

(to precede fol. 141)

Vol. 3

1909

(fols. 141 - 267 [end])

See vol. 28. a, fols. 50-58, for  
typescript of article 'for the  
Labour Leader' (Postgate, p. 101)

~~but~~ written in 1909, but which  
does not appear in the Labour  
Leader for that year.

Tom Donald  
(author: Accounts of gold mining & exploration companies  
1897)

1341

1 Jan'y 09.

CONISTON,  
HORNCHURCH,  
ESSEX.

My dear Geo.

First of all many many thanks to Mrs Lambury & yourself for your kind letter of sympathy - But still more thanks for your letter of request, for it reminded me that there are people more miserable than I - Poor little Widdies I wish I could keep, the lot & feed them as well as I've done my own. I'm still sick George not in cash, but in my three children - They are a comfort. Now about the "feed" - I should like to come but have promised to go to Durham tomorrow to see my brother who is very ill - so don't keep the Widdies waiting - I send you £5 towards the cost & am sorry I can't manage more just now. but if you are short, just let me know when I come back in ten days or so & I'll get it - or if you can sell my horse & two traps for £80 or so you can keep half for

the Viddis - You see I don't want them  
now & I know it would please the  
wife - One of the last things she did  
was to have two boxes so that our two  
girls could save their pence for other  
little girls & their savings were sent on  
the day mamma died -

Well kindest regards to you all  
& every good wish for the  
New Year. Yours sincerely  
Donald



M449

S. Stephen's Clergy House, (142)

Rev. G. H. Ten Bruggen Kate  
Wilton Park, E.

Jan: 12. 1909.  
[1910]

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Just a line to wish you  
good luck & success in your con-  
test at Bow: may you triumph  
over your various opponents, Con-  
servative Liberal alike!

I have been following the  
progress of yourself and An Cros  
as far as I could gather it  
from the "Daily News".

Your memory is very green  
here, and I expect you have  
not forgotten your visit to

(143)  
these parts to stir up enthusiasm  
for the Minority Report.

I am glad to say that our  
candidate Sir John Bethell (Lib.)  
who is quite safe to get in,  
is quite sound on that point  
at any rate.

I hope the Church is giving  
you some support. It is sin-  
gularly painful to see the way  
in which Church folk are being  
given the tip to vote Tory  
under cover of Church defence

in Wales (ie of money-bags),  
of opposing Liberal Education  
policies, as if the Liberal party  
would not deal with Education  
sooner or later — and all this  
to make it easier to increase  
the hardship of the poor by  
taxing their means of subsistence.

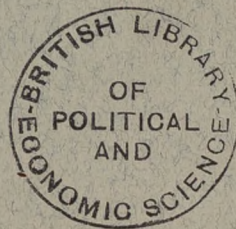
I think Isaiah would have  
seen through Tariff Reform  
sophistries, and lashed the Church  
for her indifference, if not to

what is patently obvious, or at  
least to the possibility of  
"quidding the faces of the poor"  
still harder.

Good luck to you & your cause.

Ever yours sincerely,

G. H. Ten Bruggenkatte.



M449

Harry Finnis Johnson

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142, ELGIN ROAD,  
SEVEN KINGS,  
ESSEX.

Jan. 19. 1909.

My dear Lansbury,

I am awfully  
sorry you were not where your  
services to the people should have  
carried you, namely to the top of  
the poll. However, better luck next  
time. It seems to me you did  
remarkably well under the  
circumstances & I congratulate  
you on your having secured the  
second position, ~~rather~~ when it  
might easily have been the third

especially in view of the "neutral"  
attitude of the Liberal Headquarters  
& Free Church Council.

Perhaps Bow & Bromley will see  
no more of Brook. In any  
case you stick to it unless a  
certainty in the north is offered  
to you.

I particularly wanted  
to see you, Hyndman, Thorne  
& Grayson returned. As individuals  
I am ~~was~~ not interested in  
the other <sup>candidates</sup>. It is only left to me to  
pray for Grayson <sup>now</sup> & that I shall  
do most fervently! He has got  
faults no doubt but his success  
means a great deal more for  
Socialism than say Henderson's

On such matters I suppose we  
no longer agree.

Even though you have no  
parliamentary duties it is use-  
less asking you + Mrs S, I suppose,  
to pay a visit to us. We should  
be delighted to see you.

I must not forget to thank  
for your long letter & for your kind  
words re Eric, who by the bye was  
awfully disappointed to hear  
this morning you had not been  
successful. He is much better,  
but will not be able to return  
to school this term.

Trusting soon to see you  
+ with kindest regards to  
Mrs Lansbury & the family.

Believe me,

Yours paternally,  
W. Finlay Johnson

Geo Lansbury, Esq



M449



# POOR LAW ADMINISTRATION.

## THE REPORT OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION.

By GEORGE LANSBURY.

The Royal Commission appointed in the autumn of 1905 has just issued its report. It may be well to recall the fact that the appointment of this Commission was part of the bargain which made possible the passing of the Unemployed Workmen Act by the Tory Government of that day. The late Mr. Whitmore, at that time member for Chelsea, made it perfectly clear to the Government that unless such a Commission were appointed the Bill would be seriously opposed. The Commission consisted of four permanent officials of the Local Government Board, a strong contingent of the Charity Organisation Society headed by Mr. C. S. Loch, Mr. F. Chandler (representing the Parliamentary Committee of the Trade Union Congress), Mrs. Sidney Webb, and myself. All its meetings were held with closed doors. It has examined hundreds of witnesses, and the evidence is so voluminous that it is very doubtful whether it will ever be read. The report itself consists of over twelve hundred pages, and is made up of a report signed by the majority of the Commissioners (with various dissenting memoranda from the signatories), and a minority report, signed by the Rev. Russell-Wakefield, F. W. Chandler, Mrs. Webb, and myself.

### Matters of Agreement.

There are some matters upon which both the majority and the minority agree. They are unanimous in recommending that Boards of Guardians as at present constituted should be swept away, and that the future area of administration should be the county or county borough. They unite in condemning the present workhouse system and the methods of outdoor relief, both medical and other. As a matter of fact the Commission is unanimous in declaring that the present Poor Law system is wasteful and extravagant, demoralising in its effects on manhood and character; and it would be hard to find in the report any commendatory remarks respecting Poor Law administration except a few words of praise for the later methods for dealing with children in Poor Law schools, and the medical treatment in some infirmaries. Nevertheless, both sides agree that Poor Law Guardians throughout the country have given time and labour without stint to an almost impossible task, and, while recommending their abolition the Commission is careful to add that it does not believe that the corruption brought home to some members of Boards of Guardians is of an extensive character.

But on the question of what should be the future methods of administration the Commission is split up into sections. A small minority who have put in dissenting memoranda, although at the same time signing the majority report, have declared that in their opinion a directly elected *ad hoc* authority for the same areas as those now suggested would be the best way out.

### The Majority's Recommendations.

Although the majority condemn workhouse administration and present methods generally, they have recommended a new organisation which simply sets up Boards of Guardians under another name. They have drawn up an elaborate system whereby in every county and county borough area there shall be established what are to be called "Public Assistance Committees." These committees are to be nominated by the county and county borough councils only partially from their own members, the rest from outside. In London the authority is to be a committee of the County Council, partly nominated by that body and partly by the Local Government Board. In addition to these committees there are to be voluntary aid committees, and voluntary medical associations, dispensaries, etc., and an elaborate system of inquiry. The result of all this machinery will be that the administration of relief will be, as far as possible, removed from public control. The main idea of the proposal is that people shall be prevented altogether from applying to the public

assistance committees. It is these committees to which it is proposed to transfer the whole work of public assistance, from the feeding of children to provision for the unemployed. Roughly the foregoing are the proposals of the majority.

### The Minority's Proposals.

The minority, however, in the first place propose to sweep away altogether the present methods of poor relief. With the abolition of the Boards of Guardians they propose to wipe out every trace of the old pauper system, and in place of the policy of deterrence and repression to set up a system under which the community will recognise that the services rendered to the poor ought to be rendered in the same honourable and ungrudging spirit as the services of every other class. In putting forward their scheme, the minority have taken into consideration the fact that, when the Poor Law was reformed seventy-five years ago, public services now recognised as part and parcel of the social work of the community were altogether unknown. They recognise that it is impossible to regard the Poor Law from the same point of view as their predecessors of 1834. Public provision for the sick, for the education of the children, and for sanitation, has been vastly developed since that year, the result being that many of us are quite content to accept at the hands of the community services which our forefathers would have looked upon as pauperism.

### A Special State Department.

It is, therefore, proposed, first of all, that the whole question of the relief of able-bodied destitution, arising from unemployment or any other cause, should be dealt with, not by a destitution authority selected in particular localities to perform a multitude of services, but by a special State Department. This Department would have under its control not merely the means to put in hand work of a more or less degrading character, such as relief works generally are, but the means to maintain and train all able-bodied persons found in need. When there are dependants on these persons they should be maintained without any stigma of pauperism. They propose, therefore, to establish a National Labour or Employment Department, with power to set up labour exchanges, linked up with one another all over the country, and with a central office in the metropolis. This Department shall not only discover what people are out of work, but shall find out what work there is available, the main object of this being to enable society to know at any given moment the surplus labour in any part of the country. They propose to entrust to this new Department the work of so organising and dovetailing casual labour as to bring about its total abolition as such.

They also propose that the age at which boys and girls may be allowed to go to work should be raised to fifteen, and that between the ages of fifteen and eighteen they shall be allowed to work no more than thirty hours per week, another thirty hours being spent in such physical training and educational work as may be decided by the education authority. With the first part of this proposal (that is the raising of the age to fifteen) the majority are in agreement. There are various other proposals for the reduction of hours of labour, the setting aside of ten million pounds a year to provide works when necessary, and the establishment of labour colonies, etc., and for setting up a detention colony for persons who refuse to avail themselves of the ordinary means provided. In connection with the detention colony, however, it is expressly stipulated that every man and woman must be given a chance before any question of detention can be raised.

### In Regard to Women and Children.

Roughly, there are four classes of the non-able-bodied to be dealt with, namely, widows and children, the sick, the mentally defective, and the aged and infirm. The minority propose that the activities of the Boards of Guardians in regard to children should be transferred to the education authorities. Wherever a mother is a decent, respectable person, and her home up to a certain standard of sanitation, etc., she would receive from the community sufficient money to enable her,

without entering the labour market, to bring up her children.

In passing, I would like to point out that by this means some hundreds of thousands of boys and girls who are now typically starved under a miserable system of outdoor relief would have a chance of knowing what life really means. And again, incidentally, this would help to what the anti-Socialists are continually crying out that they want to do, but which they have never tried to do—that is, to preserve home life. It may be said that the education authorities have enough to do already. But some of them are already running boarding schools, they are already feeding some children every day, they are already carrying on industrial day schools, and there is no reason at all why the abolition of the Poor Law children should not work them. As a matter of fact, I do not think there would be any overwork in London it would be quite a small matter for them to take over the Poor Law children. But the great point is that the authorities dealing with the bulk of the children of the community would have to deal with those children who are now outside their scope, and who, because they are outside, are looked upon as paupers.

### With Regard to the Sick and Infirm.

The sick are to go to the Public Health authority. It is quite ridiculous that there should be two authorities in every district for the relief of sickness. The minority propose to set up a unified medical service whose business it would be, not to prevent people from coming to be treated, but to search out and deal with disease wherever it might be found. With regard to the infirm and sick who, although not several years of age, are yet unable to earn their own living, but who have a home to live in, it is proposed to render them eligible for pensions, to be administered by the committees which now administer the national pensions, the cost to be provided out of local rates. Here again the object is to secure the principle that the authorities dealing with kindred social services should be in a position to render those services to all classes who need them. For the infirm, whether aged or not, who are not mentally defective, it is proposed that the public health committees should provide comfortable or suitable cottage homes outside the great towns, where comfort and some amount of pleasure might be enjoyed. The mentally defective would be dealt with by the county authority proposed to be established by the Commission on the Feeble-minded.

Briefly, these are the outlines of the two reports. It is hoped by those of us who signed the minority report that the general body of progressive opinion will rally to its support and help break up the Poor Law. When we remember the patient suffering which the working classes have to undergo before accepting relief under the baleful influences of the workhouse system, it is high time we declared that the services for the sick, for fatherless children, and for the old, worn-out workers shall be as ungrudgingly rendered as are such services as the provision of public libraries, fine roads, etc. It is time we united to clear out once and for all the last vestige of bumbledom from society. But Bumble will die hard. The majority, with their plausible proposition that the rich ought to help the poor, will take a good deal of combating. But if those who believe in progress and who believe that the social wealth of the community should be used to benefit all classes of the community, will but realise the opportunity that lies at their door just now, I am quite confident that the minority report will be a trumpet-call to people to come forward and lend a hand in bringing the service of the community within the reach of those who need it.

Finally, while the minority want the collective provision for all classes to be such as will not only alleviate but definitely make a man or woman or child better, they also believe that their proposals will have the effect of awakening in society a better social spirit, and we shall all come to realise that our duty consists not only in getting services rendered to ourselves, but in claiming that in similar circumstances the same services shall be rendered to our fellows.

## TO CONTRIBUTORS.

All communications for insertion to be addressed to the Editor, and to be authenticated by name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication. No notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

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The columns of JUSTICE are open to contributions from all friends of the cause. Though we can by no means undertake to publish all we may receive, everything, by whomsoever written, will receive careful attention.



## JUSTICE.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1909

TYRANNY AND TERRORISM  
IN INDIA.

Things in India are proceeding exactly as predicted they would.

A number of Radical Members of Parliament, therefore, including Messrs. Alden, J. M. Robertson, Chiozza Money and Ramsay MacDonald, with the support of Canon Barnett, Mr. Hobson, Mr. Nevinson, and others, have now formed themselves into a committee for the maintenance of the civil rights of our Indian fellow-subjects against the outrageous tyranny of their own party. Laudable, no doubt, but utterly futile. They could have done something worth doing in the House of Commons when the monstrous enactment of 1908, doing away with any semblance of trial in India was made part of the ordinary law; and, before then, when the obsolete Act of 1818 was resuscitated and applied. But they were, as a whole, too apathetic or too cowardly to make any serious Parliamentary effort in the matter. They did not like, we suppose, "to embarrass the Liberal Government," in which they all hope sooner or later to take office. Now they go in for this silly committee, in order to make believe that their hearts are in the right place, and that their sympathies are genuinely with the oppressed of India. What humbug it all is! Not one of the signatories of the appeal, with the exception of Mr. O'Grady and Mr. Swinny, really means business in the matter of India. They one and all are great at pretending; but they still hold that British rule is beneficent, and would not on any account voluntarily give back India to be managed by Indians. We would. There is the difference between ourselves and these "sympathetic" Radical crocodiles.

Meanwhile, as we felt sure would be the case, the Indians in Bengal, at any rate, are again taking their own business into their own hands; having, very naturally, lost all confidence in English justice and good faith of every kind. The only effect of the ruffianly despotism of Morley and Minto, and the twopenny-halfpenny tinkering with reform with which it has been accompanied, is to foment afresh the campaign of assassination and bomb-throwing against the foreign tyrants and their Indian hangers-on. Who can wonder at this? When the King of

Portugal set himself up as an irresponsible potentate, the King of Italy remonstrated with his brother monarch, and pointed out to him that this course might easily prove fatal. It did; and even the English capitalist press, while denouncing the regicide, was scarcely surprised at what occurred. So in Russia, where, all freedom being crushed out, terrorism itself is excused by our leading pundits of bourgeois morality.

But in India men are being condemned and tortured without trial, university students are being publicly flogged for purely political offences, innocent persons may be and are deported for terms of years without any chance of being heard in their own defence, and the recognised leader of the Nationalist Party, the famous Mahratta Bal Gungundur Tilak is found guilty by a packed white majority of a jury on deliberate mistranslations of his articles by suborned tools of the foreign court. What is there left for Indians to do, by way of protest against these infamies, but to resort to terrorism? What more natural, therefore, than that men who sacrifice their lives for revenge, under such unendurable conditions, should be regarded by their countrymen as heroes and saints?

As we have said time after time, we have never approved of terrorism; we have, in fact, always opposed terrorism. But we are bound to recognise that, under modern conditions, tyranny almost invariably does breed terrorism, and that it is utterly absurd to talk about the beneficence of British rule in India, which bleeds Indians to death by the million, and deprives them of all civil and political rights in their own country. The cry, we note, is already arising from the more brutal part of our dominant classes for blowing from guns and other civilised punishments, as a means for crushing down the growing revolt of tens of millions of people whose legitimate aspirations for emancipation—whether we like to admit it or not—these sad products of our despotic rule do in their desperate fashion represent.

We protest against this plutocratic black-guardism. Social-Democrats, while regretting the shape which this serious Indian revolt is taking, are heartily with our Indian comrades and fellow-subjects in their demand for a complete release from our ruinous domination. Our 150 years of conquest and repression have been one long period of robbery and ruin for India. Let then these Parliament men, who are appealing for civil rights for Indians, pluck up a little courage, and tell the whole truth about our hopeless and hateful misgovernment of Hindustan in the House of Commons, as we of "Justice" have told it, for a full generation, in the press and on the platform.

For our part, we shall go on as we have been going. We shall continue to say, as the present writer said at Mr. Bepin Chandra Pal's meeting in Caxton Hall, so carefully boycotted by the capitalist press, though the hall was crowded with Indians: "The emancipation of India must come from the Indians themselves. India was conquered, not by European troops, but by great armies of Indian Sepoys. India was reconquered not by European troops but by great armies of Sikhs and Ghoorkas. India will regain her freedom not by the sympathies of Europeans or by any reforms or justice from England, but by a conscious and combined effort of the Indians themselves against their oppressors."

So may it be! The people of England have no interest whatever in maintaining a system which is a disgrace to them and a curse to humanity. Far from it.

H. M. HYNDMAN.

To the London Members of the  
S.D.P.

In November last a circular was issued by the Twentieth Century Press appealing to comrades to take up shares and thus help our Press in its work of publishing "Justice" and other Socialist literature.

It has been felt by some comrades, who are willing to help, that the assistance would be more effective and more extensive if something like a collective effort were made.

With this view the London Committee of the S.D.P. and the Twentieth Century Press have been requested to call a meeting of London members, when suggestions for a collective and united effort can be discussed and agreed upon. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 24, at 8.30 p.m., at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, W.C.

Every member in the London area is invited to the meeting, and the branch officials are requested to use their influence in order to obtain a full attendance.

THE ABOLITION OF  
PAUPERISM.

The Royal Commission on the Poor Laws and relief of distress has at last concluded its labours so far as England and Wales are concerned. It has been sitting for the past three years and three months, but as is well-known, all its meetings have been private, although now and then small paragraphs have appeared in the newspapers informing the public what has been taking place. It will be quite safe to say, however, that very few people indeed will read the whole of the evidence that has been put forward. Much of it has been quite inconsequential. Even the report itself, with its twelve to fourteen hundred pages will not find a large number of readers. It is the recommendations on which attention will be fixed. I want to appeal to all Socialists who believe in palliatives at all to devote their time and energy during the next few months to a study of the recommendations both of the Majority and the Minority. As one of the Minority, however, I would like to say that I do not consider that we are proposing anything in the nature of a social reconstruction. Neither do I imagine that even if the whole of our recommendations were adopted, a heaven-on-earth would be brought into being. But this I do claim—that if put into effect in England they will render the condition of the poor and destitute considerably better than they are to-day, and that the dread of poverty will to a large extent have been destroyed. Our proposals have for their object the awakening in each of us a recognition of our duties toward our neighbour; and not merely my duty toward my neighbour, but my neighbour's duty toward me. In these days it is rather important that the latter should be kept in view. The pauper spirit and pauper class always accept whatever can be given them. In this respect it is like all parasitical classes, and is well exemplified in the State pensioners who get their £1,200 a year, objecting to pensions for the poor.

Our reason for dissenting from the proposals of the Majority is that we feel that they would simply perpetuate the idea that a person who gets a bottle of medicine at the cost of the community, or the child whose father dies while it is of school age, are in some way less worthy than others. They would further help to perpetuate the miserable fiction that it is the duty of the rich to help the poor by charitable doles, either in money or kind. We of the Minority, however, desire both the rich and the poor to understand that the first duty they owe to each other is to get off each other's backs. We think that it is no more honorable for a rich man to live on his neighbour than for a poor man to do the same thing, and that society must so organise its services that they shall be as open to the one class as to the other.

In the first place the Minority claim that medical relief and the treatment of sickness and disease of all kinds whether infectious or non-infectious should be in the hands of one authority and one authority only, to which all classes of the community might apply. The same principle underlies the proposal that orphans should not in future be treated as a class apart from the rest of the children of the community, but that their care should be looked upon as part and parcel of the system organised by society for the upbringing of its boys and girls. The proposal in regard to the aged and infirm is of a similar character. Why should a person under the magic age of seventy, who is incapacitated from work, get a grudging dole of outdoor relief, while the person who has reached that age gets a pension, an honourable pension, at the hands of the State? We claim that those persons of whatever age who, from sickness or infirmity, are unable to earn their living, should get a pension from the same authority as administers pensions to-day.

But let us remember that all this will mean a tremendous struggle. It may be that as usual the Minority Report will not seem revolutionary enough for some Social-Democrats. But I would like to remind them that we shall have gone a long way toward destroying at least some of the terrors of capitalism if the Minority scheme is carried into effect. In any case I would like to appeal to all comrades in the S.D.P. at least to join in smashing up the proposals of the Majority. There can be no possible doubt that if they are allowed to be carried, the chains of pauperism will be around our necks for the next two generations. I believe we now have a golden opportunity of taking a step forward, firstly by preventing the re-creation of the Poor Law authorities under a new name, and, secondly, by breaking up the present functions of the Poor Law authorities and distributing their work in the manner suggested in the Minority Report.

The able-bodied and unemployed I have said nothing about. The position in regard to them is in the main a demand for work or training. But there are proposals for helping to prevent unemployment which

stand out quite clearly, and these should be read as they stand in the report. I only want to ask that they may be studied, and that we may all use the next few months in making known the conclusions which have been arrived at, and in arousing public opinion to such an extent as to prevent the work of the Commission being wasted. The S.D.P. has always stood for palliative measures which, though not in themselves constituting Socialism, make toward our end. It seems to me that the steps we ought next to concentrate on are those we have been discussing for years, but which can, I believe, just now be taken with more hope of success than ever before. I refer to the breaking up of the Poor Law system, and the rational treatment of unemployment. For the unemployed what we have to claim is work, or maintenance with training.

If we determine to join in backing up the Minority Report, if we let our Members of Parliament know that we want to get it put into effect, if we decide that it shall be the piece of work which we will agitate for and get done in the near future, I believe that to hundreds of thousands of worn-out veterans of industry we shall bring a message of hope and joy. Rhodes thought in continents. I am sometimes afraid that we Socialists too often dream only of brand-new societies. I for one can never get out of my mind the horrors of the workhouse system. I can never forget the thousands of men and women whom one comes in contact with every day of one's life, whose lives are degraded and belittled by the work of the Poor Law. It is this I have in mind now. I at least have a vision of a time when the last vestige of pauperism will have been swept away, and society will be rendering quite cheerfully to all its citizens those services which they need, and every citizen will be rendering his due to the community. I believe that the proposals of the Minority will make for this end, and I therefore commend them to the S.D.P.

G. LANSBURY.

## The Burnley Debate.

This debate arose out of a pamphlet written by Mr. Arbuthnot and issued to the Burnley Unionists, in which he criticised Socialism, and, more particularly, the economics of Karl Marx. As Mr. Arbuthnot is the Conservative candidate for Burnley, our comrade H. M. Hyndman at once proposed that the matter should be thrashed out, and the debate was arranged accordingly.

The Mechanics' Hall, on Tuesday week, February 9, was packed with ticket-holders, when Mr. Pickles, M.A., a local schoolmaster, took the chair and set the ball rolling.

The debaters had half an hour each in which to open, then five rounds of five minutes each, and a final twenty minutes each. These conditions were chosen by Mr. Arbuthnot, the object being revealed in the course of the debate.

In comrade Hyndman's opening speech, he gave his definition of Socialism, and, after explaining the theories of Karl Marx, pointed out that capital was rapidly accumulating in the hands of a very few rich people, who exploited the labour-power of the workers to make profit regardless of the workers' comfort and well-being. The workers were just so many slaves working for a mere subsistence wage that the capitalists who controlled them might grow richer and richer. He showed that wealth was produced by the application of labour-power to natural objects, and that without that labour no wealth could be produced. What more natural, then, than that the workers, whose power to labour was indispensable, should possess and control all the necessary tools and machinery, so that the full results of that labour would be in their own hands to distribute as they thought fit?

Mr. Arbuthnot, who now took his first turn, carefully avoided criticising the case for Socialism laid down by Hyndman, and delivered instead a speech evidently prepared for the occasion, but which was in no sense relative to his position as debater. The endeavour to make the audience believe that there were almost as many kinds of Socialism as there were Socialists, by quoting "Justice" against the Fabian Society, the "Clarion" against the S.D.P., and "Justice" against the Labour Party, raised some rather weak laughter among the local Conservatives. Then he wanted a scheme of Socialistic management, a definite, detailed scheme—actually—all in a five minutes' reply!

Afterwards the debate became a farce. Instead of taking up his time like a man who had business to do—and five minutes' speeches are short enough, surely—poor, dear Gerald settled himself down as the inquiring pupil to Hyndman as tutor. "What would you do here, Mr. Hyndman?" "Will Mr. Hyndman tell us how they propose to do this, and that?"

Gerald is rather a handsome young man; but beauty is only skin deep; and at this stage he was an object of mingled pity and derision: with haggard face, shaking limbs, and trembling voice, he wore from head to heel the look of the vanquished.

In his concluding speech the "plucky young Conservative" referred to "the vast improvement in the lives of the workers that had taken place during the last fifty years," and suggested "that with another fifty years, things would really be quite nice for the workers!"

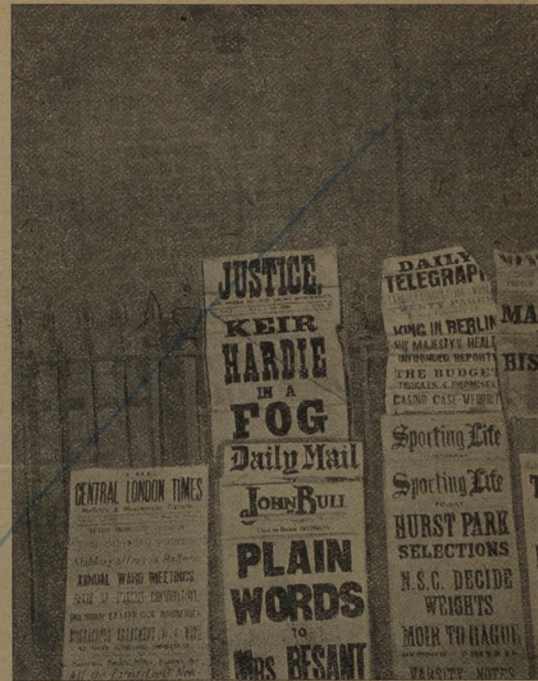
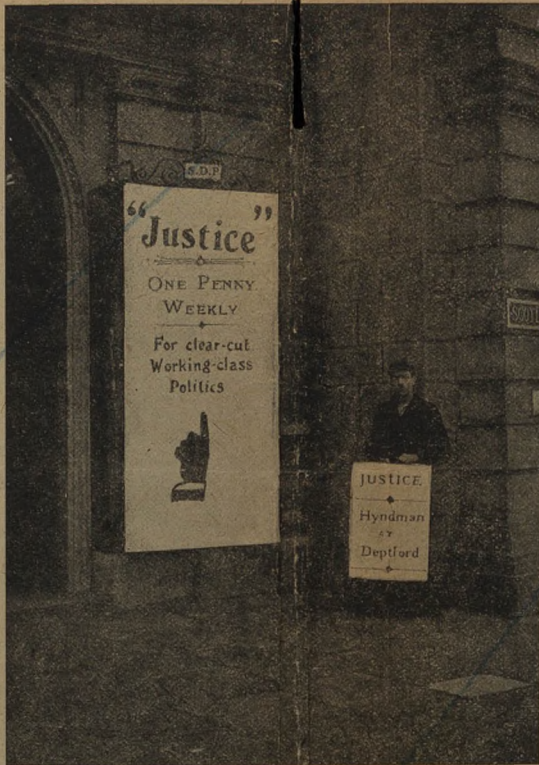
The audience laughed uproariously, to Gerald's deep bewilderment, just as he discovered that with ten minutes left he had nothing to say.

Hyndman spoke admirably, and was evidently prepared for a good tough fight, bent upon giving nothing away; but this was not fight, it was slaughter. It has been a good piece of propaganda work. ROBINSON GRAHAM.

149



PERMANENT POSITION FOR "JUSTICE" POSTER, CORNER OF NEW OXFORD STREET. THOUSANDS OF PERSONS PASS HERE EVERY FEW MINUTES. SALE OF "JUSTICE" GOOD.



ANOTHER PERMANENT POSTER DISPLAY FOR "JUSTICE"; "HORSE SHOE HOTEL," TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD. ONE OF THE BUSIEST CORNERS IN LONDON.

**PUSHING OUR LITERATURE.**

Within the last couple of weeks, hundreds of thousands of people have become acquainted with "Justice" through our striking posters, and the sales have far exceeded our expectations. This, however, is only in London.

The Provincial towns have not made that strenuous effort we asked for. This *can* and *must* be done at once.

"Justice" must be the most prominent weekly paper.

Will those Secretaries who have not replied to circular letter please do so at once?

**SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE.**

**THE UNEMPLOYED.**

**Great Demonstrations.**

The London unemployed movement had a week-end series of demonstrations, as a note of instruction and warning to the Government not to neglect this vital question any longer.

On the Saturday afternoon there was the effective demonstration in Trafalgar Square organised by the Church Socialist League, with the aid of the London Right to Work Committee. It was an impressive sight—the scores of black-robed clergy of various denominations on the plinth, and the many thousands of men in work and out-of-work filling up the space between the Nelson Column and the Gordon Statue, while along the terrace were hundreds of spectators.

Encouraging messages were read from Canon Scott Holland, R. J. Campbell, the Bishop of London, and Father Adderley, who tersely said, "Bloody Sunday gave us the right to speak; may unbloody Saturday give us the right to live." Stewart Headlam, white-headed Socialist stalwart in the Church, set the key-note of the meeting—Socialism—the remedy absolutely essential before all others was that the unemployed should have access to the great means of production, and so be able to employ each other.

The resolution read as follows:—

"This meeting of Christian citizens, in view of the appalling destitution caused by unemployment, while realising that no ultimate cure is possible until the people of England are resolved to alter the basis of the present industrial system, urges upon the Government that immediate steps should be taken to compel the Local Government Board to distribute the money voted for the relief of the unemployed; and demands of Parliament that the question of work, or maintenance with training, should be the first business of this Session."

Dr. Clifford moved it, and proposed that we should re-arrange our industrial conditions on the basis of justice to everybody, should train young Britons in knowledge of trade and commerce, secure access to the land and afforestation, and "get rid of our abominable drink habits"—the last of which curious mixture caused some opposition among the crowd.—However, something better was forthcoming from the Revs. Lewis Donaldson, of Leicester, E. Rattenbury, E. Thornton, E. G. Maxted and Conrad Noel, who all gave excellent Socialist speeches.

**London Right to Work Conference.**

On Sunday morning a Conference was held at Chandos Hall, called by the London Right to Work Council. The replies of the Labour members in answer to the appeal of the Committee to walk at the head of Monday's procession showed that nearly all had excused themselves on the ground of previous engagements, while Mr. J. R. MacDonald and Mr. Philip Snowden replied intimating that they would have no part

in anything connected with the S.D.P. Mr. MacDonald's letter created a bad impression, and was repudiated by Mr. J. H. Harley (for the Metropolitan District Council of the I.L.P.).

Nine trade union delegates were added to the Executive; and it was decided to ask the unions themselves to supply names for a lecture list.

A representative deputation was appointed to wait on the Labour Party Executive and on the Group in the House.

**Monday's Demonstration.**

A very effective parade of out-of-works took place on Monday, jointly organised by the Unemployed Committee of the Social-Democratic Party and the London Right to Work Council. The day's proceedings started with the usual Monday meeting at Tower Hill, which, on this occasion, was unusually large, Victor Grayson, M.P., speaking to an enormous crowd, who laughed at his sallies of wit, and cheered loudly at the more serious portions of his speech. He made very good play on the Gold Stick, Silver Stick, etc., who were to be in the morrow's function—"parasites on the body politic." How dared they spend money extravagantly in mere display to open the House of Commons—an aggregation of insincere old women. He urged the Labour Party to say they would not allow the House of Commons to go on with any other business until it had attended to unemployment. He did not want to be thrown out, but he would give anything if the Labour Party would give some proof of their sincerity.

Our comrade J. E. Williams was also in good fettle, and made an excellent speech, R. Greenwood also addressing the meeting.

Presently the men formed up, and with their banners, marched to the Embankment, where they were joined by other contingents—from Lambeth, Southwark and Camberwell, from St. Pancras, Islington, Shoreditch and Hackney (who had rallied on Clerkenwell Green), from Wimbledon, etc. The Shoreditch men were accompanied by a baker's dozen of Manchester unemployed. Altogether the processionists must have numbered close on 4,000 men, and the demonstration was rendered more imposing by the immense precautions taken by the police to guard it on its way. Constables had been drawn from a dozen divisions, and, horse and foot, they must have equalled at least half the number of unemployed, while in the ranks of the latter plain-clothes men were plentifully besprinkled. Everybody of real or apparent importance in the procession was well shadowed. Jewellers' shops on the route were carefully guarded, and the demonstrators roared with laughter at the manner in which the courtyards and mews of some of the very big houses in the West were garrisoned with police. The demonstration must have been a most expensive matter for the authorities. They had refused to allow the men to be fed in Belgrave Square, although here was plenty of room there, and

had even threatened Mr. John Pearce with a prosecution if he sent his van there for that purpose. Again they refused permission to feed the men on the Embankment, forcing them to go to the end of their long march and right to the Marble Arch before allowing a halt.

The main procession with its banners and a small band went in very good order, and generally at a slow pace along Pall Mall, and (despite the police instructions) through St. James's Square out to Piccadilly and to Hyde Park Corner, where the Hammersmith contingent joined on. As the men marched into Belgrave Square they presented a striking appearance—a long line of men whose end was out of sight—headed by the S.D.P. unemployed banner—"Work or Revolution—Which? The Government must Decide," followed by the effective banner of the Poplar I.L.P., a skull with the motto, "Liberal—Thy Name is Poverty," the banner of the Islington Right-to-Work Committee, the United French Polishers, Shoreditch S.D.P., Lambeth Trades Council, two from Southwark, etc. A tableau was also carried on a van, showing "The Englishman's Home," with empty grate and cupboard, and sardonic religious texts such as "God bless our home," a portrait of Haldane as one of the "Devil's Own," etc. The police had just announced their intention of prohibiting this in the procession, but they did not insist.

It should be stated that both Victor Grayson, M.P. and James O'Grady, M.P., marched for a considerable distance with the procession.

When the first banner had got to the end of the third side of Belgrave Square, the tail of the procession had not yet arrived in the square. From Belgrave it is a stone's throw to Eaton Square, along the narrow side of which the men marched, some singing, others cheering, effectively blocking the thoroughfare. Some grand dames, viewing the demonstration from a verandah, were told "We will have our turn soon, you have had yours." Several times the men evinced a disposition to halt, and then the police showed a panic and urged them on. Next, passing Sloane Square and up Sloane Street, we spread ourselves over Cadogan Square, which has probably never been so full before. Finally, the procession turned into Hyde Park when the long line stretched itself from the Marble Arch to the French Embassy. At Marble Arch most of the men were fed, by the gracious permission of the police, and the bounty of the donors to the Clarion's Starving Poor Fund. Famished as they were, the men who had tickets yet awaited the distribution in orderly fashion, and it was not till the tickets were finished, and about 50 sandwiches were left for some hundreds of men, that a scramble and a scrimmage took place.

An effective though peaceful demonstration, yet causing the governing classes no small trepidation and anxiety. They must think of what it would have meant if so large a body of men got out of hand.

**March of the Women and Children.**

Tuesday's march beggars description. Though here and there in the procession were to be seen bright-eyed Socialist women, happy in the glorious gospel of economic freedom, yet generally it was a drab mass of misery, which became more manifest as the march from Cavendish Square to the Horticultural Hall proceeded—extended as it was some mile and a-half by the brutal police authorities. This was done in order to safeguard property, and perhaps the incident in Oxford Street, where a brick was thrown through a jeweller's window justified their fears. Other jewellers put their shutters up in a panic, amid the mocking laughter of the crowd; more police were called out wholesale. But the cruelty of the lengthened march was to be seen in the exhausted condition of the women and children long ere they arrived at their destination. A detachment of Horse Guards passed through Cavendish Square with swords drawn while the procession was forming. There were 3,000 women to say nothing of the children; they came from all parts of the London district. Mrs. Murray brought 70 from Walthamstow, Mrs. Spinks nearly 50 from Edmonton, Mrs. Knight many from West Ham, others from Leyton, Wimbledon, Deptford, Willesden, while the nearer districts furnished larger contingents; and George Lansbury brought his thousands from Poplar. The banners of the day before were nearly all present, and many others were added. The Stepney Gasworkers' Band played lively airs for the most part of the journey, but gave a good rendering of the "Dead March" in Park Lane and Belgrave Square. The children in the rear part of the procession lustily sang "We'll Hang Johnny Burns on a Sour Apple Tree," and cheered the jeweller's broken window. When Hobart Place was reached the police behaved like a lot of fools. No less than five inspectors halted with their men to prevent the procession going further, and to compel the women and children to dribble through in ones and twos to the Horticultural Hall, but no sooner did the first contingent appear in Palace Street than a posse of private constables tried to stop them going further at all—in entire ignorance of the arrangements made. A serious row was narrowly averted. The march occupied nearly three hours.

At last at Horticultural Hall they arrived, and for a couple of hours the poor, fagged-out women and children filed into the hall, where they were given food and cups of warm milk; and anon some of them went on in small groups to the House of Commons to see their M.P's.

Our comrades Williams, Fairchild and Greenwood, together with Mrs. Boyce and Lansbury, are to be congratulated on the success of their efforts.

(For Glasgow and Shoreditch Reports, see page 9.)

**Let the Workers have one demand and one paper—"Justice."**

P.T.O.

Postoffice Telephone 296 Central  
Telegrams or Cables "Flakiness London"

JG

39 Wilson street

London E C

Joseph Fels

150

13th March 1909

Dear George

Here is the stuff Keir Hardie has just returned to me. I want to answer Burns' letter. Scratch off what you suggest, and return the stuff you sent me. I think you have the letter which I wrote to Burns, to which the enclosed is a reply. I enclose our press copy, however, which please return.

Enever, the solicitor, has just seen me, and says he has offered you the use of his bungalow at Shoreham for your family. Why don't you take the whole crowd there for a fortnight or more. I believe there are 5 or 6 bedrooms, and there are frequent trains up and down.

Yours

Joseph Fels

Mrs. Joseph Fels.

(157)

Elmwood,

Bickley, Kent.

Mar. 15, 1959,

Dear Bessie, -

How are you? I am going to town now for the first time in a week. I am writing this on the way, hence the pencil writing, which please pardon.

This should be a good concert. Mr. Connell is one of our best singers, and is a very fine artist, indeed. I always enjoy his singing greatly.

Of the other artists I know nothing. It is you, is it not, who is so fond of cello playing.

When shall I see you and George? I do hope it will be soon.  
Cordially yours,  
Mary.



M449

Walter Coates

152

6, Southwick Street,

Hyde Park, W.

Dear George

May 1909

I've just been thinking for an hour or two and trying to focus feelings that have been coming over me lately about things political & social. Under these two heads I, of course, include all the activities of ones life. All our efforts to bring about cooperation <sup>or orderly change</sup> seem ~~seem~~ to be futile and I am wondering whether, after all, we should not be better off under a state of anarchy.

It seems that all the best things <sup>or good things</sup> one does are those which are impelled from ones inner self and are not those dictated by either fear - or public opinion, which is really the same thing. Therefore why not cast off all <sup>artificial</sup> restraining influences & live our true lives. You know I don't mean this in any silly little fanatical sense, but in the large. I don't mean, for instance, that we should work at being natural, as some do, who, to show they are natural, go in for some fantastical mode of dress etc. Goodness knows we are all more or less artificial now, but we have, all of us, some natural - good - feelings & impulses & I feel sure, that the best way to get a good growth of them is to definitely put on each of us the fullest responsibility.

Which is better? - Cooperation, which presupposes individual weakness, or Anarchy which pre-supposes strength - self-reliance & justice. I want a talk with you some day soon. I'm getting

(153)

rattled these days. I see idealism  
mixed up closely with the worst  
kind of competition & so on, until  
I don't know where I am.

Good luck to you George - I  
like your attitude of mind  
& action ~~to~~ towards things.

I suppose it is because I feel  
you are really good & I'm only  
playing at being good. Tell  
me where I'm wrong - if you  
can gather, from this rambling  
note, where I am.

Good night  
Yours  
Walter



Postoffice Telephone 296 Central  
Telegrams or Cables "Flakiness London"

39 Wilson street

London EC

154

Walker Coates

Dear George

May 25/09

Herewith I return your paper.  
Thanks for letting me see it. It's good.

I hope J.B. - has luck enough  
to collect the £1400. I wish him  
joy. Come for lunch one day  
this week if you can.

Yours  
Walker

155

May Tennant Lang 26. 1909

Dear Mr Lambour.

The whole thing

suggests a remark made by

a factory girl I knew when

one of her comrades took

a bejeweled china ornament

from the basket piece of this

to the divisions Report writing.  
f. along with Roberts  
Lang Tennant



M449

Club Room. —

" By Lord:

How patting!

But not it means

is more than merely patting:

it's very sad.

You will let me know if

cons. anything I can do -

I reminded Sir [unclear] of the facts. He said the L.S.B

" was in the position of a

Judge in these matters

implies it was a pity

it couldn't distinguish between

the functions of a judge

the Devil's advocate - But

there was nothing to be done.

I am very sorry indeed

You have all this worry when you

(156)

arent feeling fit for it.

~~Days~~ I know you wouldnt

have acted differently but you

for some reason detail, it we

must all of us be the more

grateful for that - to me

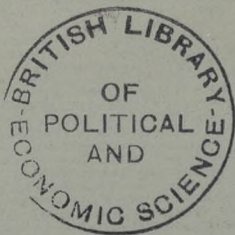
of the many who have cause

to be grateful I want to do

all I can to help. And I count

on you calling upon me.

The Cambridge Adoring Centre visit  
through in time today the transport



May Tennant

157

June 10. 1900

M449

[? 4909]

Dear Mr. Laubsch.

Many thanks for yr

note about the table. Yes!

we'd like a new cover. Could

yr. men send me patterns of

the right kind of cloth with

a bit of the old so that I might

choose ~~it~~ as near <sup>the original shade</sup> as possible. <sup>letting him order it,</sup>

I can't? If that is out of his

line & he will send me the whole

the cloth will get the <sup>quantity of</sup> cloth  
necessary.

Yes I wd like it repolished  
& made a good a job as possible

But I don't want a high polish  
only enough I sh! say to obliterate  
the evidence of the repairs.

Asking one man at  
May then to let you know  
about wood. Some furniture  
I sh! arrive there early next  
week wd wd give him an

idea of his needs of the moment.  
They will grow a good bit as  
time goes on & he can keep  
coming to you unless that wd  
bother you.

I will let you know as soon  
as I have been able to arrange  
a talk with Canon Barnett.

I felt unhappy today when I  
thought (which was very soon) of the  
sordid relations with Dr. Lumsden  
crediting him. I ought to have

(158)  
let my general experience of people  
in high place - whether politicians  
the Church - show my views about a  
man of whom I know really nothing.  
And of course there are men, even  
in my rather unhappy experience,

like Gore Norton Scott Adams  
to whom "place", either for  
themselves or their friends, is the  
last thing they w<sup>d</sup>. think of.

I am ashamed of thinking it, unprovoked  
about anyone, & especially of anyone  
whom I find myself counts a friend.

June 10 (1909) (159)

And it was very wrong of me to

say so. You will forget it

I know; my only comfort is that

you will pay no attention to

it any more.

I hope to see ~~you~~ ~~later~~

late Saturday.

J. Dew

May 15 1899



The Factory, Bow

June 17. 09

[re death of G.H.'s eldest daughter Bessie  
My dear Samsbury Haverson]

I am so so prieved  
for you all. I can't  
say much, words are  
so useless; but you  
understand, will  
believe in my sympathy.  
If there is anything I can  
do, use me. My wife  
feels all I feel, send  
her love. May God  
be with you all

Ever yours

H. J. Kitecat

E. S. Kitecat  
[Miss H. J. Kitecat] [17 June 1909] (176)  
~~Thursday~~

My dear Mr. Lambury

I feel I must just say  
how we are thinking of  
you all - I know nothing  
we can say can do much  
good, only I think sometimes  
it helps a little to know  
our friends are thinking  
of me + praying for me.  
With my love to you and  
your husband

Yours very sincerely  
E. S. Kitecat

Mr. Sanborn

---

162

Rev. Andrew Binney  
Ritchie

10, Avenue Road

Que. C.

June 17. 09.

Dear Mr. Lausbury

Words always fail  
me on these occasions, & even if  
I could summon them I should  
hesitate - it seems all so little use

Yet I do want to assure you &  
Mr. Lausbury & all the others of  
my sympathy with your great  
sorrow. You stood by me &  
helped me so much when I needed  
it last summer that I would do

anything if only I could - but that  
is impossible. This is a bigger thing  
& another must help & fill this pause  
He will, but you know of that far  
better than I -

I can say no more - forgive me  
for being so little use

Yrs always  
R. B. H. H. H.

Davis asks me to send his sincere  
Sympathy



*not numbered*



M449

Ritchie

17 June 1909

(164)

P.S.

If you think I could help  
Harry Swenson in any way please  
send me a hint - only I have  
not seen much of him or know  
him intimately & I fear to  
intrude.

---

Nellie <sup>Boime</sup> Wivenhoe 165

[Sister of  
Bessie?]

Tennyson Rd.  
Hullon. Esset.  
June 18<sup>th</sup> / 09

Dear Bessie & George.

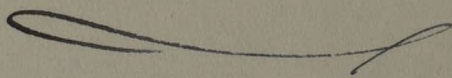
We received  
Annie's letter this morning  
with the very sad news  
of little Bessie. It  
must have been a  
dreadful blow for all  
of you + poor Harry.  
It has shocked us  
terribly, I don't know  
what to write. Charlie  
is writing to Harry now



to know if we can  
help in any way. Perhaps  
we could have one of  
the children for a little  
while. I feel I must  
come up, so Charlie  
& I will come on Sunday  
some time. With

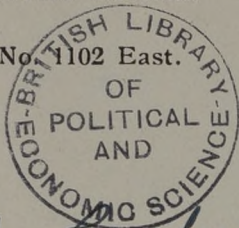
much love to you  
all

Your loving sister  
Jellie.



CHRIST CHURCH MISSION,  
ST. FRIDESWIDES CHURCH.

Telephone No. 1102 East.



M449

Dear Mr Lansbury,

I have this evening heard of the great sorrow which has come upon you, and though I do not feel I can say anything that can be of any help to you I must just write a line to assure you of my sincere sympathy for you in your grief. - You have been too kind a

Gordon Crosse

CHRIST CHURCH HOUSE,  
FOLLETT STREET,  
POPLAR, E.

167

June 18/09

friend to me during the last two  
years. For me not to feel really  
sorry for any trouble of yours, and  
though I can do nothing else I  
can at least assure you of my  
sympathy & my prayers for you  
and yours.

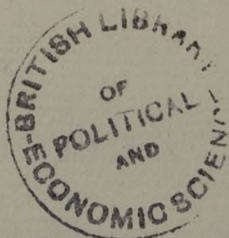
I shall expect no answer to this  
note,

yours very sincerely  
J. Crosset

John A. Grant

168

36, BEGMEAD AVENUE,  
STREATHAM,  
S.W.



M 449

18 June 1909

My dear Lansbury,

I was desired last night by the meeting in Church house to write you officially in the name of all present to convey to you their profound sympathy for you in your great loss. At the request of the chairman the whole meeting rose & stood silent to express their share in your sorrow. The news came to me with its awful unexpectedness of

26 BEGMEAD AVENUE

STREATHAM

S.W.

a thunderbolt out of a blue  
sky as no word of her ill-  
ness had reached me. It  
is idle to try - say anything  
to comfort at a time like this.  
Pray accept this brief letter  
not only as official, but  
as a personal promise of  
the hand when words are  
worthless. May God our Father  
be near you - may your faith  
come out of the furnace  
purer & stronger.

Your sincere friend  
John A. Grant

142, Elgin Road,  
Seven Kings

(169)

H. Finnis Johnson

Essex.

June 18. 1909.

My dear Lansbury,

I am deeply  
grieved to hear of the loss you have  
sustained by the death of your daughter  
Bessie & much regret that it is beyond  
my power to do anything to relieve  
or mitigate your sorrow. I can only  
ask you, Mrs. Lansbury & family to  
accept my sincere sympathy and  
condolences in your bereavement.

Believe me,

Always yours Sincerely,

H. Finnis Johnson

G. Lansbury Esq.

TELEPHONE,  
686 WESTERN.

at <sup>Rev.</sup> Arnold Penchard (170)  
(2. 1934)

THE LODGE,

LADBROKE ROAD, W.

Inverdegou, 18 June 1909

My dear Lausbury

I had found your  
telegram last night

with the people of

the said reason for

your absence,

the meeting unani-

thoroughly expressed its  
desire to send a  
message of condolence  
& sympathy to you  
which it is my  
privilege now to  
convey.      hand

add on my own  
part, an expression  
of my own sincere  
stone sympathy  
with you.

Yours cordially,  
Mudd Pindard



A. Evans Thorp  
(Alderman)

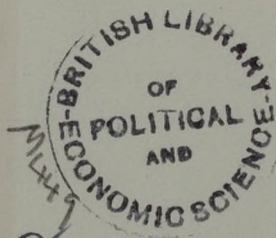
172

9, QUEEN'S ROAD,

TELEPHONE  
694, WANSTEAD.

LEYTONSTONE,

ESSEX.



<sup>th</sup>  
18. June 1909.

Dear Mr. Laubsberg,

I have just heard  
of the very sad loss you  
have sustained. I ask  
you to allow me to tell  
you that I feel very sorry  
for you, & beg that you  
will accept for yourself  
& your dear ones my very  
Sincere Sympathy.  
Yours very truly  
A. Evans Thorp.

Mrs. Sidney (Beatrice) Webb  
(1858 - 1943)

173

41, GROSVENOR ROAD,  
WESTMINSTER EMBANKMENT.

Tom

18 June 1909

My dear V. L. Lundy

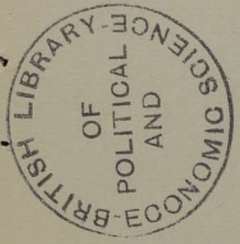
It is so interesting

to hear about you &

Tom & your travels

- it is terrible to lose

a young life - beloved &  
full of promise.



M449

I saw W. Chamberlain and S. for  
 he can carry things through  
 he is coming in for a meeting  
 with the Congress, which Dr. has  
 been told of. The French, P. and  
 P. for comes on every 1-  
 Saturday £5 towards <sup>each</sup> opening of meetings  
 at the Church Congress, 7.4. Congress.  
 How do you think of the Dean of -  
 Worcester who is one of the members  
 - also to D. of Durham  
 he is <sup>present</sup>  
 New Vill.

(174)

Your chief comes very  
near to me after their  
term of cooperation.

But you have at any  
rate the two greatest  
considerations for personal  
proof - religious & Public Spirit.

Charles P. Williams

175

Cheverton Villa.  
Sheffield.

Essex.

18-VI-09.

Dear Mr. Ransbury,

My wife  
and I are very sorry to  
hear of your dear daughter's  
death - tragic in its

unexpectedness. Parting with  
those we love is always  
hard to bear, but trebly  
so it must be, when the  
unseen hand takes from  
us, a daughter, wife and  
mother.

We have always  
felt that it is because of  
your wide home-circle

that you are the Mr. Lansbury  
you are; and that the fatherly  
interest you have in our  
children here, is but a  
wider expression of this same  
home-feeling.

To you the  
School is but a bigger family!

And in this  
thought we hope may be  
a little comfort for you.

Your dear daughter has  
not gone from you without  
helping to make you the  
father-man you are; and  
generations of School-lives  
have cause to thank her  
for it. Please accept our  
very deep sympathy.

Believe me to be,  
Yr. very sincerely,  
Chas. D. Williams.

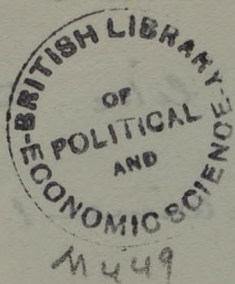
Francis ~~Law~~ Dawey

(177)

3 Apr. 18.

Leinehouse E

June 19. 09



Dear Mr. Lansbury.

I have only just heard the bad news about poor Bessie, the sympathy of both of us is with you and Mrs Lansbury and Mr. Haverson in your sorrow. Truly the chastening process never ceases and life inexplicably abides. I saw the poor woman some three months ago and though looking thin I rejoiced to think that experience was beautifying

her character and now it is  
ended. I would like to know  
Time place of interment.

With love and deep regret.

Yours sincerely

Ed. Dawley.



50 Cataris Buildings,

Mrs. R. C. K. Ensor Poplar.

178

(n. Helen Fisher; for  
him see Who's who, 1954)

19 June 09

1909

Dear Mrs. Lansbury,

We have just heard

of the sad & sudden death of  
your daughter, & we both wish  
to send our very sincere sympathy  
to you & Mr. Lansbury in your  
sorrow.

We cannot help ~~feeling~~ feeling specially  
grieved for her little children.

It is difficult to suggest any  
thought of comfort at such a  
time, but at least you will  
have the sympathy of many  
friends.

Kind regards from us both,  
yours sincerely  
Helen Ensor.

Rev. Charles Tenkison 8 Belgrave Road  
(see Crawford 1938)

179

Plainton E.

19<sup>th</sup> June 1909



Dear Mr. Causbury.

It was with deep regret that I heard  
of your bereavement and on behalf of  
your comrades of the Bethnal Green Group  
of the C.S.U. I beg to express our sympathy  
with you & your family in your sorrow.

Believe me to be

Yours sincerely

Charles Tenkison

Geo Causbury Esq



H. J. Kibcat

Section. Bow.

180

June 09 09

M449

My dear Samsbury

Thank you so much  
for your letter. I  
think I can understand  
a little bit, through  
the death of my own  
elder sister when she  
was 22, what this  
is to you, & how to  
both of you, father &  
mother, it was as  
if a big price had  
been torn out of  
your lives. Yet I

am so thankful you  
both can see it,  
it will for her,  
I would not have  
it otherwise. That  
takes away the words  
of the string, that and  
the peak fulness of  
the Christian Hope.

I think I can  
manage everything  
as you wish on  
Tuesday. Yes. Indeed  
I think will be

then state part in  
the service. More than  
probably he will  
take most of it, as  
I expect I shall have  
to play the organ.  
and he shall take  
the committee prayers  
at the grave.

Have you a  
musical copy of the  
Hymnal Companion?  
I can send, if not.  
I will manage to  
get one.  
Could you also let

181

We have the words of  
the hymn "Hush, bless  
are the dead" by  
tomorrow, or tell  
me when I could  
find them.

I thought we  
would have "Come  
unto me" after  
the lesson, and  
"Hushed blessed" at  
the close of the service  
in church -

Would it be a help  
to you to have a  
celebration of the  
Holy Communion on

19 June 1909 (182)

Tuesday morning  
early at any hour  
you like. If so, you  
have only to say so,  
I shall be with  
pleasure.

Always Yours  
H. J. Kiteat



2449

Charles Mostyn 29, Gresham Houses (1873)  
Lloyd (1878-1946) Old Ford Rd - E.

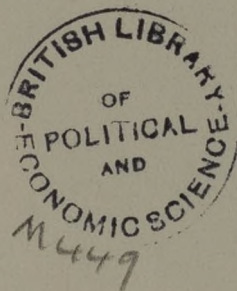
19 June 1909

Dear Lansbury

I am very pained to hear  
of the death of your daughter & will  
you please accept my sincere sym-  
pathy with yourself & all your  
family in your loss?

Yours faithfully

Chas. Lloyd



Manley Power

184

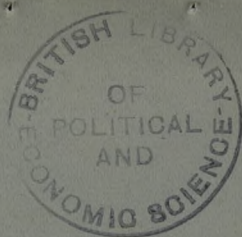
HAGLEY RECTORY,  
STOURBRIDGE.

June 19 1909

Dear Anthony

We are so pained & hear  
of Annie's death. I do not yet  
know how to let you hear that  
he was ill - here each at such  
times are not of much use, but  
may be sure that you have our  
deep sympathy - & will you convey  
the love to poor Harverson - it is my  
sad lot to see my fellow to love his





HAGLEY RECTORY  
STOURBRIDGE

M449

life & she left with rather less business.

Yes, I often think what a rough  
hard life must be - but had to work  
then when I was at - Now - but in  
we fighting in a great & hard cause -  
In a well working place like this  
where the order of things is very high  
and we is apt to forget the  
strenuousness of life elsewhere -  
The Dean of Exeter of Worcester & the  
Bishop of Winchester wanted me a

few weeks back to take the parish of  
King's Norton, a large suburb of Birmingham  
with some 20000 people. I had to decide  
chiefly on the fact that such a parish  
required an able bodied man, whereas  
I am a cripple, with the trouble in my  
hip. I do most of my work here during  
but there there was practically no stable  
accommodation - but though life is not  
at such high pressure as in a big  
town parish I had plenty to do in  
a country one & my mind is pretty  
fully occupied -  
We have lately got our new Church

185

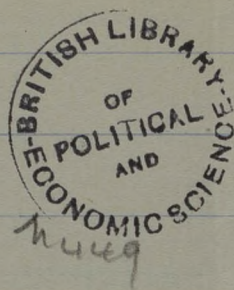
with Mr. Lane Hooper - it cost £4000  
& I am thankful to say all the money has  
been raised. I enclose a little picture  
of it.

I stayed a couple of nights last month  
with Robert. He is very much pleased -  
he did his money worth a great deal  
this previous week at - Surchester & Row.  
He ought to be there now & a lot  
or there pass.

Mr. Lane seems pleased for promised visit  
to us. If you have any jobs bring to me  
say don't forget to let me know -  
what would be the at Row house - let  
it was impossible by way -  
with me here & all  
Wm. Power

John Scarr

186



13 Woodstock Road  
Poplar. E.

June 19<sup>th</sup> 1909

Dear George:

The wife has just come in with the terrible news of the loss which you have just sustained in the loss of your daughter.

It is but of little use I know for to offer condolences as only those who suffer know the pain of an irrecoverable blow, but comrade you have our sincerest sympathy.

I cannot write more but bear up old man, so far as we can we share your sorrow with you.

Yours,  
John Scarr

19-6-09

Lina (and ~~her~~ ~~mother~~)

18 Victoria Park Sq

W. G.

189

Dear Mr. + Mrs. Lansburg

Words cannot express  
the sympathy + sorrow I feel  
and I feel for you in the great  
loss of your dear Bessie

I was so pleased with the  
great help she rendered the  
drill class and to come in  
close contact with her again.  
She was so willing + pleasant  
+ ever ready to help. The  
children will be sorry enough  
to lose her, they often used  
to coax her to play a dance  
for the <sup>them</sup> when the drill class  
finished

I shall allways remmber  
her smiling face at our drill  
display, it does not seem possible  
we shall see her no more  
all our family ask me to express  
their sympathies in your great  
sorrow + loss. I wish I could  
write all I ~~feel~~ feel, from  
your loving comrades

Lena + Jack Wilson

J.H. Banks  
Banks, Joe  
189

**Borough of Poplar Trades and Labour Representation Committee.**  
Established 1903.  
President:  
Councillor A. H. DARBY.  
Treasurer:  
Councillor GEO. LANSBURY.  
Hon. Secretary:  
Alderman J. H. BANKS.  
HEADQUARTERS: 6 CAMPBELL RD., BROMLEY-BY-BOW, E.

June 20<sup>th</sup> 1909

Dear Lansbury

The wife & I desire to express our heartfelt sympathy with M<sup>rs</sup> Lansbury and yourself in the great bereavement you have suffered by the death of your daughter Beanie. I and the wife are more grieved than words can say. so will you accept this expression of our feelings. Give our kind regards to M<sup>rs</sup> Lansbury, who we hope is bearing up under this terrible trial

Yours very truly  
J.H. Banks

Bow and Bromley Socialist  
Sunday School

(190)

59 Strahan Rd.

Bow E.

20/6/09

Dear Comrade

The scholars of  
the Bow & Bromley Socialist  
Sunday School desire me to  
Express to you their sincere  
Condolence at the severe  
loss your family has  
sustained. Your late  
daughter had endeared  
herself to the majority of  
the members of our school  
& her passing away has been

a great blow to them. They understand by now enough of our movement to be able to appreciate to the fullest degree the services which were so generously given, & her memory will always remain green in the minds of all the people connected with our school, as one of the most lovable characters that has ever been into our little hall in Libra Road.

Sincerely yours

E. C. Cotton

Supt.



(192)

REGISTERED OFFICE: 38, JOHN BRIGHT STREET, BIRMINGHAM.



AMALGAMATED TOOLMAKERS,   
~~Engineers & Machinists.~~

AFFILIATED TO THE  
General Federation of Trade Unions,  
and the L. R. C.

and Edward Cruse

20<sup>th</sup> June 1909  
123 Usher Rd

Bow. E.

D<sup>r</sup> Comrade Lansbury

Meeting held at Obelisk

this morning, Resolution was moved & carried  
unanimously that this meeting expresses its  
deep sympathy with you & family in the loss  
of your devoted daughter & ask me to convey  
this message to you, Moved Cruse & Seconded

Scurr

Your fraternally  
E. Cruse  
Chairman.

Richard H. Green

1913

TELEPHONE No.  
5 LEE GREEN.

ELMSDALE,

BLACKHEATH PARK,

S. E.

20-6-09

My dear Lansbury

I only heard last night that you had lost your daughter & I hasten to send you a line of sympathy in your ~~very~~ sorrow.

I can well understand what a loss like this must mean

1924  
So such a warm-hearted man  
as yourself & I hope that  
both you & Mrs. Langbry  
will accept my best  
sympathy in your  
bereavement.

Yrs. sincerely  
Richard D. Jan

195  
Edgar E. Metivier 79 Splains Rd  
Horseneys  
20. 6. 09

My dear Hansbury,

I am so sorry. It seems incredible and must be a great grief to you and your wife, as well as the others.

We all think very much of you in your sad sorrow. I hope to be at Bow Church

196  
on Tuesday. Many thanks for letting me know the times.

Yours sincerely  
Edgar E. Metivier

I feel almost as much amazed as you yourself must be.

---

ENCL:

Charles R. Enever  
Solicitor to Joseph Fels

(197)

C. R. ENEVER,  
SOLICITOR.

TELEGRAMS  
"DEVOUTNESS, LONDON."

TELEPHONE  
7314 CENTRAL.

Broad Street House,  
New Broad St.

London, 21 June 1909  
E.C.

My dear Lausbury

My little wife and  
I were exceedingly

sorry to learn from

Mr Coates of the great

loss you and your

dear wife have sustained

in the death of your

eldest daughter

we sympathise most

(198)

sincerely with you all

and if there is anything

in which either I or

my wife can be of

any assistance do

please let us know

and do us the favour

of making use of us

with kindest regards

and best wishes.

Believe me

Ever yours sincerely

W. R. Green

TELEPHONE No. 8777 CENTRAL.

Walter ~~Hazell~~  
(1843-1919)

199

82, BEDFORD AVENUE,  
BEDFORD SQUARE,  
LONDON.



7449

June 21. 09

With kindest thoughts  
for you & yours in  
your bereavement

W. Hazell

RECEIVED  
JUN 22 1899  
82 BEDFORD AVENUE