

Lily Ross

150

10 Oct:

10 Bentley Terrace

Choir Street

Poplar E. 14

[? 1912]

Dear Mr Sansbury

I hope you will accept this
chorus, I have made up, to the tune of.
"When your hair has turned to silver"

Good luck, to you, George Sansbury
You a friend that's good and true
You have worked, for us, for years now
And been honest, loyal, and true
We must work, in this election
For to send, you back again
Now your hair, has turned, to silver
We love you just the same.

Yours faithfully

Lily Ross Age 11 years

ENTRANCE, 3 & 4, CLEMENTS INN.

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87, CLEMENTS INN,
W. C.

F. W. Petrick-Lawrence
(1st Baron Petrick-Lawrence) Oct 26. 12

My dear Mr Lansbury.

I feel I have made a
very poor return for your
generous hearted letter in not
sending you an immediate
reply with regard to Mrs
Lawrence's meetings in Scotland.
We are informed by Mrs
Pankhurst that she has
cancelled all the meetings

that Mrs Lawrence or I were
to have addressed, or at least
she has cancelled our appearance
at them, so that except in
one or two instances where the
local WSPU, have expressly
wished us to retain our engagement
we shall not speak at them.

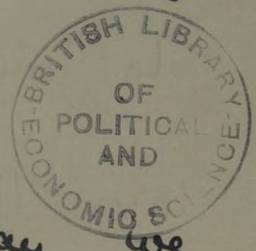
Mrs Lawrence will not be speaking
therefore at Glasgow or Edinburgh;
I do not know whether the

meetings are to be held with other
speakers.

The whole situation
has come upon us with
startling suddenness and at the
time nearly stunned us. To
be asked to leave the WSPU
to which we have contributed
our life blood, was like
a mother being asked to
part from her little child.

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And yet as we faced the situation
 in all its aspects we saw that
 the only ~~at~~ other alternative was
 to carry into the public arena
 our difference will be inevitable
 result that the Union would
 be smashed to bits. It was
 better we felt to leave it intact
 in the hands of those from
 whom we differ. It was
 the one chance. M449



Now as you say we
 have only one thing to think
 of, how somehow to hammer

26 Oct 1912 1913

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FW Petrick-Lawrence

out good out of this terrible

crisis. Mrs Lawrence and

I are going to put everything

into the paper Voice for Women

so that it may be an absolutely

first class paper.

You will be interested

to know that we are being

sold up ^{at our country home} ^{The Masot} on Thursday next

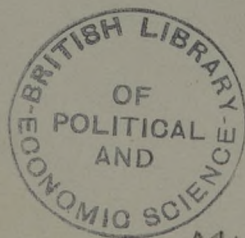
& that other developments are
brewing.

Now as to yourself

I congratulate you on the grand
fight you are making. When
we can't fight in battalions or
in companies we have got to
fight in units. Your fight
will live in history - that I know
you don't care about - & it will
be of incalculable value in the
great cause. Let me know
the moment I may give it
publicity.

Ever your friend

F W Schuch Lawrence



M449

Walter Coates

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Southernwood,
East Hendred,
Steventon, Berks.

Dear George

Oct 29/12

How goes it with you? Cheerful I hope -
and happy. I had Frank in to see ~~of~~ me
yesterday and we talked about your proposed
action. Frank was inclined to argue that
you should not resign from the House & seek
re-election, but I think, & I hope you will
agree, that if it's worth doing at all it's worth
doing the full length. Make your protest the
strongest & straightest possible and have a
mandate from your constituents that can't be
gainsaid. Altogether apart from your own
feeling - I think you should do as you propose
so as to give a lead to the workers. I am sure
George you are the one man in England today
to cleanse & straighten out the Labour & Socialist
movement and so at the same time strengthen
it.

I am here today & tomorrow getting some
letter writing & a bit of work done. I shall be in
town Thursday & Friday but shall be up to the
neck with engagements, and in case I hadn't
a chance to call you up - I wanted to say the

above - so that you would know how I feel
about it all.

Love to Bessie & you from
Yours
Walter

P.S.

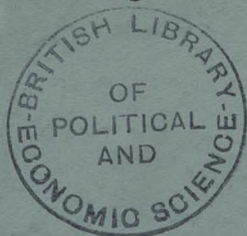
Last Thursday we formed a sub: part Co to
exploit a Bq. we own and we raised £150,000
right at the Board table. What do you think of
that? - They are getting mad about the possibilities
of the thing!



M449

Will send you an account of last
night's address.

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Mrs. Joseph Fels
3640 CHESTNUT STREET
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

M449

Oct. 29, 1912.

Dear Both of you:-

I have just returned
from the market and other
places to which we go to
purchase our supplies. You
should have seen me
come down this small street,
laden with parcels contain-
ing the things we must
have at once: liver and bacon
for luncheon in one hand,
fruit and flowers for Anna
Barnes in the other. For,
Anna has a bad leg and
is chained to her couch.

So I see to household
things and to the children
at table, and thus have
work of a kind that I do
not have at Cornwall Terrace.
I have been only once to
New York and then for so
few hours that, as Dolly
was at work in that time,
we could not meet. That
was disappointing to us
both, as each voiced in
rather a long letter. Her
letter voiced a second and
much more poignant dis-
appointment: the failure
to interview Debs, of which

she has doubtless written you.
And that reminds me of
what has been filling all
my consciousness since last
night: the great meeting
addressed last night, by
Woodrow Wilson and several
other excellent men. The meeting
was under the auspices of
those Republicans who, rising
above Party control, are for
the election of this Demo-
cratic candidate. What a
satisfaction it was to hear
these men, from the chairman
to the Presidential candidate,
speak from wise heads, true hearts
and noble souls. There we
came, in the course of this writing,

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to you, dear George. You are right, of course, splendidly right, in the stand you are taking. How could you have the least doubt of my endorsement? For you say in this letter to Joe and me: "you won't perhaps agree that I should do this thing."

You know how I feel about any sinking into partisanship. Haven't you heard me declare over and over again the belief that the devil stalks this earth in the guise of politics - and money? Sure, you have nothing to do here to act on your own admonitions because you are you, you are dear to and admired by yours and Beattie's
Mary Felt.

See vol. 28.a, fols. 83-84 for a letter to
G. R. Macdonald (?) dated 31 October 1912



May Tennant

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Oct. 31. 1912

M449

Dear Mr Landberg

To help you

or anyone of yours with

a car will give me a

feeling of being in the

high seldom have now.

But it has been promised to
brief Adler for a long time.

I am very sorry - though
it will do good work.

I have only just got of
late. too late to

telegraph usefully.

I watch all of those?

Common efforts in the
def in text - I was going

to say work but somehow

the possibility of achievement

is so small however much

we may give in effort

it is seldom one can

translate it into the sense

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of work. I don't know how

you stand it. I am glad

you can do if you see

a way out of it wood.

I wish we could meet to

talk over old times to

the hope of new. I am

little in London just now

to you, I take it, have it

May Tennant
31 Oct. 1912

33 BRVTON STREET, W.

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any more time to spare

than for wood to

leave. But if you

will tell me my

best name of printing

for by telephone do

any given time today

I would like to be

ready for the days

in London

I find, now at any

rate it is more than

possible to delegate work

to London; & it is impossible

just yet to find anyone

ready in the country near

us so I divide the work

I can between the two &

between the Aldermen &

Magistrates here

Do let me know what

will be my best chance

either of finding you at

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the House or sitting for

Lev. for a joint talk.

P always

very Tenant



M449

Lady J. W. P. Muir-Mackenzie
(M. Marie Therese Stuart)



22, DRAYCOTT PLACE,
CADOGAN GARDENS,

S.W.

Thursday

[10 Oct. 1912]

My dear Mr. Laubsberg

I have been down
to see if I could help
in your election
and I would like
to wish you good
luck. I would see
you but I fancy that
is almost impossible
as you are so busy. I
shall arrive at 12.6
Roman Road about

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even about tomorrow
evening to help the
organization of the New
Constitutional Society
for W. S. If you
happen to be passing
do look in to the
committee room. If by
any chance you want
any special work done
send a letter to 126 R. R.
Any way this comes to
wish you all good
fortune. Yours sincerely
Theresa Mae Mackenzie

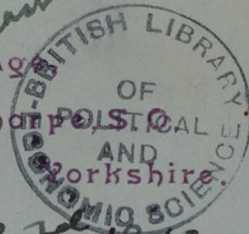
M44



See vol. 28. a, fos. 77-82 for the letter to which
this is a reply

P.S. It is not for people like you and no one else to keep government in. But it is not for us to yield to those who will play the awful game. I got Rev. Moll to admit that publicly last Thursday.

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Red Cottage
Nunthorpe
Yorkshire
16th



Mrs. Frederick Hansen Nov 3rd 1912

My dear friend

M449

So very carefully have I read and thought over what you write.

It is evidently useless to say more. But in justice to myself I feel impelled to let you know you have not convinced me.

The very fact that you are told that your "business is to get out of the Party" appears to me to be the supreme reason for your staying ~~at~~ in at least until after the next Labour Party Conference and until after the next S. L. P. Conference.

If the Labour Party is to become a wing of the Liberal

Party, then in justice to the S. L. P. and all Trade Unions affiliated also - this question ought to be brought before the Labour Party's own conference.

It will require a courageous man to do it, and in spite of all your doubts of yourself, your own actions, which I have followed much more closely than you know, prove to me that you do possess the necessary courage.

You can stand a few rows amongst the Parliamentary Labour group. Is it impossible for you to wait, and face the Labour Party conference?

You have a direct case to put before that conference - i.e. - whether or not the government is to be "backed" in the face of all propaganda speeches etc. I do think of

any one can prevail upon
you to see it in this simple
light, you will agree that
nothing can be lost by
waiting. After all have you
not always before you the
very 'raison d'être' of the
Labour Party? Which was
not to support any government.
You can make the workers
realise what is meant by
this. The whole Labour
Party deserves at least one
effort being made to open
its eyes.

Act honestly and get the
Parliamentarians to such a
pitch that they do more than
merely tell you it is "your
business to get out" - until
they actually move a
resolution asking you to
resign. Then take the

whole question to both
Conferences and get a general
reading of the situation. I am
sure this is feasible. You
will have a rough interval I
know. But you appear liable
for "rough intervals".

Naturally I disagree with
nearly everything you say in
your post cards which followed
your typed letter.

Why need you "dread leading
people wrong"? You appear to me
to have a genius for presenting
a case faithfully and yet with
depth and intensity. You can
make people think for themselves.
You appear to love people - don't
get so tired of them as some of
our speakers do.

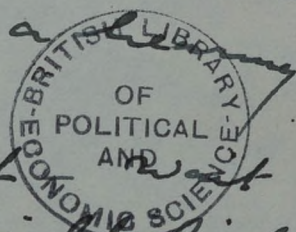
You need not set out "to lead".
You can be yourself - and in
being yourself you can present
matters truthfully, generously and
yet carefully before the next
conferences, the exact happening.
This is what is needed to

(165) 3 Nov. 1912. Mrs F. Hansen 2
save our movement. It will
be a big thing to do, but
to do it, you must not
remove yourself from a
position where you have a
right to demand a showing
for your side. - M449

I still say - wait
wait - and fight, fight, fight.

There is room for a
fourth party in England!

There is room for the
saving of the third party.
You know I would be the
last person to suggest to
you giving up one jot of
principle. I would not waste
my ink on you, if I thought
you could do so. But I do
think all concerned ought to
be consulted, and you can't
do this until after the two
conferences. Either we, of the
rank and file, count or we



don't count. In your philosophy
we ought to count.

Now won't you wait —
won't you let it be known
that you consider there should
be a general 'clearing up day'
at the conference, and they
are your final court of appeal.

Then if you are deserted
many many of us will
stand most staunchly by
you. Surely this is
reasonable. Surely such an
action on your part, will
help to put the fear of god
into the hearts of Macdonald
Bros. such as ^{your} resignation
~~or~~ would never do. Calm yet
generous but faithful
presentation of the questions
at issue may help to put
our English movement on a
footing never yet reached. Pray
wait. affectionate greetings to
your wife and you. ^{Ever} Marion Coats Smith

Gordon Crosse

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CHRIST CHURCH (OXFORD) MISSION,

FOLLETT STREET,

POPLAR, E.

TELEPHONE:
No. 1102 EAST

Nov 12/12

My dear Lansbury,

I went to the H. of Commons this afternoon but you were not there: I just wanted to congratulate you in person on your splendid action & to wish you every success: whatever happens in Bow & Bromley now you will have struck a fine blow for the cause of making Parliament really representative, & one that cannot fail to have results.

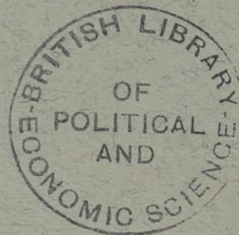
I should like very much to get to your liberal meeting on Thursday but I fear I shant be able -

Are the children you are to take round tomorrow

those from Sheffield, & if so will Dean be
there - I particularly want to see him this week.
Would you mind, if he is going to be there,
getting some one to ring me up tomorrow
morning & say what time he is gone &
I could meet him there - Otherwise don't
bother,

Best wishes
ever yours

Chase



M449

James Lamsbury
(brother)

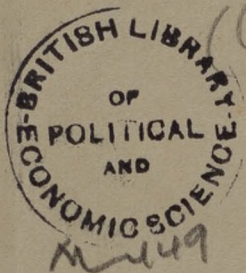
CLYRO,

29 SIDNEY ROAD,

FOREST GATE, E.

Nov 13. 12

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My dear George

just a line to let you

know that you are very much in our thoughts just now personally I don't know much about what prompted you to take the step you have but am sure it is from a sense of what is right + proper and in view of that I do most sincerely wish you every success in all that lies before you From what I understand of political life + I am not alone in this viz that the House of Commons is no place for a man with a conscience the man who is determined to walk the straight line as got to smart for it and from the professerally good people accept this assurance of our love + Best wishes

yours affectionately
J Lamsbury

Thanks

Rev. Alexander Begg

USWORTH
Newworth Rectory
Washington D.C.

C. Durham

14 Nov 1912

Dear Sir

I would like to
congratulate you on the stand
you are taking for women's suffrage
& to wish you good luck, & power
to your elbow in the contest at
Barns Bromley. You have said
& done things before which tempted
me to write & express my sympathy
but somehow or other such letters

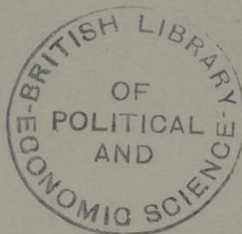
Set put off:

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely

Alexander Begg

George Lansbury Esq M.P.



M449

[say mid-Nov. 1912]
G. L.

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Parliamentary Bye-Election, 1912.

TO THE ELECTORS OF BOW AND BROMLEY.

103, ST. STEPHEN'S ROAD,

Bow, E.

FELLOW ELECTORS,

Two years ago you did me the great honour of electing me as your Member in the House of Commons. During that time I have consistently striven to carry out the promises I made to you before election. In season and out of season I have kept steadily in front the social condition of the people I represent.

Last year I opposed with all my strength the National Insurance Act, an Act of Parliament for which **both Liberals and Tories are responsible**. Only twenty-seven Members in the House of Commons voted with me when I moved its rejection on the Third Reading. The action I took in regard to this Act was in distinct opposition to the bulk of my colleagues of the Labour Party. The working of the Act, as you all know, has resulted in this: that very poor women and very poor men in East London are called upon to pay, out of most miserable wages, a weekly poll tax on their necessities of life. I have never ceased to regret that the Labour Party as a whole supported this Bill. They acted in good faith, but I consider that the result, especially to the casual worker and to women, has proved disastrous.

In regard to the Osborne Judgment we have also failed to secure what every Trade Unionist demands, *viz*: the complete reversal of this piece of judge-made law.

This year I find myself again in complete disagreement with my party on a question which is, to me, of fundamental importance, namely, the enfranchisement of women. The Government have introduced a Bill for establishing Manhood Suffrage, and are professing to leave to the judgment of the House the large and important question whether women are to be included or not. The Labour Party have decided that they will accept this position. I think this will prove as disastrous to the cause of freedom so far as poor women are concerned as did their support of the Insurance Act. It is well-known that the Prime Minister and other Members of the Government are determined opponents of Woman's Suffrage. It is also well-known that only this year, on the Conciliation Bill which would have given votes to only a few women, Liberal and Irish Members who were avowed supporters of the Women's cause, either went into the Lobby against the Bill or abstained from voting, although no Government Whips were issued against it. The reason given for this gross betrayal of principles was that if this Bill had been carried, certain Ministers would resign and Home Rule would be endangered. We have no guarantee that such Members will not act in the same way on the Government's Franchise Bill, and in fact all the evidence obtainable goes to prove that they will. It is argued that we might, if our amendments are defeated, vote against the Third Reading of the Bill, but everyone knows that this would leave things just as they are. Now, my position is simply this. The only effective method by which we can prevent the women of this country being left out of the next Franchise Bill, is for a sufficient number of men in the House of Commons who believe the question to be one of vital importance to inform the Government that they will not continue their support of other measures unless this reform is absolutely secured and passed into law as a Government measure.

I want to be perfectly frank with my constituents on this matter. It is pointed out that by taking this line of action, we should endanger the passage of Home Rule and Welsh Disestablishment. This need not be, and in my opinion, would not be if the four hundred men now in the House of Commons who pledged themselves at the last election to vote for the enfranchisement of woman were to inform the Government of their intention to stand steadfastly by their principles. But so low has the House of Commons sunk that principle counts for nothing.

In resigning my seat, and handing back to you the trust which you

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gave me two years ago, I desire that you may pass judgment first of all on my conduct in the past, and secondly on my proposed attitude and policy for the future. If you do me the honour, as I have no doubt you will, to re-elect me, you may accept my word quite without reservation that in all questions affecting the lives of the poor, and the social conditions of the people, I shall be found fighting as strenuously as one man is able to fight on their behalf. On every question that really affects the well-being of Labour so far as women and men are concerned I shall be in the front rank fighting for the side that needs assistance. But I want specially that you will join me in a supreme effort to raise the question of Womanhood to the very highest position. The women of our country live hard laborious lives. Down here, where I have lived almost all my years, I have grown to understand in some small way what poverty and destitution mean to the women. We men have wanted to use our votes to improve our social condition. I want that our mothers, our wives and our sisters shall be allowed to join us in the fight. At this moment Parliament is discussing the White Slave Traffic Bill. What a hideous mockery it is to Christian England that in this year of grace we should be discussing a Bill which recognises that some women are slaves, slaves to the most hideous and vile traffic in humanity possible to conceive. This condition of affairs has come about because we have been careless as to the value of our girls and our women. This fight for the Vote is only a part, but an important part, in the great struggle now going on for the emancipation of humanity all over the world. A nation that is to be great and free must of necessity insist that its mothers shall at least have the chance of free and just conditions of life.

Twenty years ago, we in Bow and Bromley led the fight for women representatives on the County Council. Twenty-four years ago the Liberal Association of Bow and Bromley declared for Adult Suffrage, Votes for all men and all women on equal terms. I stand for that principle to-day. I not merely stand for it though, I want to fight for it also. I want to go back to St. Stephen's with a mandate from the men of Bow and Bromley to put this question of Votes for Women in the very foremost rank of social reform, and to work with whomsoever will work with me to bring about the enfranchisement of women.

The issue of the election lies with you. Some will tell you that I have acted stupidly, some will give other reasons for my action. I ask you to believe that

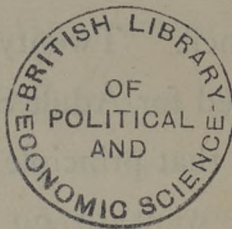
I am actuated by one thing only, and that is the desire to represent your views faithfully. I believe that the policy which I urge you to support is the only policy in these days worth fighting for. Many men will come to you and talk of party and party principles, but believe me, we have been caucus ridden and party driven too long. The House of Commons is dragooned and controlled by a small handful of men. To vote according to one's conscience is often to be untrue to party, and I want you to send me back to the House of Commons to fight, irrespective of the convenience either of Government or parties, for the principles you have supported.

If you agree with me come and help me in what will be one of the historic fights of our time, and which, when we have won it, as win it we shall, will give each of us the satisfaction of knowing that we at least have done our part toward raising and ennobling Womanhood and Motherhood in our land.

I remain,

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE LANSBURY.



M449

BOW & BROMLEY.

The Popularity of Mr. Lansbury's Meetings.

A new writ for Bow and Bromley was issued yesterday. The nominations will be on Friday, and the polling day will be Tuesday, the 26th inst.

Crowded Meetings.

There is no Liberal candidate in the division; but there are some able Liberal speakers for Mr. Lansbury. Not that he invited them. That is not Mr. Lansbury's way. But there is no resisting his zeal for humanity, his bright optimism, and his childlike faith.

Overflowing Enthusiasm.

The later work of the doorkeeper at the Bromley Public Hall at Mr. Lansbury's last meeting there was to keep it shut against any more audience. The crowd inside frightened him. The cheery outsiders adjourned to a road junction, to the tune of 2,000, and kept the interest at concert pitch till late at night. That is what they are like already. Anybody who is quite sure that Mr. Lloyd George has gone too far in his social program had better go and see the crowds at Mr. Lansbury's meetings. They don't appear to think so.

A Silly Slander.

Mr. Lansbury is offering £100 reward to anyone who can bring to book the originator of a silly slander that he resigned in order to take up some suffrage job at £1,000 a year.

You see Tory bills announcing that "Women DON'T want the Vote," and that in the place where every vacant shop is occupied by some suffrage society or other. And again there are bills announcing that Socialism offers no Reward for Thrift, for people to read who have to make do on 18s. a week—when they can get it.

Befogged Tory Candidate.

Mr. Blair's election address covers everything from the ethics of snap divisions to the equalisation of the poor rate. It is not likely to make converts in Bow and Bromley in 1912. Its average level may be gauged by the fact that Mr. Blair, in announcing that he is a firm believer in the policy of Tariff Reform, says "the country pays over ten millions sterling in food taxes at the present time." He proposes to alter that, and then, says he, with inconsequential abandon, "we shall get abundant revenue in the one case from the foreigner." forgetting that he has already admitted that, when a duty is imposed on imported goods for revenue purposes, we pay it, and not the foreigner.

Sir Victor Horsley and Mr. J. Wedgwood addressed big meetings for Mr. Lansbury last night.

M.P.'s and Mr. Lansbury.

Mr. Josiah Wedgwood (writes our Lobby Correspondent) is preparing an appeal from Liberal M.P.'s to the electors of Bow and Bromley asking them to vote for Mr. Lansbury. He has already obtained a considerable number of signatures, including

those of Mr. Thomas Burt, Mr. Arnold Rowntree, Mr. Silvester Horne, Mr. Allen Baker, Mr. Outhwaite, Mr. Neilson, Mr. Athelstan Rendall, Mr. Ponsonby, Mr. Chancellor, and Mr. Hugh Watt.

The Labour Party also held a meeting to discuss their attitude towards the election. It is understood that there was a considerable divergence in their ranks, as some members have already promised to assist Mr. Lansbury and others have expressed disapproval of his action. No official statement was made.

The Committee of the Women's Liberal Federation announces with regret its inability to support Mr. Lansbury. The Committee recognises his sincere adherence to women's suffrage, but as the issues are divided by his opposition to the Government policy on the Insurance Act they are unable to help him.

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MR. GEORGE LANSBURY'S FIGHT FOR WOMEN

Special Election Fund Being Raised by "Votes for Women"

"Votes for Women" Office, 162, Bow Road, E.

*I will not cease from mental strife,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In Ev'g and's green and pleasant land.*
—WILLIAM BLAKE.

Mr. George Lansbury has come out boldly on the Woman Suffrage question, and has decided to resign his seat with a view to fighting a by-election exclusively on this issue. He is doing this in order to secure his constituency's endorsement of his fighting policy of opposing the Government on every question that comes before the House until women are enfranchised.

Last Monday afternoon, speaking at the London Pavilion, Mr. Lansbury said:—

I am this evening going to meet the people responsible for my candidature. If it is their judgment that it is the best course to adopt that I should make suffrage the beginning and ending of my Parliamentary fight, until women have got the vote, if they think I ought to go to my constituents and ask them to endorse that policy, then I am going to do it. (Loud cheers.) I have come to that decision because I believe that this fight for women's enfranchisement is the biggest fight socially that is going on in our country. (Loud cheers.)

The same evening, Mr. Lansbury met his executive, the Poplar Trades Council and Labour Representation Committee, who were responsible for his original nomination, and he announced to them his intention of applying for the Chiltern Hundreds on the following Thursday. Their answer took the form of what might be described as a strongly worded vote of confidence:—

That this meeting of the Executive of the Poplar Trades Council and Labour Representation Committee hereby expresses its complete satisfaction with the conduct of Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., during the last eighteen months, and endorses his action in the House of Commons. We accept his resignation as Member for Bow and Bromley in order that he may submit himself for re-election so as to obtain the endorsement of his constituents of his actions and policy.

The Unionists have already a candidate in the field, in Mr. Reginald Blair. The Liberals did not contest the seat at

the last election. It is reported that Mr. Holford Knight is prepared to stand against Mr. Lansbury as a Liberal Anti-Suffragist.

Figures at the Last Election

Mr. Lansbury	4,315
Mr. L. S. Amery	3,452

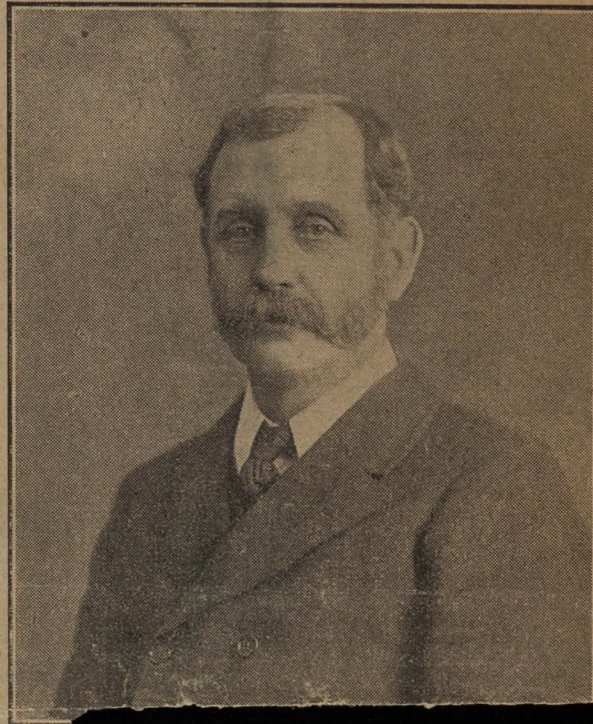
Labour majority ...	863
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The Campaign

No time has been lost in preparing for the coming fight in the division of Bow and Bromley. According to the *Times*, the election should take place at the end of next week or the beginning of the one after; and already committee rooms have been opened by Mr. Lans-

bury at 6, Campbell Road, Bow, E. (Telephone 1575 East), where Mr. Banks is in charge. A canvass is to be made of the whole constituency, and special workers are to be told off to canvass out-voters. We are told that there is universal appreciation of Mr. Lansbury's action in the constituency, which is a purely industrial one, and offers of help are pouring into the Committee Rooms.

Militant Suffragists are taking an active part in supporting Mr. Lansbury's candidature. The VOTES FOR WOMEN Fellowship will be represented by paper sellers; a room has been taken



at Mr. F. Loveray's, 162, Bow Road, E. opposite Bow Church), where Mrs. MacLeod and Mrs. Pantlin are in charge every day from 2.30 onwards. Will everyone prepared to help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN during the election apply there for papers.

The W.S.P.U. are organising an extensive campaign from their two committee rooms at 198, Bow Road, E., and 53, Roman Road, E.

Workers of all kinds are urgently needed, and we have every confidence in making a strong appeal to all women who care for their enfranchisement to go down to the constituency and offer their services as speakers, paper sellers, canvassers, and so on.

"VOTES FOR WOMEN" ELECTION FUND

One of the great difficulties of standing alone independently of party is the heavy financial burden which has to be borne by the individual candidate; and in the case of a contested election this burden amounts to several hundred pounds.

In the present instance it would obviously be altogether improper that Mr. Lansbury should be made to suffer pecuniarily for the gallant fight which he is making on behalf of women. The Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN have therefore decided to give to their readers an opportunity of contributing to the election expenses, and are opening a special fund for this purpose.

Contributions should be sent to F. W. Pethick Lawrence, Esq., VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C. and should be specially marked "Lansbury Election Fund." As the contest will be a short one, contributions should be sent in with as little delay as possible.

The following amounts have already been promised:—

Mr. and Mrs. Pethick	£ s. d.
Lawrence	10 10 0
Mrs. D. A. Thomas	10 10 0
Mr. Reginald Pott	10 0 0
Dr. L. Garrett Anderson	5 5 0
Miss Mordan	5 5 0
Mrs. James Ivory	5 0 0
Miss S. A. Turle	5 0 0
	1 1 0

Total £32 11 0

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To the elect
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humanity all over the world. A nation
that is to be great and free must of neces-
sity insist that its mothers shall at least
have the chance of free and just conditions.
Twenty years ago we in Bow and
Bromley had no women represen-

Subscriptions and Orders for the Paper should be sent to **The Publisher, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.** The terms are, post free, 6s. 6d. annual subscription, 3s. 3d. for six months inside the United Kingdom, 8s. 8d. (\$2.25c.) and 4s. 4d. (\$1.15c.) abroad, payable in advance. The Paper can be obtained from all newsagents and bookstalls.

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Mrs. A. MACKIRDY. Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY, M.P.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN

4-7, RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1912.

BRAVO, GEORGE LANSBURY!

Two events of political importance took place on Monday last. The first was the defeat of the Government on an amendment to the Home Rule Bill. The second was the announcement of Mr. George Lansbury's decision to resign his seat and to seek re-election in view of his intention to adopt a new policy in the House of Commons. Of these two events the first has received universal attention; the second has been relegated to an obscure paragraph in the Press. Yet as time goes by it will be found that Mr. Lansbury's action is the more significant of the two. For while the Government defeat, whatever may be its consequences, is part of the normal political warfare of the day, Mr. Lansbury has made a breach in the whole party system which will only widen with the lapse of time.

Elected originally in December, 1910, as a member of the Labour Party, Mr. Lansbury has found his position gradually becoming intolerable. Instead of pursuing the policy of sturdy independence which he looked for, he has found that his party, as an integral part of the Coalition, has become a mere pawn in the hands of the Liberal Government. Through its support the Government carried the Insurance Act in 1911, and by its connivance the Government are able to continue in office to-day in spite of their obstinate and treacherous opposition to Votes for Women. To Mr. Lansbury the Insurance Act is a dead weight hung about the necks of the poorer classes of the community, and the failure of the Labour Party to take a firm stand on this measure brought him into direct conflict with his colleagues. But the attitude of the Government on Woman Suffrage is, in his opinion, a still more serious matter, and calls for the most drastic action available. He altogether refuses to continue to support by his vote the Government which have shown themselves directly opposed to the fundamental principles of democracy, and it is his intention in future to take every opportunity of voting against them. In view of the fact that this policy involves action which might be regarded as a breach of his election pledges, Mr. Lansbury has decided to resign his seat and place himself unreservedly in the hands of his constituents.

The very greatness and nobility of character of George Lansbury prevent us from dwelling on the personal side of the matter. If he were a lesser man we might be tempted to speak of the sacrifices he was

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NOVEMBER 15, 1912

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and of the personal prospects he was
rising; we might make an appeal to women to
their gratitude to him on account of all that
giving up for their sake. Such an attitude
part would be altogether unworthy of the
whom we are writing. In the big nature of
Lansbury the meaner motives of petty
and personal self-seeking have no place. A
the House of Commons is valued by him
for the power it can give him to help the
g and the oppressed. It is a burden willingly
p; it is a burden equally willingly laid down
by a greater good can be obtained. The claim
Lansbury to our respect and admiration
t upon the sacrifices he has made, but on the
ess of purpose which has clarified his vision
s enabled him to perceive the true course by
he could render incalculable service to the
women.

osition is simplicity itself. He holds that the
of all true government is self-government.
therefore, an unenfranchised class show un-
ble signs of their desire for enfranchisement,
asal of their demand is a flagrant denial of

This issue once raised must of necessity
and all other issues, and any Government
pposes its solution must itself be relentlessly

situation has now arisen in the present
for the enfranchisement of women. An
n greater in extent and enthusiasm has been
on than was ever the case for any other
n of the franchise. Gigantic meetings have
ld in every part of the country; all the
ed societies of women have expressed them-
y overwhelming majorities in its favour; all
ncipal municipalities of the four kingdoms
itioned Parliament to pass the Women's Bill.

Government refuses to give way, and meets
ation by trickery and deceit, and attempts
ess the rising militant spirit of women by
and repression. In face of such facts there
one course for any member of Parliament,
pects the fundamental principles of liberty,
e. He must leave the ranks of the Coalition,
every means in his power he must endeavour
about the defeat of the Liberal Government.

king this course George Lansbury is express-
ultaneously his conviction of the supreme
nce of the Votes for Women issue and his
determination to subordinate the claims
y to the dictates of his conscience. He is
e striking a powerful blow not only for
suffrage, but also against the corrupt party
oy which our politics are dominated at the
day. He is a pioneer, and though at the
he stands isolated and alone, he has declared
by his action, to be a leader, and others are
fact, a

to follow ~~the~~ ~~course~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~. He forms, in
standard by which the actions of all other men
future be judged. It is not merely his
personal vote which is concerned, but the whole
which his action will have upon others. So
no man had dared to take this course it was
all to say that it was impossible, but now
it has come forward, every one of those who
to follow are convicted of pusillanimity.
The electors of the Bow and Bromley division
given the supreme opportunity of ratifying
their votes the decision to which Mr. Lansbury has
and of returning him to Parliament to carry
this decision into effect. We have sufficient faith in
the inherent sense of justice of the men of that
district to believe that they will give their verdict in
favour by an overwhelming majority provided
the issue is put fairly before them. In order that
it may be the case, we make a special appeal to our
readers to assist Mr. Lansbury by every means in
their power. Speakers, canvassers, and other helpers
are needed in the constituency at once in large
numbers, for the fight is likely to be short and sharp.
Financial assistance is needed immediately, and the
attention of our readers is directed to the special
collection which we are opening for this purpose and to
which contributions are specially invited. Finally,
newspaper-sellers are required in large numbers in order
that this paper may be placed in the hands of every
man and woman in the constituency.
The battle which George Lansbury is fighting is
one of the age-long battle which has been fought all
through the history of the world for human freedom,
in the name of all these brave souls who down
the ages have joined in this fight, we wish him
God Speed."

1736

174 for Women

MR. GEORGE LANSBURY

Biographical Notice

Halesworth

George Lansbury was born at Halesworth, Suffolk, on February 21, 1859. His father came from Oxford, and his mother was a native of Radnorshire. After passing through the public day schools, Mr. Lansbury worked in various offices until he went to Australia in 1884. He came back in the following year, and entered the timber business of his father at Poplar, which he still carries on. Mr. Lansbury married Miss Brine, and has a family of three sons and six daughters.

-in-law

To readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN Mr. Lansbury's career as a politician and a social reformer will naturally be of foremost interest. He has been in active political life for thirty years, having begun by joining the Liberal party, during which period he was Honorary Secretary of the Bow and Bromley Liberal and Radical Association. In 1892 he became a Socialist, and is now a member both of the Christian Social Union and the Independent Labour Party. His experience of life in the East End naturally led him very early into the path of social reform; he was first elected Poor Law Guardian in 1891, and Borough Councillor in 1903. Those who know Mr. Lansbury's intense desire to improve the conditions under which the poor have to live, will not be surprised to hear that he sat on the Royal Commission on Poor Law, and signed the Minority Report; he also founded the first public Labour Colony at Hollesley Bay, Suffolk, and was chairman of the Committee that established the first Poor Law Colony at Laindon, Essex. Mr. Lansbury contested the Parliamentary division of Walworth twice as a Social Democrat, also Bow and Bromley in 1900, and Middlesbrough in 1906. In 1910, as our readers will remember, he was elected for Bow and Bromley.

Mr. Lansbury's connection with the Woman Suffrage movement is almost too well known to need any comment of ours. From the moment of his election to Parliament he has fought a good fight for women within the House of Commons, never backward in denouncing the Government, when occasion arose, for their treatment of the question and their persecution of the militant Suffragists. Everyone will remember his magnificent protest in the House on June 25 last, when Mr. Asquith's callous attitude towards the forcible feeding of Suffragist prisoners roused his just anger, and led to a spontaneous outburst of indignation that caused his temporary suspension. Outside the House, too, Mr. Lansbury has thrown the full weight of his influence in the Suffrage balance, never refusing to speak on any platform in its support, and bringing the question before his con-

stituents at every available opportunity. His subsequent action in deciding to seek re-election on the question came as no surprise to anyone who has followed his career.

Mr. Lansbury's Meetings

Mr. Frank Smith (Telephone, 1575 East) is organizing meetings on behalf of Mr. Lansbury from 6, Campbell Road, and intends to arrange two or three indoor meetings nightly, as well as two or three at street corners. Besides Mr. George Lansbury himself, the speakers will include Mrs. Pethick Lawrence (next Tuesday at 8 p.m.), and Mr. Pethick Lawrence (at St. Mark's Hall, Victoria Park) next Monday at 8 p.m. The following evening indoor meetings, at 8 p.m., have already been arranged:—

- Friday, November 15.—Bow Baths (large hall), Old Palace L.C.C. Schools.
- Saturday, November 16.—Knapp Road L.C.C. Schools, St. Leonard Street.
- Monday, November 18.—St. Mark's Hall, Victoria Park.
- Tuesday, November 19.—Zetland Street School, Bromley, E.
- Wednesday, November 20.—St. Matthew's Hall, Alanmouth Street, N. Bow. St. Gabrielle's, Morris Road, Bromley.
- Thursday, November 21.—Bow Baths Hall, Roman Road, Bow.
- Friday, November 22.—Zetland Street School, Bromley, Knapp Road L.C.C. Schools.
- Saturday, November 23.—Bow Baths Hall.
- Sunday, November 24.—Bow Baths (large hall) (meeting conducted by I.L.P.).

RESIGNATION OF MR. LANSBURY

Frankly, we cannot see that he could have done otherwise. . . . The Labour Party, of all parties, should have fought for the women. Why, as far back as the Belfast Labour Conference Keir Hardie, almost in wrathful tears, threatened to abandon "his own child"—the Labour Party—if it did not support the women's cause. "Where is that Party now?" Truly repudiating the women, sneering and gibing at those who have suffered more for their cause in one day than all the Labour leaders put together have suffered in a lifetime. . . . Lansbury is quite right. He had to get out. Party loyalty is all right up to its proper limit. This was a matter of conscience. . . . Bow and Bromley has an enviable opportunity, and judging from the enthusiasm already aroused, it will make no mistake. Lansbury will be triumphant. — **Daily Herald**

MR. JOHN BURNS AT BATTERSEA

opened a

the ill-treatment of Suffragists. Last Friday's opening of a Chrysanthemum Show by the President of the Board of Trade was . . . No sooner had . . . than he

Last year I proposed with
the National Insurance Act, an Act of Par-
liament for which both Liberals and Tories
are responsible. Only twenty-seven mem-
bers in the House of Commons voted with
me when I moved its rejection on the
Third Reading. The action I took in
regard to this Act was in distinct opposi-
tion to the bulk of my colleagues of the
Labour Party. The result, as you all know,
is this: that very poor women and very
poor men in East London are called upon
to pay a weekly poll tax out of most miser-
able wages, which really means that this
tax is a real tax on the necessities of life
for the poor. I have never ceased to regret
that the Labour Party as a whole sup-
ported this Bill. They acted with quite
good faith, but I consider that the result,
especially to the casual worker and to
women, has proved quite disastrous.

This year I find myself again in complete
disagreement with my party on a question
which to me is of fundamental importance,
namely, the enfranchisement of women.
The Government have introduced a Bill
for establishing Manhood Suffrage, and are
professing to leave to the judgment of the
House the large and important question
whether women are to be included or not.
The Labour Party have decided that they
will accept this position. I think this will
prove as disastrous to the cause of freedom
so far as poor women are concerned as did

into the
stained from voting, although no Govern-
ment Whips were put on against it. The
reason given for this gross betrayal of their
principles was that if this Bill had been
carried, certain Ministers would resign and
Home Rule would be endangered. We have
no guarantee; in fact, all the evidence
obtainable goes to prove that this same
thing will happen again. It is argued that
we might, if our amendments are defeated,
vote against the Third Reading of the Bill,
but everyone knows that this would leave
things just as they are. Now, my position
is simply this: the only effective method
by which we can prevent the women of this
country being left out of the next Fran-
chise Bill is for a sufficient number of men
in the House of Commons, who believe the
question to be one of vital importance, to
inform the Government that they will not
continue their support of other measures
unless this reform is absolutely secured and
passed into law as a Government measure.

I want to be perfectly frank with my
constituents on this matter. It is pointed
out that by doing so we should endanger
the passage of Home Rule and Welsh Dis-
establishment. This need not be, and, in
my opinion, would not be if the four hun-
dred men now in the House of Commons
who pledged themselves at the last election
to vote for Woman Suffrage were to inform
the Government of their intention to stand

re-elect me, you may accept my word quite
without reservation that in all questions
affecting the lives of the poor, the social
conditions of the people, I shall be found
fighting as strenuously as one man is able
on their behalf. Every question that
really affects the well-being of Labour so
far as women and men are concerned, will
find me right in the front rank fighting for
the side that needs assistance. But I want
specially that you will join me in a supreme
effort to raise the question of Womanhood
to the very highest position. The women
of our country live hard, laborious lives.
Down here, where I have lived almost all
my years, I have grown to understand
some small way what poverty and desti-
tution mean to the women. We men
wanted to use our votes to improve
social conditions. I want that our mothers
our wives and our sisters shall be allowed
to join us in the fight. At this moment
Parliament is discussing the White
Traffic Bill. What a hideous mea-
is to Christian England that in this
of grace we should be discussing
which recognises that some women
slaves, slaves to the most hideous
traffic in humanity possible to
This condition of affairs has come
because we have been careless of the
value of our girls and our women.

This fight for the vote is only a
an important part in the great
now going on for the emancipation

172c

ay. I not merely sta
ant to fight for it also. I want to
k to St. Stephen's with a mandate from
e men of Bow and Bromley that we in
his constituency put this question of Votes
for Women in the very foremost rank of
social reform, and that in the House of
Commons it shall be my duty to work with
whomsoever will work with me by every
means in our power to bring about the en-
franchisement of women.

The issue of the election lies with you.
Some will tell you that I have acted
stupidly, others will give other reasons for
my action. I ask you to believe that I am
actuated by one purpose only, and that is
that if I am your representative, I want
to faithfully represent your views, and that
I believe that the policy which I urge you
to support is the only policy in these days
worth fighting for. Many men will come
to you and talk of party and party prin-
ciples, but believe me, we have been caucus
ridden and party driven too long. The
House of Commons is dragooned and con-
trolled by a small handful of men. To vote
according to one's conscience is to be un-
true to party, and in coming before you I
want you to send me to the House of Com-
mons to fight for those principles which
you have supported, irrespective of the
convenience either of Governments or
party. If you agree with me, come and
help me in what will be one of the historic
fights of our time, and which, when we
have won it, as win it we shall, will give
each of us the satisfaction of knowing that
we at least have done our part toward
raising and ennobling the Womanhood and
Motherhood in our land.

172d

Mr. George Lansbury

36 Morville St. W. Bow
Nov. 17th 1912

J. Seotney
Dear Comrade,

I do not know if you value what my opinion may be on this momentous occasion.

Still, I think that under the circumstances it may be some good for you to know what I think of your action.

Thank you for what you have done inside & outside of the House "to better the condition of the workers their wives & families."

- more especially do you strive for better conditions for the women and children -

finding the hampering conditions of your connection with the Labour Party in the House - you could get nothing done - you have seized that condition -

Now you will go back to the House unfettered - to do the glorious work you have so long fought for. Better conditions of all who are down trodden by this Brutal, Profit making Capitalistic System in vogue to day -

You have struck a blow at the Party Bargaining system of the governing classes in the House -

Your action will ^{lead to} the improvement not only of the Labor Party in the House - but also I hope to an improvement in the Policy of the I. L. Party and its management. I hope that it will have the effect of separating the Socialist action of the members in the House - from the action of the Labor members in the house - who go there or are sent there by their trade unions - and who act there as buyers and sellers of interests as it concerns their individual selves, or Societies -

I hope also it will destroy the party system of government entirely - I hope also it will do something to destroy the Departmental power that the officials hold at the present time - A power that is increasing by leaps & bounds -

I hope that your action will be the means of purifying the whole system of government that is in force to day -

J. Scadding
17 Nov. 1912

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Now I will give you some of the depressions of opinion of those who have been in the past your supporters -

1- "You, as one of the Labor Party in the House helped to pass or blessed the Passing of the Insurance Act - Now I know and I told them, you did all you could to destroy that detestable imposition - Both inside & outside the House - When I explained your action as regards the Act, they said, that altered the complexion of your actions altogether. Put a new face as it were on it - and they felt better over it - So you have only to explain to them, to alter their opinion - and that cause of Complaint is wiped off the slate.

2- "You did not come amongst them during the Transport Strike and help them - as you did during the Railway and Miners Strike but went up & down the Country on your own business - and neglected the sorely stricken members, Doctors etc. of your own Constituency Now I explained your position thus - Stated what you had done on account of the Transport strike - You & O'Grady treasurers of the Parliamentary Fund in Aid of the Strikers. That I had been on Tower Hill & heard you speak on their behalf on several occasions - notably the occasion of the Telegrams to & from the Arch Bishop of Canterbury - also what was done on the relief of Distress - They also were informed that the Leaders of the Transport Workers - Did not ask for the assistance of the Labor M.P.s until they (the Leaders) had got the Strikers in a hopeless muddle - After explanations they felt better. So you have only to explain that matter & wipe that off the slate - of Complaints.

J. Scotney

17 Nov. 1912

The complaint against your action on the Suffrage question. (177)

is this - They sent you to the House to advocate the interests of the workers - and not to advocate votes for women - who were, rich, well placed individuals, who were quite capable of getting what they wanted, without your helping them - and so neglecting the interests of the workers - your Constituents - who sent you to the House

Now you see this question wants explaining - and the speakers on your behalf are explaining it - properly - that your action is taken for - to obtain votes for all women - on the same terms as for men.

That you consider the obtaining of votes for all women - more important than all other questions before the Country - that to obtain your object you would stop all other legislation - The Complainants say - "You were sent there to get other measures passed quite as important - or more important than votes for women."

This feeling on the part of your supporters is gradually giving way to a better one - as they get a better view of the question - obtained by hearing the women speakers and other speakers on the subject -

Your opponents are doing all they can to make your advocacy of the women's Cause - sell against you - But explanations of the good to be obtained by getting votes for women on the same terms as for men - will knock them out of it - and I believe get you in by a larger majority than before.

Dear Comrade

J. Scotney 17 Nov. 1912

178

You will have the hearty support of many of those

who supported you before, and many others who have been

disgusted with the actions of the Liberal Government. notably

Insurance Act, Actions - and want of action during the

Strikes - Your Committees and helpers, will be more

numerous & better, I believe in all respects than

in previous Contests. They, and your Capable Speakers are

entering into the Campaign with energy and spirit -

and everything up to now - bids fair for knocking

the vested interested Party out of the Constituency again -

I should like to see - that. Now that you have severed your

connection with the Labor Party in the House.

That the I.L.P. and the B.S.P.

in Bow Bromley & Poplar - at least - will work harmoniously

together - and for all practical purposes - be One Party.

I have some very good friends I admire in the B.S.P.

I should like to know in what position - you stand in, as

regards your position in the Independent Labor Party - under the

Present circumstances? Read Labor Leader article!

I hope I have not wearied you by writing this -

and may you soon be in a position to - Continue your efforts in the

House - for Better Conditions for all, men, women, & children - as

Member for Bow & Bromley.

Dear Comrade

J. Scotney

17 Nov. 1912

George Lansbury

(179)

You my noble friend, that when I had lost all faith in my fellow-creatures - after working for years for their benefit and my own detriment and that of my family - You by your writings, by your unselfish actions, & those of your dear wife - raised me up - to make some more efforts on behalf of my fellow-creatures - In my canvassing and in other directions I came across many persons who had in all shapes and forms benefited by your generous efforts in their behalf. Then I wished I had been earlier acquainted with your efforts & had assisted you in your endeavours.

For many years - from previous to the first Dock Strike I was engaged day & night in the Trade Union Movement. So knew very little of what was being done in my own immediate neighbourhood - as regards Political action - I used to call Politics - nasty tricks - Many nasty tricks -

Well dear Comrade may you, your good wife & family - my well wishes convey to my Dear Comrade Dolly - live a long, happy, and useful life, doing as I know you will, all the good to your fellow-creatures, that lays in your power - and when you have to lay down all active efforts - and see others do the work - then I hope that you will be comforted by the words of Milton the Poet when he became blind -

Some travel o'er land & Ocean without rest - G. Lansbury
They also serve - who only stand and wait - J. Scotney.

3 Tamworth Villas (180)
Mitcham

From
ROWLAND KENNEY.

of Daily Herald
(see Parkhurst, 4/31, p. 368)

Manor Farm,
Windsorham,
Surrey

Nov. 18, 1912.

My dear Lausbury.

You are a brick and
couldn't be a beast if
you tried. Indeed, your
word makes me feel like
a beast for having wor-
ried you so much.

I'm glad the D.H. seems
in better feather. The
Hail push should help
it a bit. I shall look
in occasionally and
see if Griffiths is flush
but I won't worry it or
you again. You see
I never come near the
place without some-
one riles me and I
say things. Last week
it was Griffiths.

Never mind.

Have been busy re-
mowing or should have
come to have a look

at Bow ere this. I am
sorry you are being too
kind to Labour Party.
As I predicted, old
Hardie is going to make
himself comfortable
on the fence. Am al-
most afraid to come
near as I hear one can't
help falling over a
W. S. P. U. as a every
stride, and I've just
returned my correct-
ed proof to English
Review for next month
and - really - the Park-
hurst-Kenney com-
bine will have me shot.

It's a merry world.

Good luck and I
hear you are safely
win. Mrs Lausbury's
note is five. She is
a brick too.

Ever yours
Row. Kenney

182

G. L.

Bow.

November 19th, 1912.

The Rev. H. A. Mason,
The Vicarage,
Mostyn Road,

Dear Mr Mason,

Please forgive the delay in replying to your note, but I have had not a minute to spare. You will have received my Election Address, and will see that I am fighting this election purely and simply on certain main questions contained therein, and I would much prefer that the election issues were kept to those. But of course, you as one of my constituents have a right to ask what my position is on any public question, and therefore my reply to your letter is that I am in the same position now as when I last wrote to you. I agree with many other churchmen amongst whom are some of our bishops, who think that the Welsh Church should be disestablished, and I should therefore vote for Disestablishment, but I shall vote against any panny and money or property which morally and legally belongs to the Church being taken away from her.

If you publish my reply, I shall be glad if you will publish the whole of it.

With best wishes,

Yours,

Tel. 2849 Hop.

Low 21 Stg 12

183

401, OLD KENT ROAD,

S.E.

Dr. Helen Gordon Clark

Dear Mrs. Lunsbury -

Allow a former Conservative
worker to thank you for your
messages in "Votes" and for all
your influence must be in
the fight that Mrs. Lunsbury is
making for the cause of woman-
hood.

as one who has been in busy
practice for the last dozen
years amongst working
women in Lancashire, in the

colliery district
of S. Wales and in S.
London I can only re-echo what
you both say about the importance
of the vote to women.

It is the biggest question of
the time & one which should
make every thinking individual
sink party feeling.

I much regret that as, besides
the ordinary routine of practice,
I have lectures to give for
the L.C.C. (I am lecturer on
Infant Care, Home Nursing &c)
both afternoon & evening

up to Saturday & am un-
avoidably prevented from
doing active work in the election.
Of course I shall try to get
to the meeting on Sunday, but
would prefer to have done some-
thing more useful!

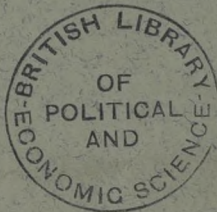
Pardon me for troubling
you with a letter, you must
have so many already but it
does such an enormous
amount of good amongst
"ordinary" people, who are
apt to look on suffragists

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as strange and unsexed
cranks, when when the mothers
of the nation take their stand
beside the fathers, that I felt
on reading your letter that
I would like to thank you.

Truly yours

(Dr) Helen Gordon Clark



M449

The Bungalow (185)

St Ives

Nov.
21. 12. 12.

Ringwood.

Amy Quinton to
Mary Neal of W.S.P.M.

Dear Miss Neal.

very many
thanks for your kind
letter.

Am so glad if my
letters have helped
you at all.

I have so often wished
I could help you,
in your most noble
work. your letters have

helped and inspired
me, and made me
long to be able to
do something to help
the poor girls who
are almost powerless
to help themselves,
or think they are, but
we must try to show
them what they can
do if they will.

I do hope, Dear Miss
Neal, that you will
not overwork.
You must not.
For our sakes keep

yourself fit.
Have more help, or let
something go, but
whatever you do, don't
get ill through overwork.
What do you think
of Mr Ben Gillett's
"Eight hours day agitation"
in the De Herald of Nov. 20th.
Don't you think it would
work well?

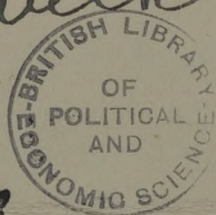
At any rate I think it
would save some
from being worked to
death, and give the
unemployed a chance

to live.

(18)

With the "Herald" and
Mr Lansbury to fight
for us. Surely there
are better times ahead,
so cheer up please
Miss Neal, and never
say die while Mr
Lansbury lives.

With kindest regards
1449 Yours sincerely



Amy Quinton.

P.S.
I realize what
a difficult task yours is, but
do not lose heart. There
are many girls hearts full of
thanks to you now, and there
will be many many more
so soon. d. I.

SAVE ME FROM MY FRIENDS!

187



"My friend, Lansbury."

"But O for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still!"

IRISHWOMEN'S REFORM LEAGUE.

188

Hon. Secretary—MISS ELLA INGLIS.

Office—29 SOUTH ANNE STREET.

Hon. Treasurer—MRS. FARQUHARSON.

HOURS: 11-1 AND 2-4.

SATURDAYS EXCEPTED.

Dublin.

George Lonsbury Esq. -

22 Nov. 1912

Dear Mr. Lonsbury -
The Committee of the Irish
Womens Reform League desire to
express their warm appreciation
of your work and self sacrifice
in the woman's Cause - and
wish you success in your
Campaign. They hope to
see you returned at

IRISHWOMEN'S REFORM LEAGUE. (18)

Hon. Secretary—MISS ELLA INGLIS.

Hon. Treasurer—MRS. FARQUHARSON.

Office—29 SOUTH ANNE STREET

HOURS: 11-1 AND 2-4.

SATURDAYS EXCEPTED.

22 Nov. 1912

the head of the poll, with
an overwhelming majority

I remain -
On behalf of the Committee -

Yours faithfully,

Ella Inglis.

Hon. Sec.

Friday Nov. 22nd 1912.

Rev. George E. Startup

190

34 West Hall.

Clifton.

23. XI. 12

My dear Lansbury.

My warmest wishes
for your success, and my congratulations
upon your brave and generous work
for women's suffrage.

I can understand the anxiety
of liberals to get the Home Rule
convention settled, and to throw off

the handicap of plural voting and to
placate their Welsh supporters. But when
all is said & done no issue before
the country is so far-reaching or
so tremendous as the issue of votes for
women. Almost every conceivable
reform of any vital importance
is wrapped up in that. There is
only ^{one} possible result of this
conflict; but victory for the women
may be delayed but ~~be~~ ^{it} cannot
be denied them in the long run.

(191
I cannot imagine anyone but a
hidebound conservative hesitating
a single moment between you &
the Tory Candidate. I wish I
were in Bow again to be of
some practical use to you.

Yours very sincerely

Geo. E. Startup.

Rev. George E. Startup.

31, West Mall,
Clifton.

23. 11. 92

Köln ^{W. 32}
Duisburg (192)

D. Christie Tait
Germany

George Lansbury Esq,

Dear Sir,

I see from the papers that you have
asked the constituents of Bow & Bromley to
pronounce judgment on the way in which you
have represented their interests during the
last two years. As one who ~~was~~ is proud to
have been able to contribute his unit in
making the back of the Liberal domination
of the constituency in 1910 (January) and
in securing your election at the end of the
same year, may I be allowed to wish you
all success and a triumph on Tuesday.

The Liberals seem to be very uncomfortably
seated on the fence - at least officially - but
I cannot believe that there are any real
liberals (written with a small letter) who will
fail to support you at the poll. of all

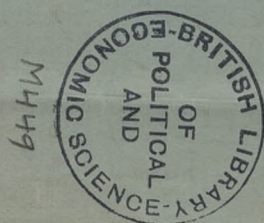
places in the United Kingdom, Bow & Bromley
is surely the last to desire half-measures or
no measures at all, and my faith in the British
working man would be much shaken if I
found him carried away by the specious
promises of tariff reform. My 15 months'
residence in the most industrial district
of Germany where factories & chimneys are
as thick as mushrooms has shown me
no economic arguments in favour of
protection whatever. On the contrary, the
predominant feature of the past year
has been an outcry at the high prices of
bread & meat so loud that even the ultra-
Conservative Government of the German Empire
& of Prussia were compelled to introduce
special measures to mitigate the distress.
Those measures have resulted in a diminution
of price, proving that the prices were artificially
raised by a protective tariff.

On the other hand, even thoughtful Germans have

abandoned the economic line of argument, & admit
that the chief reason for protection is the necessity
for the country to be as self supporting as possible in case
of a war. In other words the needs of the people are
sacrificed to the idea of militarism, which always goes
hand in hand with protection & would certainly
receive a great impetus in England if Tariff Reform
were introduced.

I am convinced that the measures of social reform
for which you are agitating and the assistance in
passing them of the women of the country are
the only hopes for the toilers & spinners of the Old
Country.

With renewed good wishes for your success,
yours very truly
D. Christie Tait.



November 23rd 1912

1912

2 Store Street
Hannah Winbolt Great Moor
Stockport

To Mr Lansbury
Sir

I along with many
other working women are
looking forward to your
leading the poll on Tuesday
yours is a splendid fight
for right against might
women are helpless with-
-out the parliamentary
vote and I hope the
Liberal men of Bow and
Bromley will show to the
country that their Liber-
-alism is of the best

by voting for Lansbury on
Tuesday next the friend
of women he is more sure
to be on the side of progress
it is quite time that women
had the vote on the same
terms as men and especially
so as Politics now press so
heavily on women. even
members of Parliament are
paid their hundreds a year
with women's money as well
as ^{as men} cabinet ministers their
thousands and yet ^{women} have
no voice in anything imper-
ial but thanks to men
like Lansbury, Hardy, Snowden
and many others our

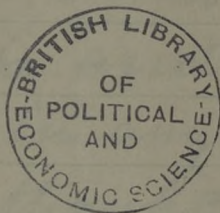
victory is in sight with
all good wishes for your
success on Tuesday next

yours truly

Harriet Winbolt
Wife of a working man

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If this letter is of any
use you may use it as
you think best



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THE
BRITISH SOCIALIST PARTY.



196

Chairman,
Prov. Executive Committee:

H. M. HYNDMAN.

Treasurer:

GEO. SIMPSON.

Clarion Club,
50a, Market Street,
Manchester.

Secretary:

H. W. LEE.

Central Office:
21a, Maiden Lane,
Strand, London, W.C.

Telephone: 13877 Central.

Westminster Branch.

49 Alderney Street

Warwick Square. Str.

27th Nov. 1912.

Dear Comrade;

At a meeting of the above Branch on Thursday evening last, the following resolution was passed:-

"That the Westminster Branch of the British Socialist Party congratulates George Lansbury upon the bold action he has recently taken in the House of Commons, and wishes to express its admiration of his policy in separating himself from the Labour Party. The Branch wishes him every success in his present Campaign, and assures him of the support of the Westminster Branch at all times."

Yours Fraternaly,

Edwin M. Cunningham

(Secretary)

197

c/o W^s Earl.

Gladys Evans 39. Raheen Rd

(20 Parkhurst, 4931,
pp. 404-5, 408-9)

Dublin -

24. Nov - 1912.

Dear W. Lansbury -

A Prisoner still in Dublin - my
thoughts are with you all homely
through this Election

Tell the men of Bow & Bowley
from me - "Needs noh words" - their
chance has come today of doing
their bit for the woman's cause -
It's up to them all to do it -

Their wish is your success -

Best wishes

From Gladys Evans

6/6 P. Katherine Maguire

198

67, MERRION SQUARE,

DUBLIN.

TELEPHONE
MRS.

Mrs. Mary Leigh

24/1/12

Dear Mrs & Mr Jansbury,

Just few sincere good wishes
for the bumping majority
on Tuesday. Am prevented
by order of the Cross to
leave the above address.
or I should have been
doing my share. I have heard
the "East A'calling" over & over
again & I know the thousands
of silent sufferers. The hungry
outcast. The forgotten & unknown
the vast army of exploited

199
workers. are turning to you &
The Women in their eager
hope. for the day & chance
to allow them their place
in the "Sun". & as I shall
soon be once more a guest
in H. M. 7. Prison. Mountjoy.
re the alleged wounding
of Mr J. R. I desire to
thank you both for the
very kind message of welcome &
comfort sent last "Sefo"
on release. The Crown Sol^{lir}
informs me that the
witnesses I desired i.e.

3

Mr J R. The A. was A & the
Jd Mayor of Dublin who
were in carriage at time of
alleged. etc) will not be
summoned & produced by
the Crown. for the purpose
of examination or ~~examination~~
So it remains to be seen how
far they dip into "Russian"
methods re. Political opponents
The trial is fixed for the
4th Dec.: "So how we can't be long"
Am free of delight to hear
that the women have
grasped the real.

4.

Significance to the Battle Cry of
Votes for Women. It will rejuvenate
encourage & strengthen the ever
increasing army who are "Agin the Jut!"

"He who's for us. For him are we
Cheers for Comrades Lausbury
Hip. Hip. Hurrrrrrrah

No Surrender
Mary Leigh.



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ECONOMIC SCIENCE
1838
ST. MARRION ST.