here and now. We are apt to think of Him only in the spiritual sense. But He was flesh and blood like us and went about among the people, living the life of an ordinary man. He did not come on earth and merely talk about another world. He tried to make people realise they had to make the best of this world.

"Why don't we follow the lines that Christ laid down? It is because we are all hemmed in with this business of our daily bread. We think of our children and their future.

CO-OPERATION.

"But there is no such thing as selfish Christianity. Until the knowledge of God is in the hearts and minds of all men and women and is showing itself in their lives, God's kingdom cannot come on this earth. The challenge to-day is to the churches. If Christianity is to live, we must overcome the social environment and conditions which put us against one another and substitute co-operation for competition. We have got to establish brotherhood through co-operation with one another, and until that principle is accepted we shall just beat the air.

"To-day everywhere in the world the minds of men and women are uneasy because they cannot see where we are going. We have created great machinery of wealth and production. We are able to do what people never dreamed we should be able to do. There is an abundance in the world to-day that we have never seen before.

"And yet who is content? What nation is content? Where in the world is the Christian peace that men have dreamed of and prayed and toiled for? It is not here. Those who are young have an opportunity, and the problem before them is: Are they going to be able to carry forward one system of living into another? Can they apply to every day life the principles of Christianity?

"It is up to them to set about planning how they are going to do it—how they are going to transplant their ideas into the facts of every day. I believe they will do it, and that we are going to have a renaissance which will be a renewal of true religion in the world. I am confident that religion is going to have its chance and is going to do its work in the generation that is just coming on. I believe science and all it teaches will be only the handmaiden of the great spiritual and moral forces in the world."

Mr. Jack Mills, who described Mr. Lansbury as the Minister for little children, said the Brotherhood Movement was at the beginning of a mighty surge forward.



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North Middlesex Chronicle

St. Alban's Place, Islington Green.

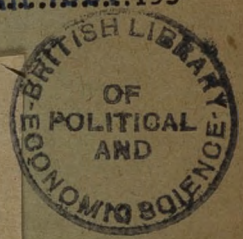
Cutting from issue dated.....**21. MAR. 1931**..193

CORRESPONDENCE

DEFENCE OF THE PALACE

To the Editor

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M449

Sir,—I must congratulate you upon the article in your last issue dealing with the correspondence re the Palace which has appeared in the daily Press the last week or so. I wish the "Daily Telegraph" would re-print the article. I am somewhat surprised that so far there has been no official response from the chairman or manager to the Trustees upon the points raised by correspondents.

I expect you think that I am like Mr. Dick with Charles' head and think of nothing but the Alexandra Palace. I was told over fifty years ago I was "Palace-mad," and my interest in its welfare is as keen as ever.

I thank you for the very full and interesting account of Mr. Peplow's recent lantern lecture. I greatly regret I was not present at it, as topography was always one of my favourite sciences.—I am, Sir, yours etc.,

CHARLES MURRAY FORD.

14, Clarence-road,
Bowes Park, N.22.
March 16th, 1931.

ALEXANDRA PALACE RENOVATION

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There seems to be a good deal of delay in getting the scheme passed to renovate the Alexandra Palace, at a cost of £200,000. The Government offer, made through Mr. Geo. Lansbury, is getting old, and the delay might result in the offer being modified or even withdrawn. The Palace Trustees have put the matter before the local authorities, and they have conferred, and have retired to consider the matter, although Wood Green is ready to lead the way and make its contribution. In the meantime an avalanche of letters have appeared in the daily Press, mainly against the proposal, and the Palace has been stigmatised as a monstrosity which should be pulled down, and the space utilised as gardens. This, of course, would be a very expensive and unsatisfactory operation, and would result in the loss of about £10,000 annual revenue. But the point is that the Palace Trustees should not allow such effusions to appear in print without official reply. Unfortunately, the daily Press takes very little notice of the existence of the Palace, and when it does it is only for the purpose apparently of printing savage and unjust attacks. Considering the size of the Palace, and the magnitude of its operations, the sum required is not very large, and when it is considered that nothing whatever has been done to the structure for many years past, the cost of renovations must be considered very reasonable. If these correspondents who now complain are regularly patrons of the Palace, they must know that the building renders services to them, and if they are not regular patrons, they have no right to criticise, for they know nothing whatever about it. It is easier to propose pulling down buildings than to get a scheme under way for building them, and where we have a valuable public building, earning a great deal of money and provid-

ing free shelter and entertainment for thousands on occasions, it is our duty to keep it in repair, and even to set aside an annual sum for depreciation and improvement.



... been trained on the Treasury Bench... new-comers, and those who are opposed to us look upon us as interlopers. They wonder how we got there, and cannot get over the surprise! The people who used to sit there cannot get over their annoyance, and have a sort of humorous contempt for us."

He did not come before them apologetically, because everyone should feel a pride in having come from the masses of the people, on whose shoulders rested the government of the world. Opposition statesmen might say they could not do as their predecessors. The point was, they did not want to. (Applause.) That was what their opponents could not understand, but in the past they had produced wars and dissatisfaction, and from their rule had come the stream of penury, poverty and want that they were suffering from to-day.

It was not the Labour Government who had done that. They did not want to be like their predecessors, and thank God they were not! (Laughter.)

"We did not go to Oxford or Cambridge, but we were trained in the university of experience, where they accumulate knowledge and understanding."

That was why this country had never had such a Foreign Secretary as Mr. Arthur Henderson—brought up as a moulder, and now standing at the Treasury box, where Disraeli and Gladstone had stood, and doing the job better than it had ever been done.

Mr. Lansbury paid a warm tribute to the work of Mr. Henderson, especially in connection with disarmament. Perhaps they had not wiped off millions, but they had laid plans which would make it almost inevitable that there would be a great reduction after the forthcoming conference. They owed that first to Mr. MacDonald, for his peace talks in America, to Mr. Henderson, and to the Secretary for War—they now had a Co-operator at the War Office.

These men had done more for peace in twenty months than any other Government had ever tried to do, with the result that there was a different atmosphere abroad nowadays.

INDIAN HOPES.

Mr. Lansbury dealt interestingly and effectively with the all-important question of India. India had a population of 300,000,000; with the exception of Russia in Europe, it was greater than the continent of Europe; nearly all the people lived hard lives, poverty stricken, easy prey to disease and famine, and still farming in the way that their forefathers had done for generations. Everything was of a primitive order.

"You must not think of India in the same way that you do of this country. Its history and tradition go farther back than our own. God or human nature have brought us into some sort of relationship with that country, and I wish that the people of India, especially those at the top, could be brought to understand that they are dealing with a new set of Englishmen, who are only anxious to do justice and help them on their feet, as it were"—(applause)—"help them out of the slough of economic poverty, and help them to be our comrades. I believe that Indian civilisation has got a lot to teach us.

"That question of the Hindoos and Buddhists is something that is very necessary for this Western civilisation, if it is to last. The greatness of material possessions is not the end of life, but the possession of our own soul is the end of life. Therefore I am proud to play a small part in the Government which has been working to overcome, not by force, but by reason, the difficulties in India."

Mr. Lansbury was loudly applauded when he paid a tribute to the Viceroy, Lord Irwin, a Tory, sent out by the Tories, but a Christian gentleman, he said, not afraid of meeting Gandhi face to face.

"No one will know just what they said," he remarked, "but this is known—that two men, one professing the Christian faith, and Gandhi, representing an Eastern religion and civilisation, came close together, and out of a seemingly impossible situation, found settlement. Now, if only those who say we cannot manage things will suppress their feelings and hold their tongues, we will accomplish our end, and it will be of tremendous advantage to ourselves and to India. The relationship should be of mutual advantage—that is what is meant by Socialism and Co-operation. It is not right that we should live in the confines of our own country. We want things they have and we can exchange for them goods they desire from us. There must be no terms of domination and exploitation, but of comradeship. You must have your arrangements on terms of equality—terms of mutual advantage to one another.

"I don't come here to say we are out of the wood, because you cannot clear in a few months what has happened in a century; but with goodwill and patience, I believe it is going to be done, and the advantage you will gain is that of having done right. I may be old-fashioned, but I believe that doing right and justly brings its own reward."

CHILDREN WITHOUT BOOTS.

Turning to "questions rearer home," Mr. Lansbury made a detailed reference to unemployment, now worse than it had ever been since the end of 1920, and the problem more difficult because it had been going on for the last ten years.

"I do not come here to tell you that even if we had a Labour majority could we deal with the situation to-day. As a matter of fact, I come to tell you that we can never settle it except by international agreement and arrangement, and you will never get this until the whole business of production for money-making is changed to production for use and service for the community. People say Socialism has failed; it has never been tried. It is like Christianity. We want 'doing for one another,' instead of 'doing one another'" (Laughter).

"If this had all been done, you would not want me to-day; we should be in Paradise right away." What was wrong to-day was that God and nature had given us so much brain power that we knew how to produce to a much greater extent than we knew how to share out what was produced.

"This business of short time—some of you are working short time in the boot trade, and they say there are too many boots. That is not true. Lots of my children—I call them my children—(applause)—have not got boots. We are idiots. We live in a society which says that when we have too much we must starve. In Argentine they are putting wheat into the railway engines, because there is no demand. I'll find them a demand for a lot more 'grub' in my division.

"You have got to learn the fundamental truths—in a land of plenty many have to go without. There is no salvation by Free Trade or Protection." The problem was one

... be a ... the hours of labour, and the employment of more people, a bigger share going to the workers all the time.

"Secondly, I want to see the fear of want removed in old age, with the young kept at school and the old kept in leisure, instead of the disgraceful things which happen sometimes, such as a father, past middle age, keeping on at work, not able to retire, and the son young and virile, not allowed to work. There will be a lack of imagination on the part of all of us if we let this thing go on.

"We are the first Government," continued Mr. Lansbury, "to try to reorganise the fundamental industries of the country. We are engaged at this moment in trying to bring employment into the cotton, iron and steel, and coal mining industries; trying to bring employers together, and it is a terrible job. Neither we nor the workers are responsible for the plight of British industry—it is those who control British finance and industry. It is their system which has brought us where we are, and now we find out how much they love one another, (Laughter). We find out how difficult it is to make them understand that the well-being of the State is more important than a man or his interests.

"We have done a tremendous lot to put men to work, but such is their beautiful system that when we put 1,000 men in it throws 10,000 out."

Mr. Lansbury made reference to the achievements of the Labour Government during its term of office, and mentioned Widows' Pensions, the Unemployment Insurance Act, the Slum Clearance Act, the Coal Mines Act, and legislation in connection with land drainage, and the Marketing Bill.

ONE OF THE TEAM.

Mr. G. Dallas, M.P. for the Wellingboro' Division, also spoke, and referred to his support of the Labour Government. "I have been sent back," he said, "to vote solidly with the Government all the time. (Applause). I hope always, to regard myself as one of the team, and play the game, to kick with the team and not at the team."

Mr. Dallas emphasised the seriousness of the unemployment problem throughout the world; the position was probably more serious than during the War time; he would venture the opinion that the figures might get higher before they decreased.

This country had concentrated on export trade and industry to the disadvantage of food producing, and now that other countries did not want our manufactured goods we had not the money to spend in importing foodstuffs.

They were working in various directions, but individual items might not help much, not even cleaning out the River Nile. (Loud laughter).

Mr. Dallas emphasised the "blessing" it was to have a Labour Government in office to handle the Indian question and the Disarmament Conference.

Parties came from Wellingborough and other places in the Division.

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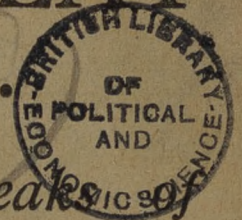
Northamptonshire Evening Telegraph

Kettering.

Cutting from issue dated..... 21 MAR 1931 1931

“MINISTER OF PLAY” AT RUSHDEN.

Mr. George Lansbury Speaks
“His Children.”



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M449

COMPREHENSIVE STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT POLICY.

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works (who has been called “Minister of Play”), and a member of the Cabinet in the Labour Government, visited Rushden for the first time on Friday evening, when he addressed a large and enthusiastic meeting in the Windmill Hall, delighting his hearers with a unique speech, lasting just under an hour.

No fireworks, no tirade, the “fairly god-father” of the Labour Party, the man who was responsible for the Hyde Park “Lido,” spoke, for the most part, almost conversationally, with delicate sallies of humour, and his address might be called a verbal handbook for Socialists.

He had some interesting remarks on the Indian question, paying a sincere tribute to Lord Irwin, and also gave a powerful summing-up of the unemployment problem and industrial situation, with Socialist remedies.

The meeting was held under the auspices of the Wellingborough Divisional Labour Party, the secretarial arrangements being made by Mr. G. Sharpe (divisional secretary) and Mr. F. Faulkner (secretary to the Rushden Labour Party). Mr. E. J. Jeffs (president) occupied the chair, and welcomed Mr. Lansbury.

NOT LIKE PREDECESSORS.

Mr. Lansbury, who was received with tremendous applause, commenced by saying that while he was not actually acquainted with Rushden, he knew something of Raunds, because of the men who marched to London, and others, whom he had met. One could realise, he said, the advance the workers had made since those days. He also complimented them on the hall in which the meeting was held, and paid a tribute to the work of Mr. Dallas, whom he had known during the whole time he had been in the Labour movement.

Mr. Lansbury said he was there before them as a Cabinet Minister, and that was rather extraordinary, because he did not belong to the class from which Cabinet Min-

of distribution, and would never be solved all the while the workers did not get out of industry something equal in value to what they put into it.

We were interdependent with other nations and could not be self-contained. Mr. Graham was trying to negotiate agreements with Governments abroad, which, while they might not seem to succeed immediately, were a step in the right direction. They must have international standards; they could not allow the Indians to pull down the workers of this country.

MOVING TOWARDS SOCIALISM.

In some quarters they were charged with helping rationalisation, and some friends thought the Government should not be behind reorganisation which squeezed men and women out. He took his stand on the fact that they were never meant to be work-machines, and that they, in the Labour movement, wanted, eventually, to control machines, and therefore did not want to allow industry to get into such a position that it was not worth anybody's while to take them over.

In moving towards Socialism, which was for them universal co operation, they were trying to do something never accomplished before. They were trying to transform one method of production into another and keep one method going whilst they were working the transformation. To do as they did in Russia, wipe out a system with blood and fire, is simple; I do not say easy, but we, you and I, want to transform, without killing anybody, private ownership into public ownership. We want the railways kept as efficient as possible, we want the organisation of the cotton industry really brought into an efficient condition as possible, the same with iron and steel and agriculture. It is true this imposes a duty on us, one we will stand up to; for those who are squeezed out because of reorganisation must either be found another decent job or else maintained decently. I believe that what will happen when the State owns the machines or industry is controlled by the State, or whatever

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Max
T'S PRESS

of U.S.A.

2 Wellington Bldgs

Row E 3

March 23, 1931

My dear S. L.,

Many thanks for your very kind and sympathetic letter. I certainly do not want our friendship to cease. I hope everybody understands that I bear no bitterness or ill-will towards anyone, — it would be very foolish and hypocritical if I did, I can only hope with you that all will turn out for the best.

I expect you know more about the law's delays than I do, but I never realised how inadequate legal organisation is until these last few months. My case was expected to come on last October; it was eventually set down for Feb. 2nd and was then postponed four times!

Your books are being carefully looked after. The exhibition of my older books at Bromley library attracted attention for a much longer time than was expected, so that we are only now about to start the display of modern presses. As soon as it is finished I will see that your quota is immediately returned.

Best regards to all, I hope Mr. Lambury and yourself are in the best of health.

Yours
Max

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Western Morning News & Mercury

9 Frankfort Street, Plymouth.

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23 MAR 1931



M449

58 JUVENILE DOLE DRAWERS.

IN her criticism on Saturday of the Government's failure to deal with juvenile unemployment Lady ASTOR touched an aspect of this problem which causes grave concern to thoughtful observers. It is not only that thousands of boys and girls, like many of their elders, are not earning their living. This is a state of affairs for which excuse is found in world conditions and the plea that no Government is responsible for it or could control it. The real cause for anxiety is in knowledge of the fact that a large proportion of these young people are growing up in habits of idleness and irresponsibility and with a lamentable sense of dependence on the State. It cannot be said that the Socialist Party are unaware of the perils attendant upon such courses. Lady ASTOR quoted speeches by Mr. ARTHUR GREENWOOD and Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY, in which, as members of the Opposition, they bitterly denounced Conservative Ministers for the inadequacy of their efforts to cope with a situation far less pressing four or five years ago than it has now become. Her ladyship might have strengthened her argument by reference to "Labour and the Nation," the pamphlet in which the Socialist programme was set forth in detail before the General Election. There we were told "Unemployment benefit for boys and girls must be conditional upon attendance at a juvenile centre, where the demoralizing effects of enforced idleness may be counteracted, and skill, adaptability, and self-discipline fostered by opportunities for training." This is much less emphatic than Mr. LANSBURY's declaration that boys and girls should be allowed to starve unless they do some work in return for the dole, but it is a clear and unmistakable indication of Labour opinion that bounds should be set to the policy of something for nothing.

When we turn from these heroic professions to actual accomplishments we have the melancholy spectacle of principles scattered to the winds. For once Lady ASTOR departed from her customary attitude of giving credit to other women politicians, even when she differs from them. She has at last lost faith in Miss BONDFIELD. As Minister of Labour, Miss BONDFIELD has had opportunity during a period of nearly two years of putting into effect the professed views of her party and counteracting "the demoralizing effects of enforced idleness" by establishing training centres and insisting upon attendance at them as a condition of unemployed benefit. Instead of doing this, she added to the number of juvenile dole drawers by lowering the insurable age to 15, and left to education authorities the responsibility of setting up training centres. There is no question with her of work or starve, while, if Mr. LANSBURY has not forgotten this drastic proposal, he has not had the courage to press it upon his Ministerial colleagues.

Striking evidence of the different way in which this problem is viewed in another country is afforded by a report from Ham-

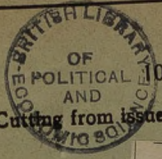
burg. In that city, we are told, men out of work are going to school not only in the hope that the acquisition of new knowledge will better fit them for employment, but because they tire of doing nothing. Possibly we may see in this a difference between English and German mentality. Quite as likely it is an indication of the more practical character of German statesmen. Our Government have acted on the principle of abolishing all tests; even the test of desiring and seeking work. So long as encouragement is lent to the idea that maintenance will be provided for everyone, young or old, who cares to demand it, the will to work is unlikely to be generally displayed. But it should be as easy in England as in Germany to arrange for courses of instruction as a work test for people who find time hanging on their hands. That it is not universally done in the case of young unemployed people is a grave reflection on the Labour Government.

Prof. W.

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Telephone: CITY 4963.



Punch

10 Bouverie Street, E.C.4

25 MAR 1937

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M449

ESSENCE OF PARLIAMENT 59

Monday, March 16th.—Kindliness of soul is not a virtue that is ever required to feed upon itself. There are always plenty of people only too anxious to give it scope. That is well enough in reason, but the thing can be overdone. Kindly Mr. LANSBURY obviously thought it was being a bit overdone when Sir E. BENNETT asked him to undertake the excavation of recently-located portions of Hadrian's Wall. Mr. LANSBURY modestly suggested that the archæologists should be allowed to have a go first. In another direction the FIRST COMMISSIONER was able to repel an assault on his benignity in the shape of a horrid rumour that in the interests of strict economy he was proposing to cut off the free supply of matches in the Smoking-Room. Mr. WILL THORNE begged the MINISTER to realise that a general newspaper report to that effect had "very much damaged his reputation," to which Mr. LANSBURY replied that there was no helping what the newspapers might do to a humble person like himself.

D. J. W.

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Patriot

10 Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

Cutting from issue dated.....

193
26 MAR 1937
193
OF
POLITICAL
AND
ECONOMICAL
HISTORY

MR. LANSBURY AND THE ANGLICAN CATHOLIC CONGRESS.

Dear Sir,—I am an Anglo-Catholic and the wife of an Anglo-Catholic priest, and we were both horrified to learn from Miss Kent's letter in your last week's issue that Mr. George Lansbury was to preside at a meeting of the Anglo-Catholic Congress next June.

I wrote to the secretary to ask if this were really the case, and, incredible as it appears, it is true.

I want to express entire agreement with Miss Kent, and to urge all Anglo-Catholic readers of THE PATRIOT to send a vigorous protest to the secretary of the A.-C. Congress Committee.

Perhaps of all His Majesty's present advisers, Mr. Lansbury is the most publicly, ecstatically, and deeply involved in support of the policy of the Soviet Government, and by his words and actions he evidently considers that the material benefits supposed to be conferred on the Russian proletariat by the Soviet social policy amply compensate for the destruction

of religion, which is one of the dominating features of that policy.

I trust that all Anglo-Catholics who feel, like me, that this proposal is an intolerable outrage will write and make it clear that they will have nothing to do with the Congress, unless this lover of Soviet methods is replaced by a man who has more sympathy with the Christian victims of Soviet tyranny than with the tyrants.

—Yours, etc., AGNES M. THOMAS.

Sir,—I write to endorse heartily Miss Beatrice Kent's remarks on this subject.

To-day I "sat under" one of our clergy who upheld Einstein because he said his theory of "Relativity" was leading science to a belief in God! I thought at first I was at last in touch with the one man in the world who understood "Relativity," but was soon disillusioned.

As to Mr. Lansbury, can Church people so soon forget that in the life of this Government he introduced a measure in Parliament to do away with the Blasphemy Law?

The only people adversely affected by this law are those anxious to introduce an "Anti-God" campaign here. Perhaps with his great sympathy and admiration for Bolsheviks Mr. Lansbury wanted to make things easier for them. That this Bolshevik sympathiser should even be suggested as chairman of the Anglo-Catholic Congress this year should be enough to make all honourable and patriotic church men and women writhe with fury.—Yours faithfully,

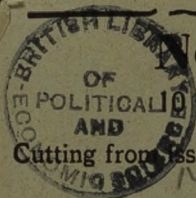
M. MEREDITH BEAUMONT.

Open

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New Statesman

& Nation,

Great Queen Street, Kingsway.

Cutting from issue dated..... 28. MAR. 1931..... 193

61

Mr. Thomas Johnston enters the Cabinet as Lord Privy Seal, with a not too clearly defined function as Minister in charge of certain aspects of the unemployment problem. The new appointment creates an interesting situation; for Mr. Johnston and Mr. Lansbury were, it is understood, jointly associated with the memorandum drafted by Sir Oswald Mosley before his resignation from the Government, and with the demand for a more advanced and courageous unemployment policy. We do not know whether Mr. Johnston is still of the same mind as he was before the setting-in of the world slump, or whether he will now urge upon the Cabinet all or part of the policy that was then rejected. We sincerely hope that he will. Admittedly it is harder now, because of financial stringency, to embark upon a policy demanding large expenditure; but the case for a serious attempt to get a substantial section of the younger men who have been long out of employment back to useful work is as good as ever. We hope that Mr. Johnston's promotion to Cabinet rank is a sign that the Government are now prepared to consider something more effective than the present attempts to speed up the provision of work by grants to the local authorities; and we look to the new Lord Privy Seal, who is reputed to be a fighter, to put up a good fight in the Cabinet for this point of view.

Telephone: Holborn 7087.
Telegrams: "Pethlawro—Holb. London."

FROM MRS. PETHICK-LAWRENCE.

11 Old Square,
Lincoln's Inn, W.C.2.

21st. April. 1931.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

May I express my very warmest appreciation and thanks for your characteristic action of going down to speak at Tottenham last night in a protest meeting against a very serious act of human injustice.

It is deeply disappointing to those of us who have worked all our lives for the recognition of women as human beings, to find these very worst forms of the old injustice re-appearing in our midst; and to one who like myself felt that the Labour cause and the Woman's cause were simply two sides of one great movement, it is heart breaking to realize that opposition to fair play for women is strongly entrenched in the Labour Party. It is this very fact that makes your action so gallant. There are men and women in the Labour Party who dare not express their own feelings for justice and fair play because of the opposition that must be encountered in their own Party, but thank God there are a few individuals like yourself who will never let personal considerations weigh against their conception of what is fundamentally right,

Penhryn Lawrence

(63)

-2-

22 Apr. 1931

and it is such people as you and such actions as yours
which keep our faith alive, so with warmest thanks,

I am

Yours very sincerely.

Penhryn Lawrence

The Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury, M.P.,
Office of Works,
Storey's Gate,
S.W.1.

Philip Snowden
(1st Viscount Snowden;
1864 - 1937)



64
11, DOWNING STREET,
WHITEHALL, S.W.

1st. June 1931

My Dear George:-

Your letter has cheered me up. I have seen a little of the gorgeous beauty of the Parks. We cannot estimate the wonderful influence all this has on the character of the people. I have often said that our greatest difficulty in social reform is that people have been so accustomed to ugliness and squalor that they have learnt to be content with it. You are doing a wonderful work in teaching them to love the more excellent things of life. And you are showing how cheaply it can be done compared with the incalculably blessings it brings. It must be a great joy and satisfaction to you that you have been permitted to do this work.

I am getting on first-rate and if I can prevail upon myself to go "ca canny" for a time I shall be all better for what I have gone through.

With kindest regards to Mrs. Lansbury and yourself in which my wife joins

I remain

Rt. Hon. Geo. Lansbury M.P.

Yours sincerely

Philip Snowden



City of
Canterbury

Programme of the Ceremony

FOR THE

Opening of New Area and Exposition of the Ancient City Walls of Defence

on Thursday, June 4th, 1931, at 4.15 p.m.,

BY

The RIGHT HON. GEO. LANSBURY, P.C., M.P.

H.M. First Commissioner of Works

S. GORDON WILSON	-	-	Mayor
V. M. WILLIAMSON	-	-	Sheriff
J. G. B. STONE	-	-	Deputy-Mayor
C. DOUGHTY, K.C.	-	-	Recorder

Aldermen :

R. H. ARROWSMITH, B.A.	Dr. R. A. BREMNER	W. G. DICKINS, J.P.
G. R. BARRETT	J. G. JOHNSON	G. POPE

Councillors :

F. HOOKER, J.P.	Dr. H. HARRISON	E. R. CROW
L. G. WELLS	E. G. NOBLE	V. M. WILLIAMSON
J. G. B. STONE	G. M. KINGSFORD	C. GUY
F. WOOD	The Rev. S. GORDON WILSON	The Rev. E. H. SHEPPARD
J. F. LAMB	Capt. W. VANSITTART HOWARD, D.S.O., R.N.	A. BAYNTON
C. P. MASON	J. PARTRIDGE	C. W. R. PHILLIPS

R. H. WANKLYN, Town Clerk

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT (Lt.-Col. Sir William A. Wayland)

Mayor's Chaplain (The Rev. Geoffrey Turner, M.A.)

Members of the City Corporation with their ladies will assemble in the Mayor's Parlour at 3.30 p.m. with the Officials and their ladies.

The City Justices with those of the Saint Augustine's Division with their ladies will meet in the Guildhall at 3.30 p.m.

The HIGH SHERIFF OF KENT AND THEIR WORSHIPS THE MAYORS AND MAYORESSES are requested to assemble with their Officials at the County Hotel at 3.30 p.m. and will proceed with them to the City Walls.

The following Historic Towns will be represented by :

The Mayor and Mayoress of BROMLEY (Councillor and Mrs. H. Forbes White)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of CHATHAM (Councillor and Mrs. H. F. Whyman)
 The Mayor of DEAL (Capt C. P. Davis) and the Mayoress of Deal
 The Mayor and Mayoress of FAVERSHAM (Councillor and Mrs. J. H. Johnson)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of FOLKESTONE (Councillor and Mrs. J. W. Stainer)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of GRAVESEND (Councillor and Mrs. J. H. Austin)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of HYPHE (Alderman F. W. Butler, M.C., and Mrs. Butler)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of MAIDSTONE (Councillor H. G. Tyrwhitt Drake and Mrs. Tyrwhitt Drake)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of MARGATE (Councillor and Mrs. F. B. Osborne)
 The Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of RYE (Councillor Capt. and Mrs. L. A. Vidler)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of ROCHESTER (Councillor and Mrs. G. Jenner)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of SANDWICH (Councillor and Mrs. W. R. Rose)
 The Mayor and Mayoress of TENTERDEN (Councillor Lt.-Col. and Mrs. W. A. V. Findlater)
 The Chairman of the Herne Bay U.D.C. (Councillor T. Mountford Taylor and Mrs. Mountford Taylor)
 The HIGH SHERIFF OF KENT (Major Sir John Prestige) and Lady Prestige, with Chaplain (The Rev. H. Knight, M.A.) and the Under-Sheriff of Kent (W. H. Whitehead, Esq., M.A.)

The following will assemble accompanied by their ladies in the procession of Mayors:

Lt.-Col. A. W. Alcock, C.I.E., M.B., LL.D., F.R.S., W. Scott Durrant, Esq., C.I.E., M.A., Col. David Carnegie C.B.E., F.R.S.E., M.I.C.E., J.P., W. D. Caroe, Esq., M.A. F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., Major Gordon Home, F.S.A. (Scot) Surgeon-Captain K. H. Jones, M.B., R.N., F.Z.S., E. Salter Davies, Esq., M.A., Lt.-Col. Josiah Oldfield, M.A., D.C.L., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Sir Anton Bertram, K.C., M.A. and Lady Bertram, C.B.E., Dr. F. W. Cock, M.D., F.S.A., Lt.-Col. A. B. Thomson, M.B.E., O.C. The Buffs Depôt, Captain H. Graham Barker, M.C., Major S. J. Armstrong O.B.E., M.C., O.C. The Royal Engineers Depôt

Members of the Council of the Canterbury and District Chamber of Trade and their ladies will assemble at 18, Burgate. (Stanley Jennings, Esq., Chairman.)

The President of the Canterbury Rotary Club (Alvis T. Stapley, Esq.), members and their ladies will be present

Members of the Friendly Societies will assemble in Lady Wootton's Green wearing the regalia of their Orders. (Marshal: Mr. E. E. Wellington)

Representatives from the Missionary College of St. Augustine will be present

The Educational bodies will be represented by the Head Masters and Head Mistresses of the Schools and Senior Pupils

The St. John Ambulance Brigade (under Superintendent Richardson) will be present with Members of the Brigade and Nurses

The Canterbury and District Boy Scouts and Girl Guides will parade under the charge of the Commissioners

Members of the Canterbury Branch of the British Legion will be present

Visitors with cards of invitation will be allocated seats on producing card

The Canterbury City Prize Band will play selections from 3 to 4 p.m.

The whole of the site of the New Car Park will be reserved for the Citizens of Canterbury and their friends.

A Brief History of the Queningate Portion of the City Walls



THE City of Canterbury, opposite where St. Augustine's Abbey now stands, was, it would seem, already walled in the sixth century. One of its best loved traditions tells how Queen Bertha, before the coming of St. Augustine, passed through the Queen's gate (Queningate) to her devotions at St. Martin's Church. Fragments of most ancient masonry can still be seen in the wall where the gate once stood.

The title of the Dean and Chapter to the custody of the City wall and ditch between St. Mary's, Northgate and St. Michael's, Burgate, has a long history. It began with a grant of the passage, once a military road, just within the walls, known as Queningate Lane, to the Prior and Convent of Christchurch by a Charter of Henry II. The gift was probably part of his atonement for Becket's murder, and it was confirmed by King John and again by Henry III and Henry IV. A Charter Roll dated December 15, 1231, gives the exact description and measurements of this strip of land "between the wall of the City of Canterbury and the wall surrounding the court of the Prior and monks, lying between Northgate and Queningate, measuring at its eastern end forty-one feet, at its western end twenty-four feet, and in its middle seventeen feet and being seventy-one perches long." The Convent valued the concession as a means of safeguarding the Pilgrims' offerings, especially on a side of the City where desperate characters were known to lurk in the North Holmes' thickets.

The Convent's guardianship of the walls originated in their desire, as non-combatants, to be relieved from military expenditure relating to the City's defences. A Charter as early as King John gave them this exemption. They guarded it jealously, hesitating even to supply to the great Hubert de Burgh, Keeper of the Castle, wood from their copses, for hurdles needed about the walls, till they were assured their privileged position would not suffer thereby. (Somner p. 103). Naturally the Bailiffs of the City took another view, and from time to time pressed their claim for taxes.

In 1386 a sensible compromise was reached: "the Prior and Convent," we learn "have undertaken to lay out those sums upon the walls and ditches towards their own manse and close, as is most convenient and reasonable, by oversight of John de Cobeham, Knight, and Master Henry Yevele." Sir John was Sheriff of Kent and Keeper of the Castle, Yevele the Royal Clerk of the Works.

The Convent kept their undertaking handsomely; for Prior Chillenden (1390-1411) rebuilt the wall "from Northgate to Queningate with four towers leaded," that is the four square-shaped bastions still to be seen; Archbishop Courtenay (d. 1393) gave £266 13s. 4d. to the cost of the work.

As yet the Convent boundary south of Queningate did not march with the City wall; the pieces of land making up what is now the Memorial Garden were still in private hands and only acquired by the monks little by little. Neither did the Convent as yet control the walls and towers they were bound to repair.

From 1409 onwards they took long leases from the City bailiffs, at a rent of 6s. 8d. a year, of "the vacant piece of ground at Queningate, in the parish of St. Michael, including the new tower, the new wall and the postern gate, all of which are to be kept in repair by the lessees." They were permitted also "to erect a gate of timber between the Church of St. Michael and the house of Alice, widow of Henry Baker," (that is at the Burgate end of the lane), "reserving to themselves and their successors the keys of the said gate." This permission was dated in the Chapter House on the morrow of the Feast of St. Michael, 1429.

The walls had now no longer the same defensive value, and their upkeep was a heavy charge. It was a mutual accommodation when half a century later the whole extent of lane, walls and ditches, with postern and bridge over the dyke at Queningate, were, by Act of Parliament, granted to the Church. But even so the grant was not absolute; it was made to depend on the City's retaining possession of the Aldermanry of Westgate, which had come to them when the rightful owner, Sir George Brown of Thanington, was deprived of his estates as a traitor. Just after Henry the Seventh's accession his attainder was reversed and the estates, including the Aldermanry, were given back to Sir George's heirs, while the convent incidentally lost its concession. Still the deprivation was only a temporary one; seven years later came a grand final settlement of all outstanding differences between the City and Convent, when, by Royal Licence dated June 4, 1492, the Mayor and Commonalty were allowed, in comprehensive terms which covered all the concessions, new and old, "to grant to the Prior and Convent of Christ Church, in free alms, a piece of land, parcel of the City within the walls, extending from the Church of St. Michael to the Church of Northgate, and the whole of the wall and turrets there between the said churches; the mayor and commonalty, who hold the city in fee farm by divers charters from the crown, being desirous of making such grant, in order to put an end to all differences that have arisen between themselves and the Prior and Convent; as the King hath been informed, both on behalf of William the Prior and of the mayor and commonalty."

Prior William Selling who died in 1494, must have begun almost at once the erection of the two circular bastions, which, as we learn from his obituary, were built by him, one of which is now the War Memorial Chapel, the other recently laid bare by the demolition of the Star Brewery.

A message of congratulation to the Mayor and Citizens of Canterbury from the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Chichester, Dr. G. K. A. Bell, formerly Dean:

"I know something of the difficulties with which the Mayor and Corporation have had to contend for several years, both in the removal of the undecorative Star Brewery and the uncovering of the beautiful walls themselves. I am sure that future generations and lovers of Canterbury in many parts of the world will be grateful to the present governors of the City of Canterbury for the far sighted action to which the opening ceremony undertaken by the First Commissioner of Works, on Thursday, June 4th, puts a crown."

By an amazing coincidence it was on this very day, June 4th, that the Chapter of Christ Church, and the Mayor and Corporation amicably settled all their differences as to the ownership and maintenance of this portion of the City Walls of Defence. King Henry VII took a personal interest in the matter and granted his Royal License exactly 438 years ago to-day.

Programme

The Speeches will be in the following order—

1. THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR will extend a welcome to all present.
2. ALDERMAN GEO. R. BARRETT, Chairman, Roads and Survey Committee will give details of the works.
3. THE REV. THE VICE-DEAN, CANON THORY GAGE GARDINER, M.A., will represent the Dean and Chapter, Custodians of the Walls.
4. THE RIGHT HON. GEO. LANSBURY, P.C., M.P., H.M. First Commissioner of Works will then address the assembly.
5. THE RIGHT WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR will propose a vote of thanks to the Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., to all visitors especially those from the Historic Kentish Towns and to all Citizens of Canterbury for their attendance which will be seconded by the DEPUTY MAYOR.

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
(First verse only) will be sung.

The Cathedral Choir, with the Clergy, will leave the Precincts at 4.5 p.m., and will proceed in the following order by way of the War Memorial Garden and through Queningate to the new road outside the Old City Wall.

The order of procession is as follows:—

The Cathedral Cross Bearer
The Precentor (The Rev. R. Staple, M.B.E., M.A.)
The Bedesmen, The Choir, The Lay Clerks
Dr. C. C. Palmer (Cathedral Organist)
Salvation Army Representatives
The Ministers of all Denominations
The Head Master and King's Scholars
Visiting Clergy
Minor Canons
The Six Preachers
Honorary Canons
Residential Canons—
The Rev. Canon Crum, M.A.
The Ven. The Archdeacon of Canterbury
The Rev. Dr. Bickersteth
THE VICE DEAN—
(The Rev. Canon Thory Gage Gardiner, M.A.)

During the procession the following psalm will be sung:

PSALM 48.

"Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses that ye may tell them that come after."

GREAT is the Lord, and highly to be praised: in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill. The hill of Zion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth: upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King; God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge. For lo, the kings of the earth: are gathered, and gone by together. They marvelled to see such things: they were astonished, and suddenly cast down. Fear came there upon them, and sorrow: as upon a woman in her travail. Thou shalt break the ships of the sea: through the east-wind. Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of Hosts, in the city of our God: God upholdeth the same for ever. We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God; in the midst of thy temple. O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end: thy right hand is full of righteousness. Let the mount Zion rejoice, and the daughter of Judah be glad: because of thy judgments. Walk about Zion, and go round about her: and tell the towers thereof. Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses: that ye may tell them that come after. For this God is our God for ever and ever: he shall be our guide unto death.

The Precentor (at the microphone) will say:—

Precentor: Except the Lord build the house, their labour is but lost that build it

Answer: Except the Lord keep the city: the watchman waketh but in vain

PRAYER FOR CIVIC IDEALS

O Lord God our Father, guide, we beseech thee, all those who bear authority in our towns and cities, that there may be noble streets and open ways therein, that all the skill and beauty of art and craft may be drawn into the service of our common life, for Thy glory and the delight of man: give them inspiration and courage, O Lord, to sweep away all mean streets and unworthy habitations, that men and women may be finely bred and taught and trained, and that thy Kingdom may come on earth, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

HYMN. (Accompanied by the Salvation Army Band, by kind permission of the Brigadier, Major W. Edwards.)

"O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands."

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell,
Come ye before Him, and rejoice.
The Lord, ye know, is God indeed,
Without our aid He did us make;
We are His flock, He doth us feed,
And for His sheep He doth us take.
O enter then His gates with praise,
Approach with joy His courts unto,
Praise, laud, and bless His Name always,
For it is seemly so to do.
For why? the Lord our God is good:
His mercy is for ever sure;
His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
The God Whom heaven and earth adore,
From men and from the Angel-host,
Be praise and glory evermore. Amen.

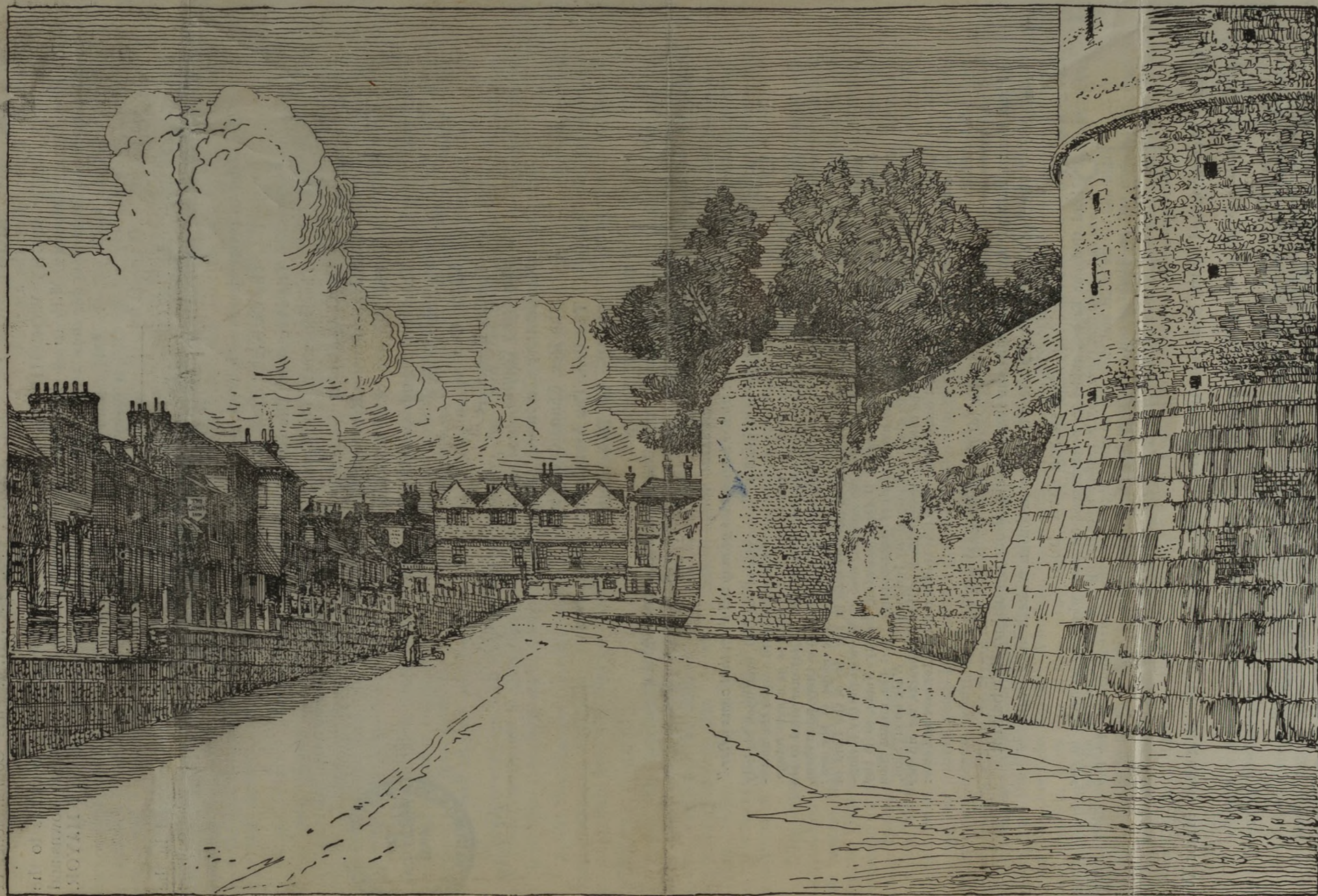
All are asked to join in the singing.

All the speeches should be clearly heard by means of the loud speakers installed.



M449

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THE OLD CITY WALLS AND NEW ROAD. *Drawn by Major Gordon Home, F.S.A. (Scot).*
JUNE 4th, 1931.
CITY SURVEYOR: H. MILLSOM ENDERBY, M.I.M. & C.E.

Daily Herald 17 June 1931

All Sorts . . . Make Apostles

BRITISH LIBRARY
OF POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC SCIENCE
M449 67

ANOTHER "TWELVE"

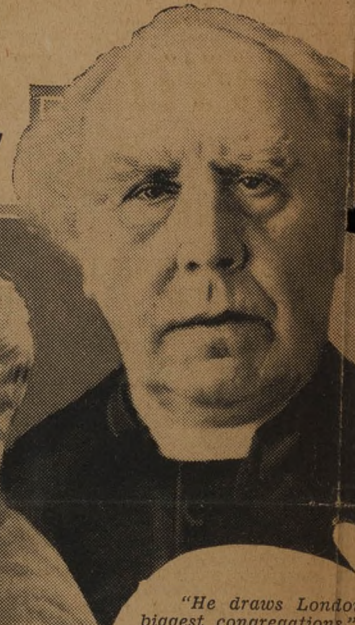
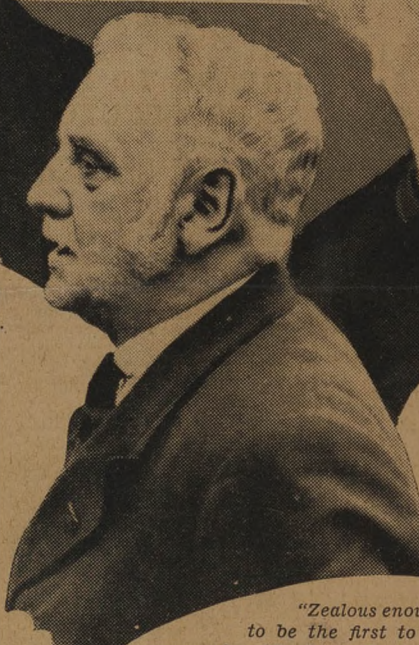
Chosen by
Owen Rattenbury



"The man who can treat other races as his brothers."
—Arthur Henderson.

Enormous interest has been aroused by the Rev. Desmond Morse-Boycott's choice of Apostles of To-day.

Here is another selection by Mr. Owen Rattenbury, a prominent Wesleyan and brother of the famous preacher.



"He draws London's biggest congregations."
—Dr. Dinsdale T. Young.

"Zealous enough to be the first to be martyred."
—George Lansbury.

TWELVE apostles of to-day. A good idea, Mr. Morse-Boycott! But how narrow your range of selection. And how clerical!

Jesus did not draw his apostles from the clergy. I question if any of them were really clerically-minded persons.

Of course, in the main, Morse-Boycott's list is Anglo-Catholic. Dean Inge, and Dr. Barnes, he admits, but how grudgingly the latter.

I should like to select a list. As a Nonconformist, my Christianity is wide enough to include Anglicans. Shall I do it as representations man for man of the Apostles?

Who shall be our beloved Apostle John? Surely none but Dick Sheppard! Here, no doubt, Morse-Boycott would agree with me. For love and zeal and sweetly reasonable eloquence belong both to the Apostle and to this later prototype. 'Tis the age of his love that draws us.

Son of Thunder

And James, the other son of thunder—zealous enough to be the first of them to be martyred. Surely here a rôle for George Lansbury.

Not that he has been martyred, but he has earned the martyr's crown many times. Never swerving from his path he sees.

Andrew, who brings his brother and other people to Jesus.

suasive power, and knowledge of facts and explanation of the greatness he sees.

Dr. Maltby seems to me to fill this rôle. Great in his exposition, quiet in his method of presentation, incisive in his phrasing—perhaps with more humour than Andrew.

Vision and Power

Like Andrew, he can see the idealism under the rough exterior of the modern Peters, and bring One to them who can use that idealism.

And Peter?—bold, blustering, sinning, repenting Peter?

Peter, the man who sways and convinces the crowds. Who can take this man's place in the modern world? Perhaps no one perfectly. We must select from the many qualities. And the quality which counts above all things is that swaying of the crowds.

Here we have a candidate for the position. It is Gipsy Smith. And perhaps he would acknowledge that at times he has had some of the impulsive roughness of the great Apostle, too. And he has vision and power.

the Ethiopian and teach him the ways of God. The mixer, the internationalist, the man who can treat other races as his brothers. Three candidates present themselves, perhaps four.

Lord Irwin? Lord Cecil of Chelwood? Ramsay MacDonald? Arthur Henderson? Which shall be chosen?

Ramsay MacDonald and Irwin are reconcilers in India; Henderson and MacDonald at the Foreign Office and International Labour organisation. These two, with Lord Cecil, are the League of Nations.

But I think the man in possession shall be chosen. So we will choose Arthur Henderson, the preacher-Foreign Secretary, and Philip.

Bartholomew, or Nathaniel, Israelite indeed in whom there is no guile. I am not suggesting Jewish blood in his veins. Canon Donaldson is the guileless—a prince of advocates of the Christian Socialist position; a much loved leader of men.

Matthew—a baffling character. Again we must make our choice to his characteristics. Shall we choose the converted publican or the man of the gospels we consider?

Well, it is apostles we want. So Matthew the educated model. Who better than Dr. T. Young, of York, whose

Educational Association has been so outstanding?

Thomas, the doubter? Yes, but Thomas, whose doubts produced the certainty that nothing but his doubts would have brought.

Here surely is that greatest of modern Churchmen, so grudgingly put in the former list—Dr. Barnes, the Bishop of Birmingham.

It is Dr. Barnes the Scientist, the man who proves all things, and through his proving helps many a wavering to faith in the Christ, when but for his investigations all faith would have gone. Yes, Barnes is truly apostolic, and thank God for him.

Denouncer of War

Simon Zelotee, or the Canaanite, Lebbeaus Thaddeus, and James, son of Alphaeus, are the last of the eleven I shall write about, for no one will name the Judas Iscariot. We pray God that he does not exist!

So looking round for three outstanding men of different characteristics whose names have not been mentioned, I come across Dr. Orchard, greatest of preachers in modern London, fearless apostle of peace, fearless denouncer of war, even in the midst of war, incomprehensible in his mixture of Congregationalism and extreme Ritual, but mighty because of genius and sincerity. He shall be one.

And Dr. Dinsdale T. Young must have a place, because he draws the biggest congregations in London. He is sincere and earnest. He preaches a gospel that thousands flock to hear, and doubtless strengthens them in their faith.

A Queer Mixture

For the eleventh place I must have another layman. Who better than Dr. Salter, the man who so signally holds up Christianity in practice?

A queer mixture, my apostles. But so were the apostles of Christ's time. One fault is common to both my list and Mr. Morse-Boycott's: Christ's apostles were all young—~~was~~ too young to have attained to any notoriety or fame in a religious sense in this age.

For real counterparts we should have to go to curacies and youthful ministries. The only one that comes to mind who could fill the rôle at all and who is known to the public would be Dr. Donald Soper, of Tower Hill fame.

A Thought

Remember! The tide turns at low water as well as at high.

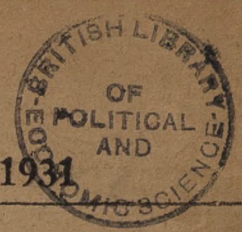
for To-day

Readers' Thoughts, preferably of topical interest, should be sent on postcards. Half a guinea is paid for each published.

down to meet

Bristol

M449



EVENING TIMES AND ECHO, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17 1931

Why YOUNG MEN Cannot GOVERN

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Imperial Parliament, or, as I would prefer to call it, a Commonwealth Parliament.

Only Speakers

If that were done, then the House of Commons could be split up into England, Scotland, and Wales, with a small committee dealing with matters affecting all three kingdoms. I think this is the sort of reform that is more urgent than anything else. But this will not come, just as some of the other things we need will not, until we get a settled public opinion which will give a majority in the House of Commons.

I read that this is an older Cabinet than any other of modern times.

My general answer is that my experience of the young men in this House on all sides is that they have no more initiative, nor intuition as to what should be done, than the older men. I see no signs of brilliant propositions for showing us the way out. There are brilliant speakers, but we want something more.

Take the young men who are recognised as outstanding, like Oliver Stanley and Robert Boothby on the Conservative side, Archibald Sinclair and young Frank Owen on the Liberal benches, and men like Mosley, W. J. Brown, and Chuter Ede on our benches.

Destructive

Put them together, and they will all make brilliant speeches that will destroy each other's arguments as to the best thing to do to deal with present-day difficulties. And the result of that is that we have a Parliament in which there is general agreement in analysis of the evil, but general disagreement as to the remedy.

Until that is overcome it is no use quarrelling about this institution. What it is suffering from is the lack of

By

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury
IN AN INTERVIEW

a majority point of view which is capable of being practically applied.

My faith as a Socialist is stronger since I have been a member of the Government than ever before, but I recognise quite clearly that there is no majority point of view in the country for carrying Socialism into effect. Consequently we have to compromise and do small things, and do them in the best way we can.



The last Government was in a similar difficulty. Mr. Baldwin could not apply his policy because he had not a mandate. Nor did the present Government get a mandate at the last election for Socialism.

Therefore, we are crippled, not because we are old men, but because of the exigencies of the position in which we find ourselves. If we were all Absoloms instead of Davids we should be up against the same situation.

The case against the age of Ministers is simply "poppy-cock."

A Commonwealth Parliament, representing all the British Dominions and Colonies, and dealing exclusively with foreign affairs, defence, and Imperial trade, is the stimulating vision of Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., in an interview in which he discusses and replies to the article by Our Lobby Correspondent in "On Our Elderly Government."

Making it plain that he speaks for himself alone, and not in any sense for the Government, Mr. Lansbury says:—

IF there is to be any change, I am what would be called an Imperialist. By that I mean that I think the proper change is to remove from this Parliament all foreign affairs, all questions of Imperial trade and of defence, and everything that concerns both the Dominions and this country. These should be dealt with by a Chamber representative of all the Dominions, with the Colonies indirectly represented.

I am confident that we shall never get a proper inter-Dominion policy or a really settled foreign and defence policy until we have an

GEORGE LANSBURY'S

Hour of
Destiny

Daily Sketch 18 June 1931
M. H. H. 49
**They Offered Me Success and Six Pounds a Week—
But I Stuck to My Thirty-bob Job
When I Talked Things Out With Lenin and Trotsky**

Seated in his simple home in Bow, and holding the curtain back so that the light fell on his greying hair and his kindly, smiling face, this veteran of revolution and our First Commissioner of Works told the "Daily Sketch" his simple human tale.

I KNOW when my hour struck all right, but it needs leading up to. It is like the way rainclouds form, until there they are in the sky but no rain—and then the lightning strikes through them and the deluge falls. This, I suppose, is how it happens with all of us.

My father was a small contractor. I don't know what he made—something between two and three hundred a year perhaps. We were very lower-middle-class people, but we always had enough—indeed, we were able to help those around us in Whitechapel, and mother often provided one or two dinners on Sunday to those in need.

Still a Revolutionary

As a boy of nine or ten I used to mix with Fenian lads of my own age. It was the time of the "Manchester Martyrs," and I used to sing "God Save Ireland" as zealously as the others, though I didn't know much about it.

You will find this a strange beginning, since I have all my life been opposed to violence. But perhaps I need to make that clear. During the best part of my life I was a revolutionary. I am still, since I want to help transform society into a co-operative commonwealth. But I always thought violence wrong—and futile. You cannot coerce people into the Kingdom of Heaven.

I have talked this out with Lenin and Trotsky. Lenin said: "Well, if you think you can do it that way, go and do it. I think you'll have to have a bloody revolution." Trotsky was frankly scornful—both of my palliatives and my passivism. But I know I am right.

My First Turning-point

However, I grew up in that atmosphere and full of enthusiasm for Gladstone's defence of the smaller nationalities—as, for instance, Bulgaria against Turkey. That stirred me. I have always been with those

who championed the weak against the strong.

Meanwhile, in the eighties, I attended lots of meetings—for instance, Bradlaugh's on the Oath, which that Atheist M.P. refused to take, and I (though a Christian) supported him. While quite young I met people interested in Socialism—among others John Hales, secretary of the First International, and though I remained a Liberal the new ideas began to sink in.

Then came my first real turning-point, though it wasn't "the Hour." I migrated to Australia.

Lessons of Australia

You must understand the bigness of the change. As I have told you, I had never been in want. I had seen want all round me and had sympathised with its victims. But I have never known it. Following my father, I had lived as securely as a man can live in this competitive state.

And then I left all that, gave up the security, and went to Australia to live by my own labour. I went with my wife, three babies and a younger brother I had to look after. I worked on a farm—in slaughter-houses—anywhere, and also broke stones. I learnt to know what unemployment meant, what tyranny meant. I felt for the first time the full pressure of our economic system on the poor.

Then Came the Hour

That had a lot to do with making me a man. I came back, not hardened, thank God, but toughened, and more than ever determined to be a champion of the poor.

Well, I soon found myself hard at it in politics—for the Liberals. But I met many Socialist leaders, such as Hyndman and Herbert Burrows, and Socialism kept sinking in. The rainclouds were forming.

I became friends with Samuel Montagu, afterwards Lord Swaythling, and worked for him in Whitechapel. I ran one election for him in 1886. And then came the Hour.

Montagu wanted to get me into Parliament, and meanwhile he offered me the post of manager for him in Whitechapel—it amounted to being election agent, and it carried what for me was the large salary of six pounds a week.

Now I had by this time a big family, and



The flood-light on Mr. George Lansbury, the apostle of flood-lighting.

my weekly wage was thirty shillings. So the offer was tempting. But it was the electric flash that made the rainclouds fall. All at once I realised that I was no longer a Liberal, but a Socialist. I had come to believe that Liberalism was for a class and that Socialism was for the good of all.

So my wife and I decided to stick to thirty bob.

I don't want to make myself out a martyr. I have not suffered for that decision. But it made all the difference in my life and brought me the very happiest of experiences.

Doctrine of the Devil

Then began my long career as a Socialist agitator, and if you would understand that you must know that in the same year, 1892, I became a Guardian and started my work as an administrator. I kept myself fresh and revolutionary in thought by week-end propaganda, but the rest of my time, when not earning my living, I have been busy with palliatives. I have always held that the doctrine that "you must let things go to the worst in order that a smash may come" is the doctrine of the devil. Those who love their fellows must want to help them; and it's silly to say that you want to transform society and then refuse to transform it.

The Key to Happiness

And so I have had to behave very often in an unrevolutionary manner, to compromise to approve things I don't approve of, so that I might do a little good to the poor and the weak.

In a way, I owe most to the fact that I have lived for 64 years in the East End, and so have learnt to know the infinite courage and kindness of the poor. It is they and their selfless, nameless helpers of all creeds who have taught me that, beyond all theories, the key to the world's happiness is in the sentence: "Little children, love one another." And worship of God means selfless service to your fellow men as men.

^{WV}
BEST-BEHAVED CITY

Daily Mail — 19 June 1931

MR. LANSBURY REPLIES TO

(Irish ...)
DR. HENSON.

Mr. George Lansbury, replying to Dr. Hensley Henson, the Bishop of Durham, who at the Church Assembly on Tuesday said London was the worst informed, most misleading, and most misled place in the community, said he was surprised that the Bishop, who had spent so much of his career in London, had so far forgotten the great mass of working people with whom he occasionally came in contact.

"I am quite sure," Mr. Lansbury continued, "that he would not say to their faces that they were other than courteous and intelligent."

"I think that London is the best-behaved city in the country. For its size I believe it has less crime than any other city and its people are the most courteous. I do not want to draw invidious comparisons with provincial cities, but we can hold our own with any of them."

M4449



C. Tinarajadasa

(71)

[? between 1931-1936 when Willingdon
was Viceroy of India]

% S. I. Routman

At sea, June 21

Dear Brother George,

Your letter of March
3rd came duly, but we started
for Australia soon after.

When we get back we shall
try to meet Lord Willingdon.

This is just to send
you affectionate greetings
from Dorothy & myself.
We understand your
work — & only wish you
were twenty years younger
to develop it more & more.

However, good work tells;

if we of the present generation
do not get into the sunlight
from the Darbourn wood, those
that come after will. To work
for the humanity of a day
which we shall not see (with
these our body's eyes at least)
is a great purification; it
cleans up the self pretty
thoroughly — & even now brings
the inner Peace we long

for, doesn't it? The Dreamers
who "fail" — how much
they really win after all.

I suppose no Dreamer does
ever "fail" — "When

Eternity affirms the con-
ception of an hour". I have

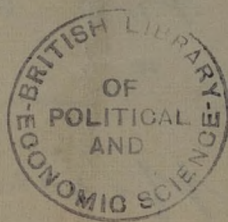
been telling the people in favor
of Divine Democracy — God

our Brother Man. He

to them.

So, with all affectionate
thoughts

Yours sincerely
C. Jinarajadasa



M449



THE RIGHT HON. GEORGE LANSBURY, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, opened a "Labour Fair" at Carmarthen on Saturday. He was received upon arrival by Mr. Daniel Hopkin, M.P. (Carmarthen).

Western Mail

22 June 1931

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Daily Herald 22 June 1931
**DID SHE LEARN ANY CABINET SECRETS?—Mr. George Lansbury, First
Commissioner of Works, having his hand read at the Carmarthen Labour Fair
on Saturday.**

M4449

the thought. Democracy as they understood it had never yet had its true chance, in this or any other country, but in this country they had the best means for giving it its chance. All that was wrong with Parliament to-day was that no party had a majority to carry out its own views.

"We are in office but not in power," said Mr. Lansbury. "We do not say that as an excuse for our existence. I do not stand here apologising for the Government. During the two years we have been in, we have tried and done nearly every single thing we promised to try and do. Those things which are not accomplished are not accomplished because we have not the driving power of a majority behind us."

NATIONALISATION.

They had not the numbers, and consequently could not nationalise the mines. Lord Sankey, in the House of Lords, when he brought in their Bill dealing with the mines, said to the Lords, "If we had the power we should bring in a very different Bill to this."

The Government brought in an Agricultural Bill, and the House of Lords had mutilated it out of all recognition. All they had to do was to make the people understand that that assembly of landlords must not have the power to interfere with the will of the people. The people had got to see to it that the House of Lords must either be swept away or its powers crippled in the sense that they must not be allowed to frustrate legislation.

Mr. Lansbury said that he would like to tell the miners, "We would like to nationalise the mines; we wish we had the power, but we are doing what every Trade Union leader always does—that is doing our best to deal with a difficult situation in a manner that will be of advantage to the industry as a whole."

ALWAYS A SOCIALIST.

He was a Socialist, and had always said that in the final analysis of things they must get international agreement so that one country did not pull another country down by long hours and low wages.

He asked the miners to have faith in the members of the Cabinet, who were dealing with this matter, for they were in dead earnest and were putting their whole weight in trying to get a decent square settlement. He wished them to understand that they had to deal with the conditions that faced them, and that they had to face first a House of Commons, a majority of which were permanently opposed to nationalisation and Socialism in any shape or form. They had to make the best of the situation, and that was what they were doing.

THE UNEMPLOYED.

He asked the unemployed to remember that this Government was standing between them and their most deadly enemies. If there was a change of Government from Labour to Tory, the condition of the unemployed would become almost unbearable.

Mr. Lansbury presented a cup to the conductor of Cwmdare, the winning jazz-band.

MR. LANSBURY
TWO MOODS
M4449
NO APOLOGIES, BUT
WANTS POWER.
Western Mail
22 June 1931
"DOWN THE LORDS"
SPEECH AT CARMARTHEN

The Right Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, opened a successful Labour Fair held at Carmarthen, on Saturday, in connection with the Carmarthen Division Labour Party. There was a large attendance.

Mr. Lansbury was met at Carmarthen railway station by Mr. Daniel Hopkin, M.P., and others. The Llansaint Silver Band preceded his car in a procession through the main streets of the town to the Drill-hall, where he declared the bazaar open. Mr. Lansbury then made a tour of the stalls.

Three bands competed in a jazz-band contest. They proceeded through the town, and the adjudicators (Mr. John Treharne, Carmarthen, Mr. Valentine, conductor of the Llansaint Silver Band, and Mr. J. Morgan, Mayor of Kidwelly), awarded the first prize to Cwmdare, Aberdare (conductor, Mr. Ben Davies), who received 94 points out of a possible 100. Pontardulais gained 92 points, and Bettws 90 points.

In the evening Mr. George Lansbury addressed a mass meeting over which Mr. Daniel Hopkin, M.P., presided.

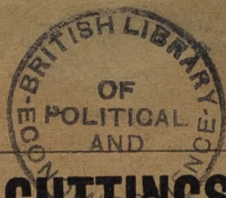
Referring to the presence of so many young people and women among the audience, Mr. Lansbury said there was no fear for our country at all while they who had political power remained interested in the questions Parliament had to deal with.

DEMOCRACY'S CHANCE.

They read in the press of certain people saying that Parliament and democracy were played out. The wish was father to

M449

AgfW



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1931

Cutting from issue dated..... 24 JUN 1931

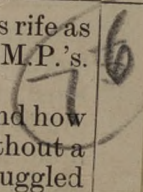
Mr. LANSBURY announces that he intends to beautify the Terrace of the

House of Commons. Conjecture is rife as to how he means to dispose of the M.P.'s.

* * *

Mr. LANSBURY can't understand how England has managed so long without a planetarium. Yet England struggled on for years without a LANSBURY.

* * *



22610

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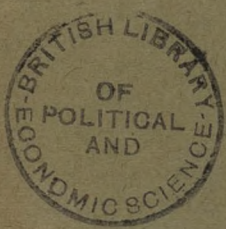
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ESSENCE OF PARLIAMENT.

1931

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Monday, June 15th.—Coming events cast their shadows before them. The Opposition during Question-time comported itself with a decorous apathy that could not be accounted for solely on the theory that all minds were occupied with the hunt for a Land Tax formula which was supposed to be keeping the Liberals in a whirl of delirious excitement. There was evidently something else afoot.

Dr. ADDISON told Sir W. DAVISON that it would be an offence punishable under the Merchandise Marks Act to sell foreign blended butter as "British farmhouse butter." He felt sure that nobody was committing that offence, but carefully refrained from discussing the status of foreign blended butter labelled "pure butter" and wrapped up in a picture of a British farmhouse.

Mr. LANSBURY assured Mr. BENSON that he was deeply interested in the discovery of a Roman amphitheatre at Chester and was prepared to cooperate with the local authorities in its preservation. This prompted Mr. MACQUISTEN to ask whether the FIRST COMMISSIONER could not see his way to give a Roman show in the Roman amphitheatre with landlords being thrown to the lions. "God gave the land to the people," replied Mr. LANSBURY. One gathered that he was in full agreement with any scheme for giving the landlords to the lions.

G. L.

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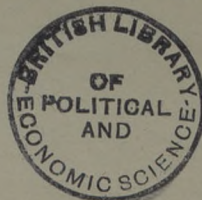
TRANSATLANTIC BROADCAST - 19th July 1931.

My first words to all listeners must be words of greeting and goodwill. I value very much the privilege of being allowed to say that I hope our nations will forever be united in the bonds of harmony and peace and that together we shall lead the world away from war and all its horrors, and establish the universal reign of love, co-operation and fraternity.

I am to talk to you about our parks and open spaces. May I first say that, in spite of much around and about us to depress our spirits, we British people refuse to say die, or to consider ourselves down and out. We are the descendants of our fathers: in our veins flows the same blood that caused our ancestors to play games with quarter staves and in the lists, which sent men and women to dance on the village green, and enabled Drake to play his famous game of bowls on Plymouth Hoe. Our sporting blood never knows when it is beaten. Somehow we are determined to transform the old ways of life. "Play up and play the game", is our slogan. We do not intend to allow machinery to ruin our lives or destroy our initiative. We do intend that all our faculties shall be preserved and our minds and bodies used for service. We hope and believe that our fellow men and women the world over will join us in the task of creating the Kingdom of God on earth - which means living such lives as will bring out of each one of us the best our minds and bodies can give.

Compared with your great continent, our country is but a tiny jewel set in the midst of the sea. We have a population of 685 persons to the square mile in England and Wales and in Greater London nearly 12,000 to the square mile. Many of our millions live in tightly packed tenements, in

narrow



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narrow streets into which the blessed sunlight or the fresh air of heaven seldom come. We are vigorously tackling this problem of the slums and each year sees some cleared away and mean streets widened to let in sunshine and fresh air, but very much more needs to be done. Consequently, all who care for the health and happiness of children and young people co-operate as private citizens and through Parliament and the Municipalities, to preserve and add to our playing fields, parks and open spaces.

Throughout the land, wherever there is a village, township or city, you will find such places. The work and the cost of providing and keeping these going is very heavy indeed. Some local authorities are unable to bear the strain. In those cases, grants from Parliament are sometimes given; or often a rich man or woman possessed of great public spirit gives either money or land. The National Playing Fields Association, with King George at its head, also assists and so do the Carnegie and Pilgrim Trusts. The Pilgrim Trust has just helped to save a fine site in Central London for the children. Each year sees such additions made. Only the other day Parliament passed a law which will prevent our splendid London Squares from being built over. In recognising all that has been done, we must keep steadily before us the fact that, in this place we call London, we have a population of over eight million souls, and that within this Metropolis many thousands of children have nowhere to play except the streets. We could easily and profitably spend several millions of pounds providing playgrounds and parks, in order to be certain that our child population was getting the best chance to develop healthy bodies as well as healthy minds.

You

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You will like to know something of the size or extent of our playgrounds. It is reckoned that in England and Wales we at present possess 1,700,000 acres of common land, free and open for the use of all. The National Trust owns another 30,000 acres and our Forestry Commission own and are using 650,000 acres for afforestation.

In London we have 61 square miles of parks, open spaces, commons and recreation grounds. These are maintained and added to by the London County Council, the Borough Councils the Corporation of the City of London, and the Government through His Majesty's Commissioners of Works. In all these parks, gardens and commons, with the exception of Kew Gardens, sport and games are carried on, restrictions are reduced to a minimum and wherever possible railings are conspicuous by their absence. Everywhere there is a perfect glory of Spring, Summer and Autumn flowers, and in winter time, shrubs, of such a nature as thrive in the cold, may be seen in abundance. Trees in the streets are increasing, and in the parks, during Springtime, even a Londoner may rejoice and sing the lines of Browning, "O to be in England now that April's there", for, as the sun gets stronger, daffodils and spring flowers of all kinds poke their heads through the earth, and trees and bushes give us the blossoms of Chestnut and May, telling us that life is starting once again and emphasising as nothing else can that "there is no death". We also provide extensive old English gardens which, with an abundance of English roses and other flowers, recall the days when such gardens were the pride and possession of the few. To-day they are the joy of the masses, and everybody co-operates to make it so.

The Royal Parks, which are in the charge of my department, are among the oldest and the most beautiful in the land.

19 July 1931

land. These stretch right across the centre of London from east to west and north to south. Each of these wonderful parks, originally created for the pleasure of Kings and Princes, has a glory all its own. I cannot speak of them all, but when you come to Europe you must come and see them for yourselves. Meantime, I want you to imagine our little gem - St. James's Park - so named because within its confines is St. James's Palace, once the residence of our Kings and to-day the official reception palace where King George meets the representatives of the nations of the world. This small park, surrounded on all sides by famous historic buildings, consists of beautiful walks flanked by masses of lovely flowers, and, in the centre, is a lake always crowded with water fowl of every sort and kind. On one bank children romp and play, but, for the most part, this park is a place for quiet contemplation of the glories of nature. To see it when the sun is high in the heavens is to understand how wonderful are the works of man and the marvellous profligacy of God and nature in their gifts to man. Or to sit in the gloaming at eventide, when the sun is setting over the palaces of west London, is to realise and grasp the full meaning of the words "at eventide there shall be peace". Although there is ample provision for sport almost everywhere, we leave accommodation for the aged, the sick or the weary ones. Mothers and nurses with children may find quiet corners away from the noise and tumult either of school or playing field: seats are provided free and rather more comfortable ones are available at a moderate charge. I ought to tell you also that tiny children are provided with sand pits and paddling pools, and with shallow lakes on which to paddle small boats. In Kensington Gardens very fine model-yacht sailing may be seen, and in these gardens the glorious spirit of the boy, Peter Pan, "who never grew up", is preserved by means of a statue and a griglan or elves tree.

G. L.

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In Hyde Park and Richmond Park horse-riding is indulged in. King George may sometimes be seen, early in the morning, almost unattended, taking a constitutional ride on horseback. Here also is the famous Serpentine lido. This is a fine stretch of water open for boating, bathing and swimming. People of every class and of both sexes meet here and enjoy the health giving pleasure of a swim and then a sunbath on the shore. This piece of water has been noted as a swimming centre for men and boys during the last 150 years, and, last year, we allowed women and girls to use the lake at the same time as men and boys, and, as a consequence, the numbers using the lake rose to hundreds of thousands.

My department is also responsible for the preservation of ancient monuments and the surrounding lands. An act of Parliament just passed gives increased powers to prevent vandalism in connection with these cherished possessions that remind us of ages long ago. There was a time when such treasures were allowed to fall into decay and ruin but now Parliament votes large sums of money each year for their preservation. Our people love to roam over these historic places and so also do visitors from abroad. Here in London the famous fortress of the Tower, founded by William the Conqueror, still keeps watch and ward over our great river, Father Thames. Many thousands visit this monument of the power and glory of the Norman King, and live over again the days when Princes and Kings were imprisoned in its dungeons, and either murdered in their beds or led out to execution on the famous Tower Hill. The other day I wandered through this place with some friends. The sun was shining through trees and windows; some ravens perched on a parapet welcomed us with familiar croakings

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ca July 1931

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croaking: the greatest charm and most lasting memory, however, was a visit to the Chapel of S. John - founded by William himself in 1080 and looking to-day just as if the masons had that minute ceased working. This is the Chapel where knights in days long ago spent the night kneeling before the altar, pledging themselves to honour the vows of knighthood that they were to take at dawn. I thought, as I stood there, how fine it was and yet how narrow. The vow to fight for God and one's own country is a fine ideal but there is an even finer, that is to work and strive for the day when the peoples of the world will find themselves throwing down their arms and recognising to its utmost extent the brotherhood of man and the fatherhood of God.

A little higher up the river is Hampton Court, with grand gardens and buildings created by the master builder, Wren, at the bidding of Dutch William. Or down the river at the mouth of the Thames, near Deal on the coast of Kent, is Richborough, with its fine remains of a Roman camp. Here you will find the starting place of the famous roads built by the Romans across the length and breadth of Britain. This is the spot which saw the first and last of the Romans; where the eagles were called home. This is also the spot on which a heathen king received S. Augustine on his way to establish Canterbury Cathedral. From here you may travel along the Roman road right away to Hadrian's Wall, which stretches from coast to coast in Northumbria, and was built to stop the inroads of the Picts and Scots. What lessons we moderns may learn from the story of the Roman occupation of our land. They were here for 400 years; they laid the foundations of many of our cities, yet they and their doings were almost blotted out by centuries of ignorance and barbarism. But human progress never really dies. Somewhere, sometime, new light comes to illuminate the darkness.

G-L.

19 July 1933

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darkness. S. Augustine, and later S. Francis and many another out of the darkness which followed the collapse of the Roman Empire, brought forth the same dynamic teaching which Christ gave to the world before the fall of Jerusalem. So it is in our day. We need never despair of tomorrow, for it is true that the purposes of God are being worked out, and those ancient Cathedrals and Abbeys, Castles and Monasteries, all teach us that some day "the glory of God will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea".

Finally, may I ask all my hearers to understand that I am not asking any one to imagine that the end of life is merely recreation and pleasure, or that our minds should be full of the past. No, I want you to accept the view that we are born to live; that we work to live; and that our duty is to arrange our lives in such a manner as will ensure that all our faculties of mind and body may be used for the glory of the human race, which in turn means the glory of God. You who are young, always remember that your bodies are your very own and do not do anything, say anything, eat or drink anything which pollutes either mind or body. In the free pure air and sunshine of the seaside or countryside, enjoy all that the beauties of nature can give you, but remember always that life should and will be one glad sweet song when we have each learnt to discipline our own life and conduct. Governments and others make laws, regulations and customs, but these are of no effect in making us either morally or physically strong. It is self-control, which we must exercise ourselves, which matters, and helps us to become children of God. This in turn means comradeship, brotherhood and love. These are the gifts transformed into life for which the world

G.L.

19 July 1931

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is waiting. The playing fields of the world show us the team spirit. We in Britain glory in that spirit. "Play up and play the game!" is our school slogan. Why should this not be our slogan in the workshop, factory, counting-house, and above all, in international affairs? My appeal to you is that the same team spirit, the same comradeship and co-operation which dominates sport and games, shall dominate life in every land. Christ calls to mankind across the ages, saying "The Kingdom of God is within you", and, very reverently, I repeat that message, and bid you accept and follow it wherever it may lead.

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19 July 1931

Road-side improvement (beds of shrubs)

by Guelph Cemetery Commission

Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

On one of Ontario's main highways.

T. W. Fitcher
Guelph.

July 19th

1931

T. W. Aitken

J. M. C. A.

Guelph, Ontario,
Canada

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To Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, London, Eng.

Dear Sir,

I have just been listening to your address by Radio "The People & the Parish" & feel I must write a few lines to let you know how much I enjoyed it, particularly the closing words, whilst all through it was good to hear one in your position acknowledging the Divine Being in all that is good.

I am gardener in the local cemetery, one of the best kept in the province & which is quite park-like in appearance, the driveway of older part being lined with tall Spruce, Pine & Cedars with an occasional Maple tree. The entrance lawns are bright with flower beds of Geraniums, Carnas, Begonias & carpet bedding, whilst in background is shrubbery with perennial flowers in front.

I am native of South Lincolnshire, have been here 27 years, but am always glad to hear news of the Old Land.

With every good wish

Believe me,

Yours sincerely
T. W. Aitken

1247 Cove St

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R. Brackenbury

La Jolla, Calif
O.S.A

July 19, 1931-

Hon George Lansbury

First Commissioner Public Works
London, England.

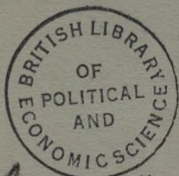
Dear Sir

I wish to add my tribute
to the many others who must have
been impressed with the outstanding
address that came to us this Sunday
morning on the Pacific Coast, with
absolute clearness. Then the courtesy
of the Columbia Broadcasting Co-
or our local K.F.B. of San Diego.

We hope to hear you again,
and thank you most heartily

yours truly

R. Brackenbury



M. 449

Route 3, Box 360.

Sebastopol, California,
G.S. Brett

(89)
U.S.A.

July 19th 1931.

George Lausbury,

London, England.

My dear Mr Lausbury:

I have just
been listening to your address
over the Radio, on "Parks and
Open Spaces" and I think it
will not do any harm to tell
you that It did my heart good.

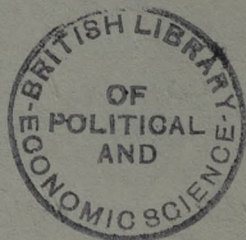
Altho' we were 6000 miles
away we heard every word

distinctly. You are doing
a great work, and those of
us who know you are proud
of you.

May God bless you
abundantly.

Very Sincerely J^r.

G. S. Brett.



M449

Southern Pacific Company

Karl J. Caldwell

Ackd. *90*

San Pedro, California.

July 19th, 1931.

Commissioner,
In Charge of Parks & Playgrounds.
London, England.

My Dear Sir:

Thru the courtesy of our local broadcasting station
K H J and the Columbia Broadcasting Company, I am pleased to advise
that I enjoyed your most interesting discription of your parks
and playgrounds and the very good work you are doing.

Your program was received here about 8.40Am with
very little interference.

Yours truly

Karl J. Caldwell
738 Ellery Drive.

Charles M. Coe

222 Hamlet St

George Lausbury Esq

Los Angeles, Calif

July 19th '31

Dear Sir

I am writing to tell you how I enjoyed your address this morning (8:30 to 8:45 am) over the wireless (Radio we call it here)

It was indeed a privilege to hear your voice once again, after being absent from London for over 10 years, & I could hear you as plainly as if you were really in our own room. Your voice was wonderfully clear & strong.

We thank God for you "George", & especially for the splendid way in which you are fulfilling your high office.

In this country one can better appreciate the sincerity of the Govt of Great Britain, & one longs to be again under the flag of the dear old country. We experienced some of that joy when we spent a time in Vancouver & Victoria B.C. last year, & trust the time may not

Coe

19 July 1891

(92)

be far distant when we (my wife & I) can again take up our citizenship in England.

Things may be seemingly serious with you there, but seeing that justice & integrity are the foundation of our dear land, she will rise to greater heights & lead the nations of the world into the Kingdom of our God & of His Christ.

Here, the moral standpoint is so low one almost despairs.

Apologies for any liberty I may be taking & again thank you

Yours very sincerely

Chas. W. Coe

P.S. Late of Tottenham Labour Party.

Theodore F. Driskill

(93)

5617 Lindell Avenue,
Dallas, Texas, U. S. A.

July 19, 1931

Mr. George Lansbury,
London, England

My Dear Sir:

No doubt you
will be surprised to hear
from our many thousand
miles away who heard
your talk over the radio
this morning.

Many of the things
you said were like

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listening to a delightful
sermon. The clearness
of your voice was just
as distinctly heard as if you
were talking to me in my
library. Only the radio is
a marvelous invention

Will you pardon this
stupid effort to convey the
idea that you had at least
one sympathetic listener
almost on the other side of
the globe?

Yours very truly,

Theodore F. Ariskill

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JAMES W. ERWIN
142 SANSOME STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

July 19th, 1931

Mr. George Lansbury
Commissioner of Works
London, England

Dear Sir:

At 8:30 this morning, which approximates 3:30 p.m. in London, I had the pleasure of listening to your radio address on "The People and the Parks", and you may be interested in knowing that every word you uttered came to me as clearly as if I were in the room where you were speaking, although considerably more than 6000 miles distant from you.

In 1909 I had the great pleasure of spending six months in England - five months in London, and during my stay I visited many of the beautiful parks in London and other cities and can recall no feature of your splendid country which impressed me more favorably. For this reason I was particularly interested in what you had to say and was greatly pleased to learn from what you said that there must have been a marked increase in the number of these fine playgrounds which add so much to the attractiveness of your great city.

Permit me to say that your description of the parks and the other attractive features that come within the scope of your department was greatly enjoyed - in fact I regard it as one of the very best of numerous London broadcasts I have had the pleasure of listening to.

Cordially and sincerely,

James W. Erwin

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Echo Park
Los Angeles
3 ⑤

Paul Flammet

POST CARD

19 July 1931

CORRESPONDENCE

ADDRESS

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



M449

PF

Paul Flammer

(96)

Mr. George Lansburg,
First Commissioner of Works.
London
England.

19 July 1931

Honorable Sir:

On this beautiful Sunday morning at 8³⁰ a.m., while seated at our breakfast table here in Hollywood California your voice came so clearly to us thro' space bringing an extremely interesting message.

But shining thro' it all, we sensed a deep spiritual thought and we felt that you not only knew but wished to voice a great Truth.

We were reminded of many happy days spent walking thro' the lovely parks of London, while visitors there.

ver

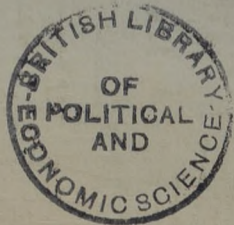
forget - While walking one morning thro Kensington Garden I noticed just ahead of us a little girl walking redated along clinging to her mother's hand - Suddenly she darted from the path toward the Peter Pan statue and caressing it tenderly, said, "Good Morning Peter."

The radio reception was as clear this morning as tho' it had been coming in from a local station.

Thanking you for the pleasure you gave us to-day,
We are

Respectfully yours,

Captain and Mrs. Paul E. Flamme
1401 North Hoover St.,
Hollywood -
California.



July 19th 1931.

Added:

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Arthur George
2154 Ivar Avenue
Hollywood Los Angeles
California July 19 [1931]

Dear Mr Lansbury:

Introducing a native of Cwmbettws Farm, Eglwysrwrw, Pembrokeshire, 1866: a London shop assistant for a time: and a second cousin, unacknowledged, of your Father of the House, first heard from from the Albert Hall a few days ago.

Your address came through in excellent voice and diction, with practically no disturbance. I tuned in experimentally, without knowing if anything was to come, at 8.30, a.m.

What you had to say was most interesting to me, knowing a little of your parks forty years ago; but never inspecting the Tower, nor seeing the Tower Bridge. England is carrying on with the unspeakable socialists in control. Very strange.

All of which is good. But are your conservative class yet hospitable to the idea that there is something quite fundamental to be done with the social scheme, before Britain or any country shall become civilised and businesslike in its institutions? It is a matter of introducing capitalism and private property as related forms of society. The thing has not yet been done, modernly at least, in any country: with the significant exception of the soviet republics.

I am sure that much of the misunderstanding and hesitation on the part of your otherwise hard-headed and scholarly class is due to the failure of socialists to speak to them in simple, every day phrases; in place of the technical terminology affected by our doctrinaire habit.

Russia has professed communism, and doubtless meant something of the sort. What they are doing is to set up an actual system of capitalism, or the incorporated nation: and by that means a system of private property that will be actually systemic, because open to all who will earn their own dividends by assigned or selected service.

Britain and America are trying to do it by the ancient trick of taking in one another's washing: the most approved methods of getting money away from one another being to make others do the actual if superfluous washing, and just collect the bills. Therefore Britain and America come short of capitalism and private property, as institutions, about eighty per cent. And all Britons and Americans lose immeasurably by the inherited, anarchic condition: that not even a tory has a right to sponsor.

Cordially,

Arthur George

Work veteran of fifty years active service; no property.

To the ^{Walter E. Green} First Commissioner of Works (99)

Sunday July
19-31

To
The Right ^{Hon^{ble}} George Lansbury ^{M.P.}
of London Evg

Dear Sir:

A few lines.

I append - in appreciation
of your "International
Broadcast," to uplift
- get under. I would

term, ^{received} your splendid
addⁿ of C. F. R. B. in
Toronto. Canada

2 Via - the N. B. C. of America
- your address - conveyed
all the Right living Ideas,
^{against} ~~of~~ selfish - & narrow
minded ways & means
of bygone days.

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We are progressing
toward the True Light
morally & Spiritually -

By helping other Human^s
- I am just, one of the
lesser lights; But I
recognise - a greater light
& leader - like the man you
are Sir - may God Bless
your endeavours -

P.S. Your clear voice, an
excellent Radio speaker -
rightly timing, your each &
every expression. could not
have failed to please - anyone
- who "listened in" over this side
of the Atlantic. 12.30 noon Sunday
July 20-31 I am Sir -

Yrs respectfully.

Chas E Green

714 Brock Ave

Toronto Ont

Canada