

110 Western Avenue
East Acton. W. 3.

Rev. Wm. Christopher Jackson
(1874-?)

23.4.1940.

Mt George Lansbury.
M.P.

Dear and Honoured Sir.

A Methodist Local preacher sends sincere greetings to you with all good wishes for your recovery to health and strength.

It is not possible for me to call upon you and I beg therefore that you will kindly accept this written message.

I pray that God will grant you every blessing — and that in your own soul, faith and hope will burn brightly, more and more, still.

Your work and influence is so sorely needed

With affection and esteem.

Believe me

Yours sincerely

Wm Jackson



M449

Mrs. Eric George ~~Lansbury~~
(n. Emily Forrest)

201

Hillwood House

Newbridge

177, Idolkhion

Thursday

[say 23 Apr. 1940]

Dear Dad,

What have you been doing with yourself? Eric has just written about your sickness, I do hope you are better now.

Philip is so big and fat you would hardly know him, he is very good and sleeps all night. Everyone is very fond of him, but Ian seems to be the favourite here. I heard from the boys on Tuesday they are very well and much happier in Truro.

Poor Eric seems to be feeling rather miserable, here is what we thought of doing.

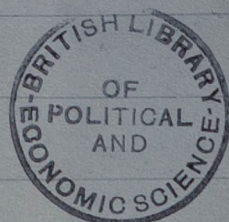
I will leave here about the 9th and pick Eric up in London

and both go to Cornwall for a week with the boys. Dad is giving me enough money for the trip, and I think we should take the chance of going and seeing them together. Dear knows when we shall be able to have them back or when we can visit them again. It's awful to think of them away from us, still unless Eric gets a job out of London we will have to leave them there.

Do take care of yourself and don't worry about anything

lots of love

Emily



M449

Southall P.P.U.

91, Lady Margaret Rd.,

Ernest Godfrey Lester
(Peace Pledge Union)

Southall,
Middlesex.

April 23rd 1940.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Please accept this card as a token of our love and gratitude, and as an expression of our united wishes and prayers for your complete recovery.

We hope you will have an enjoyable and beneficial holiday, and soon be with us again. We want to thank you for your book "This Way to Peace", for its rich humanity and its sound principles, and most of all, for its message of Christian love.

God bless and keep you, and grant you a speedy return to good health.

Yours sincerely,

Ernest Godfrey Lester.

James Middleton

203

and NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LABOUR

TRANSPORT HOUSE, SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1

TRADES UNION CONGRESS

Secretary: SIR WALTER CITRINE

DR.

(VICtoria 9020)

THE LABOUR PARTY

Secretary: J. S. MIDDLETON

(VICtoria 9434)

PARLIAMENTARY LABOUR PARTY

Secretary: H. SCOTT LINDSAY

(WHITehall 6240)

April 23rd, 1940.

Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.
Manor House Hospital,
North End Road,
Golders Green. N.W.11.

My dear George,

We have just had our ordinary meeting of the National Council of Labour, and I have been asked by our comrades to let you know how sorry we are that you are once again in hospital.

We feel that we are expressing the hopes of all your friends throughout the Movement at home and abroad that you will soon be once again out of the hands of the Doctor and back to normal life.

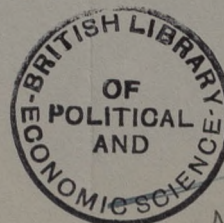
It has been hard throughout all these recent months to find any bright spot upon which to centre one's thoughts, and some of us can realise the depression that must have assailed you after all your manful efforts for Peace. For years now you have figured as the eternal optimist, and it is hard to conceive anything that will diminish your faith in good.

With these greetings from the Council, take the affectionate regards of all your many comrades on the staffs at Transport House.

With kind regards,
Yours very sincerely,

Jim Middleton

Secretary.



M449

204

I. Perkoff

5, Holmbury View,
Springfield Park Clapton,
London E.5.

April 23rd 1940.

Dear Comrade Lansbury,

I was very sorry to read in the "Daily Herald" that you are not well. I sincerely hope that you will soon recover your normal health and may live to a hundred!

Humanity needs morally-matured men like you!..

Perhaps you will remember that we used to meet at the late Mr. Joseph Fels house near Hyde park in the years 1912-1913 in company with Col. Wedgewood, Zimbalist and others. I still keep one of your fine articles entitled: "Jews I have met." picturing Joseph Fels and Samuel Montague.

I enclose one of my articles which I prepared for the "Daily Herald." I hope you will like it.

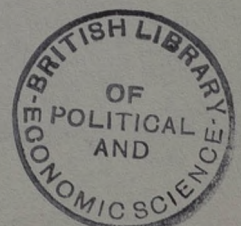
Wishing you a quick recovery.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

I. PERKOFF.

I. Perkoff



M449

I. PerKoff
with letter 23 Ap. 1940

205

HUMANITY IN ITS CHILDHOOD.

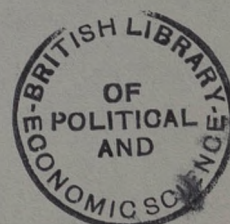
99 per cent of humanity is spiritually-morally in its childhood yet! ... And of the one per cent morally matured, only a few are perfect models: (of how humanity should be and hope will be) such models as Moses, Christ, Confucius, Buddah, Hillel and few others.

Only when 51 per cent (or more) of Humanity Will mature then only will we consider War as legalised murder ... and capitalism as legalised robbery... and actually practice in life Justice, Love, Tolerance, Freedom and Peace.

Thank God we in England have also morally-matured men such as Lord Cecil, George Lansbury, H. G. Wells, and a few others.

I. PerKoff.

5, Holmsbury View,
Springfield Park,
Clapton,
London N.16.



M449

Raymond Wm. Postgate

(206)

Proprietors:
Tribune Publications, Ltd.

Telephone:
NATIONAL 5391-5392

Editor:
Raymond Postgate.

General Manager:
Robert Watson

P.G. Sutton

and **TRIBUNE**

MILTON HOUSE,
8 & 9, CHISWELL STREET,
LONDON,
E.C. 1

Directors:

SIR STAFFORD CRIPPS, K.C.,
M.P. (Chairman)

G. R. STRAUSS, M.P.

ANEURIN BEVAN, M.P.

VICTOR GOLLANCZ

23rd. April, 1940.

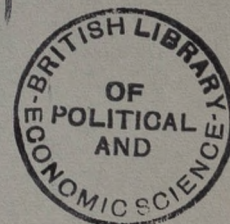
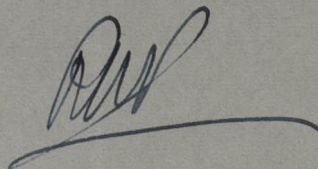
The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,
Manor House Hospital,
N.W.11.

Dear G.L.,

It was very good indeed of you to send us that article, and I am very glad that you found time and strength to write it. It is just what we wanted.

With best wishes from everyone in this office,

Ever yours,



M449

Tom Williams
(1888)

207

23. 4. 40

My Dear George

much as I regret to learn of your temporary rest, I am happy to know that you will be well cared for at Manor House.

Needless to state all my colleagues and myself miss you tremendously, for whether you appreciate it or not, you have for many years been an inspiration to all of us.

Don't attempt to reply to this short ^{note} but be assured that we shall be delighted to learn of a complete recovery and to see you back again at this home of democracy.

George Lansbury M.P.

Yours very sincerely
Tom Williams

Sir (R.) Stafford
Cripps
April 21. 1940

Provision House
Park Lane
W. 1.

(208)

My dearest George,

It was very dear of you to write me a letter to welcome me home.

Some time I must have a talk to you about it all. It is far too long to write about. 45,000 miles (an average of 311 a day) and seeing the rules of 1300 million people means a broadening of outlook I hope, and a capacity to learn.

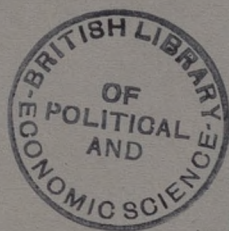
I am so sorry you have been so busy but am delighted you

are taking a real rest.

What a world! But there
it is we must each go
on doing our best and I feel
how my contribution may be
for the present in Eastern affairs.

Let me hear as soon as you
are up in Bonn again - I want
a long long talk with you.

Yours
Raford



M449

209

Apr. 24th 194029 Norfolk Crescent,
Sidcup,
Kent.Mrs. Tom Mann

Dear W. Lansbury,

Your loving message to Tom touched me deeply, and I know he felt a glow at the appreciation of one com-
rade for another.

Like him you are filled with hope and faith for the future, in spite of the wran-
gles & jangles of a tortured world. Like you too he never indulged in perso-
nal invective, always work-
ing towards that Unity,

210

without which little can be accomplished, - but it will come. The other day he said "I have no ani-
-mosity against anyone."

Since you wrote I learn that you are in Golders Green Hospital; I hope + trust you will soon be restored to health + strength.

No, Tom has no pain except rheumatism in the knees, but the last few days he has been so tired, the heart + nerves I think!

The clot has impaired his memory, he cannot read or write, his speech is confused. I tell him just so much of current events

as I consider befitting.

Some time back he was in Golders Green Hospital for observation & speaks highly of the attention he received, so I know you are in good hands.

When I read your letter to him he said "good old George" and he asks me to give you his love and thanks and may you soon be better.

With love & best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Elsie Mann



M449

Rev. John Dugh
St. Jude's Vicarage,

Old Bethnal Green Road,

London, E. 2.

Tel. BIS. 1941.

24 APR 1940

(21)

Dear Mr. Lausbury,

This is just a word
of sympathy to you in your
illness — from our people &
your people at St. Jude's; &
best wishes for a speedy
recovery. Also if you are
able to do so we should like
a short message from you to
our young people for Sunday. We
have a service for the Scouts

of the whole of Bethnal Green
hope to have a good
congregation,

Yours Sincerely
J. Ough.



M449

Mrs Mrs David Graham Pole

212

THE SHACK
LODGE HILL ROAD 24 April 1940
FARNHAM, SURREY

FARNHAM 6116

Dear G.L.

We were glad to have your post card this morning with all its kind messages we have duly delivered, but are rather remorseful that you should have expended your strength in writing to us! For we never expected you to do so, we want you to conserve your energy to get well & be able to come back here and convalesce properly.

I have found two of your handkerchiefs and enclose them.

We have had some summer days, one very hot, but if the weather is cooler now. You can picture us in our quiet routine, our only excitement has been one of our new hens flew over the wire netting three times and scratched

up the vegetable seeds! And
Eo has finished his Fantasia and
they are going to rehearse it at Annis
this afternoon.

David means to open his London
office again next week, and Rhoda is
returning to her flat.

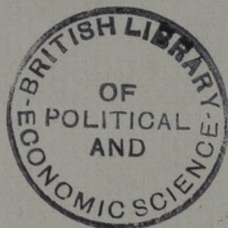
We all send you love and
best wishes -

Yours affectionately - The Laurel
Jessie Graham Cole

All the young green leaves are
now out on the silver birch trees.

Come soon. Love David

The Rhododendrons are out
- some of them.



M449

Benjamin Tillet

213

TRANSPORT & GENERAL WORKERS UNION
REGISTERED TRADE UNION No 1834 T. APPROVED SOCIETY FOR NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE No 398.

REGISTERED OFFICES,
Transport House, Smith Square,
WESTMINSTER,
LONDON, S.W.1.

General Secretary, ERNEST BEVIN

Financial Secretary, STANLEY HIRST
Asst General Secretary, ARTHUR DEAKIN

CHIEF OFFICE
COMMUNICATION

PLEASE QUOTE

Our Ref.:

Your Ref.:

24-4-40.

George Lansbury, M.P.
Manor House Hospital,
Golders Green. N.

My dear George:

Fine, brave old soul, a great heart, and a Comrade of sincerity and purpose.

Do, get well, soon, do come back, and if sanity can count, let the sanity-of true courage Count!

Materialism, Hitlerism, and Stalinism, has neith^{er} soul, or, even spiritual meaning-to Civilisation; and to them religion, even, of humanity doesn't count.

So scoundrelism takes on an intellectual defence, even claiming the st^{ri}butes of philosophy, the while they practice m^uder and massacre.

But, may you be consoled with all the gentleness of your being, they though you offered the "Balm of Gilead" to Hitler, his soul was steeped in venom, and a mad hungering for slaughter, that power might be achieved with the weapons of atrocity, after crushing Democratic-Institutions and socialism. But. God love you!

Your Sincerely - Ben Tillet

Doris Lester Personal - not any business

KINGSLEY HALL AND THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE

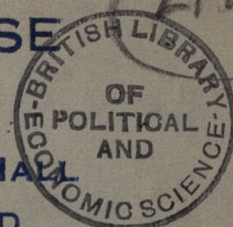
[see in E. Sylvia Pankhurst, Home Front, p. 170]

Telephone—
ADVANCE 2532

Fellowship of Reconciliation

Please address all letters to:

KINGSLEY HALL
POWIS ROAD
BOW, E.3



M449

25 April.

1940

Dear old Friend -

This is just to let you know that we people here are all 'wishing you better'. You are constantly in our thoughts & often in our prayers.

This isn't a business letter - or anything like it - I began it last week when we heard you were in the country - & began by saying that we were all glad you were in the country for a while, tho' Bow never seems quite complete without you. Now I'm 'scrapping' that letter & writing another as we hear you are in hospital - & we want to send you our special love.

I don't know if you are allowed letters - but in case you are this is only to be a chronicle of little cheery happenings - we have been busy

tackling the spring cleaning - you'd have enjoyed seeing us on Saturday - fourteen of us clad in every sort of overall, club girls shop & household, washing the walls cleaning the radiators & polishing the floor to the blaring music of the Club Radio programme & singing as we worked. Then we had a welcome break for a friendly meal - for which someone had baked a batch of special cakes.

A fortnight ago I went to see Pinocchio - you must get well & go to see it. You would love him - so would the grand children. He is quite unique I think - young Pinocchio himself is a charmer & the Cricket - (his conscience) is a most attractive little fellow.

Muriel hopes to get a few days in England during June - she's planning a journey thro Europe for June & July & then America ^{again} until December. She would choose June for England. The mouth of roses & strawberries isn't it

Doris Lester

215

KINGSLEY HALL AND THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE

Telephone—
ADVANCE 2532

Fellowship of Reconciliation

25 Apr. 1940
Please address all letters to:

KINGSLEY HALL
POWIS ROAD
BOW, E.3

she always manages things well
doesn't she - the villain!

What glorious sunshine such a
heavenly spring - God goes on being
so generous whatever his foolish children
get up to - I to cheering too that amidst
all the big tragedies in the world
there are such countless lovelinesses still
happening every where in the relationships
& generousities of innumerable 'common'
people - to keep our faith alive. It
would indeed be a desolate world other-
wise. It enables one to hang on -
knowing that God has a plan & a way
this, even tho' we can't see it yet.
A lot of your constituents - inspired
by your vision & courage - are hanging
on to that faith & trying to lay hold
of that plan & be its tools.

KINGSLEY HALL AND THE CHILDREN'S HOUSE

KINGSLEY HALL
POWERS ROAD
BURY ST. GERMANS

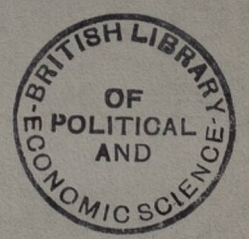
1917
NOV 11

Again ~~o~~ again these days the
words return 'I had fainted
unless I had believed to see the
goodness of the Lord in the land
of the living.

Rest well & get strong. You
are very precious to many of
us

With love in which
many want to join.

Doris



M449

Tom Wisdom

of Daily Herald

EDITORIAL OFFICE

2-12, ENDELL STREET,

LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2.

TELEPHONE: TEMPLE BAR 7733.

1200

TELEGRAMS: DAILY HERALD.

INTELTUBE, LONDON.

PLEASE QUOTE
OUR REF:

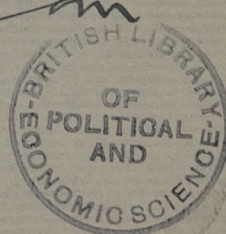
216

Apr 25. 40

My dear G. H.

The old gang & the new
 have asked me to send you greetings.
 We hear about you & hope that the rest
 you are having in Manor House
 will get you on your leg again very
 soon. I had to look up an old D.H. file
 this morning & there you were all
 over the pages. But I suppose young
 fellows like you & me shouldn't look
 back! If we have any faith in

1917



M449

ideals we must. Still believe that
the world will become sane through
its tribulations. I am sure you
feel like that. Hoping for a
speedy return of your old form
& spirit.

Faithfully.

Tom Woodson

April 26
1940

Telephone:
GRANGEWOOD 2453.

Father Andrew

217

HOUSE OF THE DIVINE COMPASSION,
42 BALAAM STREET,
PLAISTOW, E.13.

My very dear old friend

My heart goes out to you in very loving sympathy in your sickness. Annie tells me that she will be visiting you to-morrow, this is just to say that all my love and prayer goes out to you and for you and that if a prayer by your bedside and God's blessing, or any other priestly ministry that I could give you would be a comfort to you I would very gladly find my way to the beautiful Hospital that shelters you. May God send forth to your body healing influences, to your mind His peace, and in His own presence indwell your soul.

Yours ever affectionately
Andrew S. D., C.



5, STORKS ROAD,
BERMONDSEY,

218

Alfred Salter
(1873-1945)

26/4/40

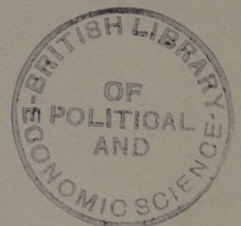
My dear George,

Just a line to send you our love and to
tell you that we all miss you dreadfully.

In your present hour of weakness may you
realise the peace that passeth understanding,
and may you be sustained and comforted by the
knowledge that thousands of people are thinking
of you, loving you and praying for you.

Yours affectionately,,

Alfred Salter



M449

Cont. 28
Telephone:
GRANGEWOOD 2453.

Father Andrew

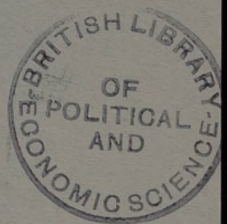
4940

HOUSE OF THE DIVINE COMPASSION,
42 BALAAM STREET,
PLAISTOW, E.13.

279

My dear old friend

I was glad to hear of you
and get a message from you through
Annie. May 1 is S. Philip and
James' Day and our parish
festival, we have Bishop Kenilthorne
coming to us and a High Mass
at 11.30 and a lunch all
together after. Thursday is



M449

Answer Day and full of claims.

I am hoping that on Friday I

may manage to get down to

your Hospital. I have to be in

old doctor who is very ill in Peking

in the morning but think I can

get over to Golden Gate for then

later in the day. I shall have a

car at my disposal. You will

know of course that thousands

Father Andrew

(220)

HOUSE OF THE DIVINE COMPASSION,
42 BALAAM STREET,
PLAISTOW, E.13.

2
Telephone:
GRANGEWOOD 2453.

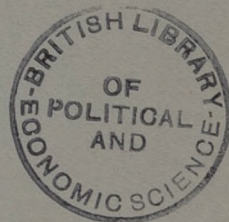
28 Ap. 1940

have you in their hearts and that
you must be surrounded with an
atmosphere of positive love which must
be a precious thing for you and a help
in your spirit's need.

May God bless and keep you in
His tender love

Our affectionately yours

Andrew S.T.D.



M449

Rev. Henry Carter

(1874-

TELEPHONE: HARROW 1935.

"WESTRAY,"

58, GAYTON ROAD,

HARROW-ON-THE-HILL.

221

April 26/40

My dear George

Just a few lines of warm
greeting. Percy told me, when I
got back from a long round in the
North, that you were at the
Manor House Hospital, & here is
the word of affectionate remembrance.
I pray you may have a quiet
mind amid all the tensions of
life, & the sureness of the Presence
of Christ our Lord.

It would be a joy to talk
with you, but I am held closely
by work, & shortness of staff

The branch of activity would
delight you, I know. Working
with the Ministry of Labour & the
Forestry Commission I have
succeeded in forming twelve
Forestry Units for men C. O's.
The men, now numbering more
than 70, live in community,
& on the whole are shaping well
industrially & religiously.

My hearty good wishes
come with this

Yours,
Henry Carter

M449



Lady Sanderson (wife of Henry
Sanderson - Furniss, 1st Baron Sanderson;
m. Nichol)

222

NORTH COTTAGE

CROMER

TEL CROMER 2358

28-⁽⁴⁾ 40.

My dear Mr. Sanderson

I was terribly distressed
to see that you had had to go into
hospital & was off to your
daughter in whom I have had
a kind letter with news of you -
I am so sorry to hear of your
illness & I cannot help to think of
you deprived of a cup of the Whirl
is one of the great pleasures the
resistance is had! I hope - I trust
that by this time you are better

able to drink your tea - feeling much
comfortable. It is good any how
to have of you - the splendid
hospital - helped by all the
medical science can do in the
harsh weather - we have had such
a terrible winter here - we? -

I saw little Jack the other day who
told me how much he missed
you - he said he was so happy to
sit next you in the house.

I Remem. what a very real sorrow
it was when he left you after all
your gallant efforts - But I can't

237
help feeling that the hole to Pull
of people like yourself - we shall
I shall feel Pacific to most sorrow
be accumulating & just lying in state
to come into our own Sunday -
a sinner & take hold. In spite
of the awful things going on - he
does seem to be less bitter &
harsh - to realize how & how
in this country than the west - the
last war - perhaps - even now - the
are some signs of the spirit of good
living in the face of the battle -
But you must go back - the
world is badly needs you as
well as all those who love -

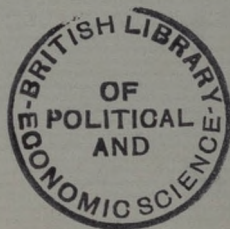
(223)

Respect you --

My best wishes are with you -
now - always -

Yours affectionately

Arthur D. Sanders



M449

Sir Herbert Septimus Scott
(1873 -

(224

~~33, HIGHLAND ROAD,
AMERSHAM, BUCKS.~~

22, PARK MANSIONS,
PRINCE OF WALES DRIVE,
S. W. II.

~~AMERSHAM GIO. MAGAULAY 2970.~~

April 28th 1940.

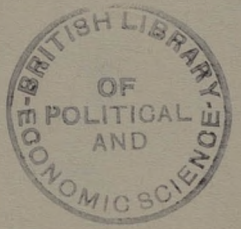
Dear Mr. Lumsden,

I am afraid you may think this an impatient letter but I am now to write to you as a descendant of the office a long sojourner of 38 years in Africa has now had to live in Batareua. I have been sitting in the Park and have been watching the children of Batareua at their play and the people of Batareua digging up their allotments and wondering at the beauty of it all the beauty of the gardens & the happiness of the children and I feel now to write you because I recognise how it is

52, PARK MANIONS,
33, HIGHLAND ROAD,
PRINCE OF WALES DRIVE,
S. W. N.
AMERICAN BOOKS
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN, 48106

Great measure it is your work. I should like
to see a plaque in my London Park to
your honour. We used to laugh at his
laughing sides - but if you ever watch his
people and the children in these spring days it seems
to be a cause for mourning, if it ever was.

Yours sincerely
J. S. Scott.



M449

W. Frank Carey

225

3, Woodstock Terrace

London, E, 14.

29th April 1940

My Dear Mr Lansbury.

You will doubtless be a little surprised at getting this letter from me, But I feel I must write you (and before the Postal rate goes up too) to tell you, how sorry your many friends are to learn through the "Press" that you are in Hospital, having been ordered to take a complete rest, we regret to hear this, for you can ill be spared from our public life, particularly in these troublous times, in which we find ourselves. At the same time we do realise, that when we have passed the three score and ten mile stone of our life, it is necessary that we should take things more quietly. We trust the enforced retirement will soon make itself manifest in the well-being of your general Good Health. In the meantime we are thinking much of you and pray to Our Heavenly Father, that much of His Comfort and Grace may be given to you, May you feel the support of the "Everlasting Arms"

You will be interested to know, that Messrs Dey And Kelly took me down to the "Day Nursery" at Garston House, Little Hallingbury, on Thursday last, was delighted with everything I saw, A nice large house, (Georgian, I suppose it would be styled) beautiful garden and grounds, not nearly so large as Chicksands, yet plenty of room for the youngsters to romp about, There were thirty-four installed, all looking perfectly well and happy. Matron spoke very highly of the completely happy state of affairs, which fact did one good. Matron mentioned too how very kind and considerate the Owner. a Mrs Barclay, had been to the Staff and Children, Altogether I found the atmosphere of the Institution excellent, It was a Sunny day too, and I found myself contemplating, as I stood in front of

W. Frank Carey

226

29 April 1940

"
the House. One would wish they had Herr Hitler here, for a few hours
and ask him how he could lend himself to the despoiling of our
Fair Earth, May he soon realise his error,
"

I think the place is ideal for the Nursery, the children will
hear the birds singing, see the lovely Spring flowers, I myself
heard the Cuckoo for the first time this year, whilst I was in the
garden at "Garston House",

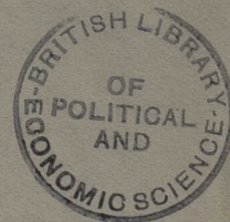
We have to thank you again & again Dear Mr Lansbury, for
the great part you have played in helping Mr Clapham, to establish
a "Day Nursery" for the Poor children of Bow Common.

God Bless and keep you always.

Very Sincerely yours.

W. Frank Carey

Please do not trouble to answer this, as I know your Post Bag must
be very heavy, also will you please forgive a type-written letter?



M449

Bertram Cole
(Mayor of Walthamstow)

April 29, 1940

(227)

To the

Right Hon. G. Lansbury M.P.

"Stainforth"

18 Belle Vue Road,
Walthamstow, E.17

Dear George.

I am taking the opportunity, long deferred, of writing to express to you my admiration of your life's work, and its influence on us who have been inspired by yourself and others to do something for the advancement of the Socialist cause.

I believe in the early stages you contested a Southwark Election for the L.C.C. with only a few votes to your credit, anyhow it was about 1906. when working in Holborn. two youngsters. of about 15 yrs of age. working in the same warehouse as I. and living at Bromley. used to come up. at Election times wearing Red Lies & portrait buttons of "Our George". These little things fired my imagination and after hearing Ramsay Mac. & G. N. Barnes. I gave up my Radicalism & accepted Socialism as the one hope of Economic Freedom.

P.S.D.

This belief was endorsed by my experiences as a Christian Social Worker in Wapping, Whitechapel and I used to travel some distances to hear your speeches and gain something greater than a materialistic creed.

It was in those days that I eagerly looked forward to the Labour Leader and later on the Daily Herald.

The hectic days of the clashes of temperament between the ideals of Keir Hardie Bruce Glasier Smoulden yourself against the Agnostic Materialistic Socialism of the Karl Marx followers are almost past. The Pioneer stage of the Socialist Evolution has been accomplished and if Socialism in our time has not come yet the foundations of the movement have been well & truly laid. Personally I found great inspiration from those Pioneer days and when I came to Walthamston I soon got caught in the net of the Party machine and became Ward Chairman, Secretary, Councillor, Alderman, and Mayor following M^cEntee & others and now at 60 years I have retired to make way for younger & better men.

Bertram Cole 3

29 Apr. 1940 (228)

and so to you Comrade for your
inspiration to myself and thousands more
I send you my greetings with the
hope that the Rest Cure at Manor
House. may re invigorate you to enjoy
the remainder of your days in increased
happiness.

May Day of 1940 may be clouded
but may the day soon dawn when we
can welcome it again in the manner
visualised by William Morris &
Walter Crane.

Yours very fraternally
Bertram Cole

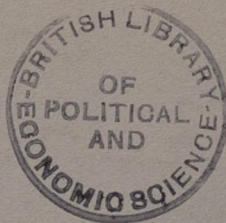
P.S. a few new Simon War Tax
stamps which may
prove useful.

Lady Stafford Cripps
Oct 28. Grosvenor House
(n. Isobel Swithinbank) London W. 1.

(229)

April 29th 40.

Friday night.



M449

George dear, Stafford
met Ray Postgate this
evening and heard you
were really laid up, so
I rang up Daisy &
asked if we might
come to see you. We
are terribly sorry & send
our very dearest love
& thoughts of cheer.
I have to go to

Barrington tomorrow
for the night, to settle
Mother into a Nursing
Home. but we will
come on Thursday
evening, + long to see
you. I saw Ursula
John yesterday. Both
very well, & Diana has
gone to a dear little
private Hotel at Regin-
ton and is putting on
weight & spirits!

Believe me very dear.
I love.

Francis Davey

(230)

3 Agnes St.
London E 14

April 29. 40

Dear George

Just a line to let you know Jennie and I are thinking of you and to hope that your progress towards normal health is satisfactory. At a time like this, when every one knows he is more or less acting insanely and yet argues that there is nothing else to do in the circumstances in which we find ourselves, ones mind goes back to the past. When the Golden age was in sight and I specially remember a Peace meeting, in a small Temperance Hall in Tudegar Road at the top of Pepere Road, that W.R. Cremer addressed and at which you made a very good speech. That must be 45 years ago. And look where we are now?

Francis Davey

(231)

29 Apr. 1910

I'm no pessimist - I often think of myself as the incorrigible optimist. The future is safe for greater Justice, which is better than Democracy because it has a more exact meaning. But the Present is a wicked fact. all honor to G. D. H. Cole for saying he would rather a Stalemate than a Chamberlain Victory. It wants some pluck to say that, but he's safe because England has thrown away the chance of a victory over Prussianism and a Stalemate seems the probable result. But what a result? Wholesale murder, lying, arson and impoverishment for the satisfaction or attempted satisfaction of National Pride.

Nothing much can be done while the war is on because we can do little else than support our own side. Each country is the same.

But afterwards there should be an attempt of a World wide movement to alter things but it will have to be divorced from Commercialism and Dogma to have any hope of success.

With love and best wishes from Jennie
+ Dave.

(Ernest) George Hicks
(1879 —

232



"The Builders",
Crescent Lane,
South Side,
Clapham Common,
S.W.4.

29th. April, 1940.

Dear Bro George

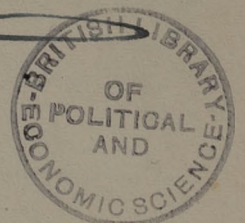
I was awfully sorry to hear that you have had to enter the Manor House Hospital again for treatment, but sincerely trust that you will very shortly be restored to health.

I would have very much liked to have run over to see you, but I am simply overwhelmed just at the present time, which I am sure you will understand.

However, my very best wishes to you dear friend.

Yours very sincerely,

George Hicks



M449

Rev. Canon Stuart Morris

233



"I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER"

THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION

DICK SHEPPARD HOUSE, ENDSLEIGH STREET, LONDON, WC1

President : George Lansbury
Chairman : Alex Wood
General Secretary : Stuart Morris
Hon. Treasurer : Maurice Rowntree
Tel: Euston 5501-2-3

Sponsors

SM/MC

April 29th, 1940

- VERA BRITTAIN
- GEORGE LI. DAVIES
- ERIC GILL
- A. HERBERT GRAY
- LAURENCE HOUSMAN
- ALDOUS HUXLEY
- STORM JAMESON
- PHILIP S. MUMFORD
- J. MIDDLETON MURRY
- MAX PLOWMAN
- ARTHUR PONSONBY
- CHARLES E. RAVEN
- BERTRAND RUSSELL
- ALFRED SALTER
- SIEGFRIED SASSOON
- DONALD SOPER
- SYBIL THORNDIKE
- WILFRED WELLOCK
- ARTHUR WRAGG

The Right. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,
Manor House Hospital,
Hampstead, N.W.3.

My dear George,

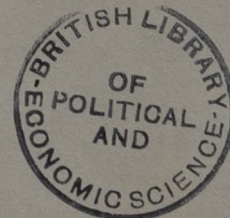
I read your message to the A.G.M., and was asked by them to convey to you a message of very real gratitude. We were all more sorry than I can say not to have you with us, and earnestly hope that you may soon be out and about again.

You will know that it is not easy for us to express in words our feelings for you, but we do want to assure you of our most affectionate thoughts.

With love,

Yours ever,

Stuart Morris
Stuart D. Morris



M449

G. D. H. Cole

(234)

FREELAND, 74 HOLDERS HILL ROAD, HENDON, N.W.4

TELEPHONE: HENDON 8384

Wednesday

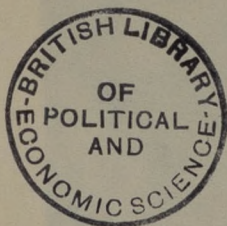
[Say 30 Ap. 1940]

Dear G. L.,

It was very nice indeed of you to write. I shall hope to find you better, and to be able to see you, when I get back from Oxford at the end of the week. Meanwhile, as you won't want to read a long letter, this note is to assure you of the deep affection in which Margaret and I hold you, and to wish you good luck. Daisy will let me know when I can come to see you. I shall not be back from Oxford until Sunday night.

with love from us both

Douglas Cole



M449

Mrs. R. Palma Dutt
(formerly Mrs. Igor Reussner; m. Violet Lansbury)

235

30 Apr. 1940.

Dear Dad,

This is a wee note to tell you I've wanted to come and see you, but on some days I've been busy, and on others I have heard that you've had so many visitors that I hesitated to come in late in the afternoon and tire you.

I would like to come in on Thursday, if I may, but I will 'phone Daisy first. I don't know how you can stand so many visitors, but in that respect you are not like me. When I'm ill, I'm sullen - but there it is.

The Putnam people will be sending me a small cheque this week, and a bigger one for £20 when I hand in half the book. It is to be 80,000 words - which is terrific; but I think I can do it.

I am glad that Clemens seems to take no interest in it. When I have something new to do, I hate to have to show bits of it in the making to anybody. I suppose Clemens has realised that I'm one who has to be left alone with a difficult job. Funnily enough, Mr. Huntington of Putnam's, who was all over himself to help and advise me, has not asked me to see him and get advice. This is a great relief to me - and gives me a free hand. From his letter, I judged he liked the synopsis I sent in to him, for him to show his directors. *This may have convinced him that I am best left alone.*

I've written all that, because it is a bit of news that nobody else is likely to give you, because they don't know.

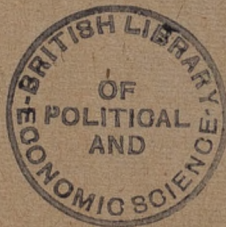
Renie came over to tea with me last Thursday, and ~~addage~~ see I and Clemens have an invitation to go to ~~xxxxxxx~~/them tonight. I am writing this before I go.

Tomorrow is May Day. I have sent greetings to the boys and Igor and Freda and Karl and their Mickey. *Also to Anna*

This brings warm May Day greetings to you. Whatever happens, May Day still comes.

Love,

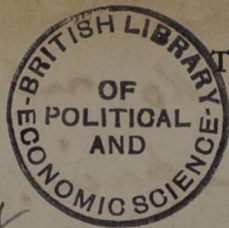
Violet



30/4/40.

M449

Telephone:
TERminus 1965



The Hostel,
52-54, Mount Pleasant,
Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1

(236)

John
Foley

30 . 4 . 1940.

My dear Mr. Lansbury,

I met your daughter
Hellen yesterday and I am glad
to know you are feeling a little
better for your rest. We do hope
and pray that you be restored
to good health soon, for it must
be terrible to you to be torn away
from the world at such an hour.
Put in the thoughts of your
great work for a better under-
standing amongst peoples I
for one do not despair, and
although the disappointment must
necessarily be bitter as it must be

10 millions I do not think
we should despair. And in
such a time my mind got
to those beautiful lines sent
by Archbishop Trench to Frederic
Davis in 1848 when it seemed
his mission had failed -

"Not all who seem to fail
have failed indeed,

Not all who've failed
have therefore worked in vain

With you, the world has seen
a sincere apostle of peace and your
influence will have its effects

yet. My brothers and my
wife send with me their best

wishes. With sincere remembrance

John Foley

I am enclosing a little booklet which I am
thinking will interest you.

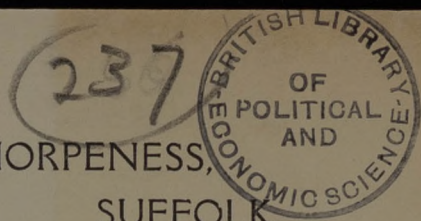
(Anna) Ruth Fry

(1878 --

Telegrams } ALDEBURGH
Telephones } 163

30. IV. 40 ,

THORPENESS,
SUFFOLK.



Dear friend, George Lansbury

I feel I should like to send you a word of warm sympathy in your illness, of which I'm so grieved to hear. The intense sorrow of the world cannot help weighing on your heart, & makes it hard, I know, to feel better. But I am sure you must be proud

and thankful for all the splendid work you
have done for peace, & I am sure, too,
that you feel as convinced as I do, that
some day our great cause will win, even
though you & I shant be there to see it.

Lady Gibb joins me in blessing you for all your
labours - the harvest will come one day. She
also rejoices with you in the fact that the iron railway
wrecks our many Squares seem about to be pulled down
though in a very bad cause - to make great guns. And yet
to have them down is part of our crusade.

Ad. R. K. the

you

[Egbert T. Lewis]

11 Beech Road,
Stonembridge,
Worce.
Apr 30, 1940.

Dear George Lansbury,

Seeing in the Daily Herald that you are 'interned' in Hospital, I feel I should like to write. They say "a fellow feeling makes us wondrous kind" and I have myself had six months on the sick list. But my feelings go farther than that, I suppose most of us get a bit despondent at times when vitality is below par. We think of the things we have tried to do, a did not come off, of the sacrifices made and apparently unappreciated.

I have thought a lot of the work you have put in for the ideal of International Peace, and to try and take some of the ideals of Christianity into the work-a-day world of politics and business.

I think of the work of Keir Hardie and how the last ~~war~~ war broke him. If ever your mind runs along these lines, I want to

Egbert T. Lewis

30 Ap. 1940

239
2

assure you that certainly you have not been a failure. The people who ought to have supported you may have been.

To some of us, ~~you~~ yes to many of us, you have been an anchor, when the people who led socialism & pacifism have gradually waned among the materialists, our only cheer has been to say "well, thank God, there's old George still true, anyway"

I don't know how to say all I would like to, but I believe you will feel something of the spirit behind this screed. A treasured memory is a night you spent in my home many years ago, and it left me with a feeling of personal friendship for yourself, which remains though for some years I have had no connection with the political movements.

I do not expect you to answer this. I know it would be impossible for you to write to all your well-wishers, but if this

30 Ap. 1940

3/
240

letter brings you a minute or two
satisfaction or upliftment, in return
for what your life ~~of~~ has given to many
of us unknowns, then it will have served
its purpose.

Cheerio. God bless you.

With affectionate greetings.

Egbert J. Lewis

m. Constance Lamson

(241)

Woodside

Mrs. Frederick Taylor

Tuesday

[say 30 Apr. 1940]

My Dear Dad,

Here is
lots & lots of love
from us all. I've
wanted to come &
see you again, but
I've got a nasty
head-cold & I'm
afraid to come
in case I scatter
germs around.

As soon as it has
gone I will come,
I hope to find you
feeling much better.

Maryna asks after
you a lot, & says

She will write you a
card.

She is coming to
School now (by bus)
An elderly lady takes
her and I call
for her at 3.30,
as the girl doesn't
leave School until
4 o'clock. as her
proper class is
full up & all
the higher classes,
she has had to go
into the Infants
until after Wilson.
Nellie a blow to
her pride - but she
is surviving it!

25
Nellie invited us
to her flat last
Saturday & we had
a good day. She
has a very nice
light & airy flat
& it is very convenient
for her work. Eric
heard we were going
and called in
too, & saw us back
to Charing X about
7.30 where he went
on to Finchley.

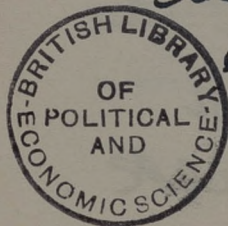
Nellie came & spent
the day with us
last Friday, & we
made a noise on the
piano, & went for
a pleasant walk.

242) Think it made a change
for her.

There isn't really
much news; and I
know, you know, we
think of you all the
time, and wish
you the best of good
wishes.

Mona sent her love
to you in a letter
& so did all the
Scales family.

Again lots of
love & aw revoir
until I can come
again soon,
Love



M449

[? Messel] Rudolph
(Socialist)

243

FORD HOUSE,
DREWSTEIGNTON,
DEVON.

May 1st.

1940

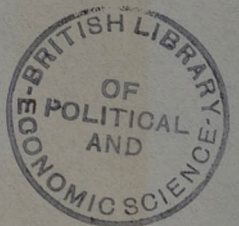
Dear G. L.

How lovely of you to write to me; I loved getting your letter, but you shouldn't have taken the trouble. Just at the moment you must concentrate on getting well. The sooner your out of hospital and on the war path, (or should I say the peace path?) the better for all of us. So don't worry about anything now except your own health and strength and don't ever forget that to thousands of us you~~re~~ are an inspiration.

I have started inquiries about Eric and hope to be able to report favourably soon,

Love,

Rudolph



M449

Sir Francis Meynell

(244)

MATHER & CROWTHER LIMITED, I.P.A.

BRETENHAM HOUSE, LANCASTER PLACE, W.C.2.

TEMPLE BAR 3411.

1 May 1940

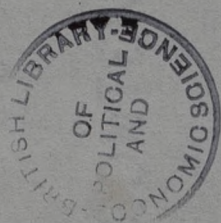
My dear George

I am so sorry to hear that you are laid up. Ray tells me that visitors are welcome, if they don't stay too long! I'll come in for a few minutes on Friday, in the hope of seeing you. I can't say exactly when, but before lunch I hope. More than ever we need you now.

Ever affectionately

Francis Meynell

May 1 1940



M449

245

Post

Office

Telegram

GREETINGS

192 GTG 1.24 LONDON T 12

1 May 1940

GEORGE LANSBURY MANOR HOUSE HOSPITAL

GOLDERSGREEN

= MAY DAY GREETINGS = HARRY POLLITT +



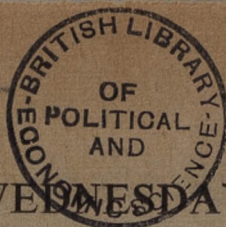
M449



Claudia Freedman

Sir Lionel Earle
(1866-1948)

Times



246
M449

MES WEDNESDAY MAY

1 May 1940

Letters to the Editor

IRON RAILINGS

THE LONDON SQUARES

Sir,—I was much interested in Mr. Lewin's letter in your issue of the 27th inst., and strongly support his view as regards the abolition of railings wherever practicable. If this reform be necessary due to shortage of iron it will be one of the few good things as the result of war.

I do not remember during a long life having ever seen a human being in Berkeley Square with its splendid plane trees, planted, I believe, by a Lord Crawford in bygone days, neither when the square consisted of private houses, nor since the square has become largely occupied by commercial enterprises. I have often felt indignant when the well-to-do in the great squares have left their houses in August for Scotland, the country, or abroad, to see the small, humble children on holiday playing in the surrounding hard, wood-paved streets. I even go so far as to say that I should like to see the park railings disappear, with the exception of those round Hyde Park and Kensington Gardens which saved us during the great strike as regards the milk supply.

Mr. Lansbury, when First Commissioner of Works, took away the railings round Primrose Hill, greatly improving the appearance of that area, and I have never heard of any police regret for that reform. During my 23 years of office at H.M. Office of Works I never heard of a flower being picked in the Royal Parks, although Hyde Park is open till midnight. If the squares were opened to the public their proper upkeep should be the duty of the local authority.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
LIONEL EARLE.

14, Sloane Gardens, S.W.1.

REV. ERIC S. LOVEDAY.

TELEPHONE:
BRISTOL 44970.

11 LIMERICK ROAD,
REDLAND,
BRISTOL, 6

(247)

Ascension Day, May. 2. 1960

Dear Mr. Hansbury.

A newspaper cutting has given me your address. So I hope you won't mind a line from someone to whom you have been very kind. Just to bring you our love and prayers and wishes for a speedy and full recovery. I'm sure that they are looking after you well - how else could they? May you soon be up and at it once more.

But what a word! These days certainly demand all the faith we can muster. But God still is, and He will make it plain. The Spring is more marvellous than ever, or perhaps some

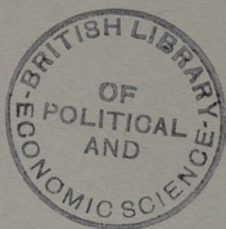
wanted it to be so, and found it was. I wish
were in the heart of the County for a few hours
to send you some wild flowers, but Bristol
is a busy place just now, with our 20,000
additional inhabitants. None like London
every day! And we in St. Peter's have our
share. So flower picking is not an immediate
possibility, but I may do it yet.

This house has happy memories of
your dear self, and we are all looking
forward to good news of you.

Bless you for being you -

Yours very sincerely,

J. P.
Lich. 10. 2. 21.
W



M449

Rev. Robert George Legge

St. Catherine,

Hostel of St. Luke,

14 Fitzroy Square, W.1.

4th May 1940

248

My dear Mr. Lonsbury,

Hope things are going well with you and that you are well on the mend. I have had a trying 2 weeks but hope to be out in a week or two.

Insulin addict.

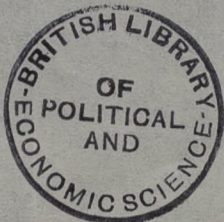
Shall in future be an

I don't relish going back to St. Mark's with its burden of worries. We must think of each other in our quiet moments.

Love & all the best

Yrs sincerely

R.G. Legge



M449