

Volume 10

Section I

1931

to

1932

(fols. 1-314)

Volume 10

Section I

1931

(fols. 1 - 191)

BOOTH'S
OLD DRY GIN
ACTS AS A TONIC
& keeps—
—you
—slim!



Evening Standard

TO-MORROW'S WEATHER— UNSETTLED, MILDER.

No. 33,203

LONDON, THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 1931.

ONE P

MR. LANSBURY SAYS: 'MONEY IS WORTHLESS'

**£40 A WEEK
BUT HE
CANNOT SAVE**

*"If I Have to Live on
Old Age Pension, I
Shall Not Worry."*

HIS SECRETS.

MR. GEORGE LANSBURY, the 72-year-old First Commissioner of Works, revealed some of the secrets of his life in an interview with the "Evening Standard" this afternoon.

He told of an ambition he once had to live a "Socialist life," he spoke about his salary of £2000 a year, and he confessed that he was unable to save any money.

Finally he appealed again for a true Christian spirit in the world. That is his ideal—an ideal state in which there is nothing but love and goodwill.

"Trotzky and other Russians," he declared, "thought I was a fool because they believe that you can attain peace only by bloodshed and slaughter."

To the question, "Does the receipt of £2000 a year, less £400 income tax, ever appear to you to be irreconcilable with your political and social views," Mr. Lansbury replied with characteristic directness.

IN THE WHIRLPOOL.

"The question, 'Why don't you live a Socialist life?' has been put to me many times," he said. "At one time in my life I wanted to live like Tolstoy. The determining factor was my wife and family. In Tolstoy's case his wife and family were provided for, but my wife and family are not.

"For that reason I have been obliged to stay in the competitive whirlpool, like other people.

"I do not claim to be better than any other people, except that I recognise the devilish struggle we are all engaged in, and I am doing my best to comfort my fellow men and women so that we may get out of that condition of things.

"And if you say to me 'Are you a man who enters into business and makes money, and thinks he ought to make money,' all I can reply is this: Although I have had to handle very considerable sums of money—some small sums of my own, and very large sums belonging to other people—when my will comes to be read, people will discover that in some way or other I have not been able to keep any in my possession.

"Yet, I am a teetotaler and a non-smoker. I very seldom go to a theatre, and my personal needs are not costly. But I am not an aesthete: I eat my meals, and get my sleep, and like a comfortable chair, and comfort in travel.

"MONEY AS MONEY —"

"The thought at the back of my mind is always that even if I begged my meals and was supplied with my whole means of life by other people I should not then be able to claim any virtue.

"Money as money has absolutely no value at all in my eyes, and I don't want anybody to think I imagine myself to be more virtuous than anybody else. I am built that way.

"If in the end I have to exist on the old age pension I shall not worry and bother and feel upset. I shall just do it.

"What I do feel is the terrible reflection on modern civilisation that we have not cured the poverty problem. We live in the midst of plenty, and yet there is cruel poverty. We have all the power of mankind, and do not seem to be able to use it.

"I believe if we had the real Christian spirit that made us say, 'I will not claim anything for myself which I will not share with other people,' we should get away from our present position. You cannot do this by a stroke of the pen,

(Continued on PAGE TWO.)

PRECIPICE IN LONDON

INSIDE THE TUNNEL THERE IS ROOM
FOR BIG TRAMCARS: BUT OUTSIDE—?



Double-decker tramcars can now come up to Southampton-row from the Embankment by way of the enlarged Kingsway tunnel, but there is really not much room for them when they do. Even without them the problem of keeping traffic moving at a reasonable speed at the point where they emerge is a considerable one.

TENSION IN BOMBAY.

TROOPS MAY BE CALLED
OUT TO-NIGHT.

"WAR COUNCIL" THREAT

It is likely that British troops will be called out in Bombay to-night and placed on duty at all strategic points throughout the city, says the Exchange. Sections of the auxiliary force have already been warned for duty.

The War Council of the Bombay Provincial Congress Committee (pronounced by the Government as an unlawful association) have ordered a complete hartal, or day of mourning, to-morrow throughout the city. The committee threaten to stop all traffic, picket law courts, and to close schools, colleges, workshops, and mills.

The Bombay Government (says Reuters) have issued the following statement:

"The Government are making all possible arrangements to stop such unlawful activities, and to enable law-abiding citizens to proceed about their business without hindrance. The police have orders to disperse processions and meetings."

UNEASINESS.

It is reported that the Governor (Sir Fredk. Sykes) held a prolonged conference to-day with the Home Member of the Government (Sir J. E. B. Hotson), General Weir, commanding the Bombay district, and the Chief of Police concerning the arrangements to stop the Congress activities to-morrow.

In spite of the Government communique there is considerable uneasiness.

The British United Press says that 150 Indians are reported to have been injured in a clash with the police at Dakor, the gathering-place for pilgrims in the Karra district of Gujarat. Shots were fired by the police, who dispersed the crowd by lathie charges.

LORD SANKEY AND THE PEACE PLANT OF INDIA.

The 90 delegates and officials of the India Round-Table Conference sat around the great oval table in Queen Anne's drawing-room at St. James's Palace this afternoon to receive the reports of the sub-committees. The Prime Minister presided, and at the opening no reference was made to the breakdown of negotiations on the Hindu-Moslem question.

Lord Sankey (the Lord Chancellor), who was greeted with cheers, said:

"Responsibility for the Federal Government of India will in future rest on Indians themselves. A small plant has just appeared above the surface. Do not trample on it. Give it a chance. Take it back to India and transplant it in the kindly Indian soil."

THE CHURCH AND FAITH HEALING.

CONVOCATION TO DISCUSS
LAYING-ON OF HANDS.

REQUEST TO PRIMATE.

A motion requesting the Archbishop of Canterbury to draw up a provisional service for "laying hands on the sick with a view to their recovery" will be debated by the Convocation of Canterbury (Lower House) when it meets on Wednesday.

The motion is to be proposed by Prebendary Harris, Rector of Great Malvern.

It is urged, "That inasmuch as Unction and Laying-on of Hands have from the earliest times been administered not only to the physically infirm, but also to mental and nervous sufferers," the needs of such sufferers should receive adequate recognition in the prayers provided and in the directions given to the minister.

REPORTS TO CONVOCATION.

Another suggestion is that to promote closer co-operation between the Church and the medical profession. The findings and suggestions of the committee of clergy, doctors and psychologists, recently appointed to advise the Church on these matters, should be circulated from time to time to members of Convocation.

MAGISTRATE REBUKES A PRISON DOCTOR.

Mr. Hay Halkett, resuming the hearing of a remanded case at Marylebone Police Court to-day, said he had received a report from Dr Grierson, of Brixton Prison, which stated that the prisoner denied committing the alleged offence.

"I did not ask him for that information," said the magistrate, "and it is not his business to tell me if the man admits or denies it. In 30 years' experience I have never seen such a thing."

Mr. R. E. Seaton (for the police).—It is absurd.

Mr. Hay Halkett.—He has not to try the man.

TOBACCO SHOP RAID.

Early to-day thieves broke into the tobaccoist's shop of Messrs. Finlay at Walham Green, S.W., and escaped with tobacco and cigarettes worth £100.

WHY HE RAIDED HIS MONEY-BOX.

The Head Sister of King's College Hospital, Denmark-hill, S.E., presented to the chairman over £800 which the nurses had collected among themselves to save a ward being closed.

A little boy who was looking on at the ceremony cried out, "Why, that's my Nurse Wheeler."

When told that the nurses had saved the money themselves, he went home. A few minutes later he returned with his money-box, and emptied the contents, 10s. 4d., into the nurse's hand.

MR. LANSBURY.

(Continued from PAGE ONE.)

of course. And if we were able to do it tomorrow you would not get all men dead level. There cannot be a dead level. We are all built differently.

WHY DO THEY STEAL?

"If the advantages of co-operating, of working with one another, were realised, there would be an end to all this fighting against one another to-day. Why do people in my end of London thieve or go wrong in other ways occasionally? Sometimes they want to go to a theatre or in a motorcar or buy nice clothing. I maintain that with a co-operative spirit of goodwill there would be no such impulses.

"On the other hand I do not want it to be thought that I believe the mere satisfaction of material needs would immediately cure all the moral evil. That is not so, because we are the product of centuries. And for the same reason it may take centuries to produce an ideal system of life.

"What we have to do to-day is to start on that road. We want to get away from all the bickering and the squabbling and the mean trickery that there is against one another to-day.

"In this it is the obvious duty of the Church to take the lead and to fulfil the ideals for which it stands."

"I AM A CHRISTIAN."

"When I speak of the Church or of religion I have in mind no creed. I am a Christian, but I respect the belief of all other people. What matters is not your creed or your possession of religion as such, but the manner in which you distinguish right from wrong.

"You can go right back to the Chinese philosophers, and the one message they all gave was that the conquering force in the world that would bring happiness to mankind was love. Not the thought of domination in any sense."

"I am at times terrified for the future, but I have such a faith in our race that I think we shall find a way out."

Asked whether love and goodwill could be relied upon in the future to settle a miners' strike, Mr. Lansbury replied:

"While a competitive system of one set of employers against another set at home or abroad exists, the application of Christian ethics is impossible. There must be a transformation of competitive industry into a co-operative industry. If only we Socialists had stuck to the word 'co-operation' I am certain we should not meet with the opposition of to-day."

"A MISTAKE TO LET SHOP-LIFTERS GO."

"It is mistaken kindness to let shop-lifters go," said Mr. Hay Halkett, the Marylebone magistrate to-day. "It would be far better for shopkeepers, the public and those who might be tempted to become shop-lifters to make it an iron rule to prosecute."

Before him was Annie Pearce, aged 42, a widow with two children, of Deans-way, Edgware, Middlesex, who was remanded on a charge of stealing a pair of women's shoes and two Swiss rolls from one West End store, and a child's coat from another.

At Lambeth, Mrs. Kate Osborn Legrand, aged 38, of Vicarage-road, Camberwell, S.E., was remanded, bail being allowed, charged with stealing a petticoat at a Peckham firm's sale. She denied the offence.

TAXATION BURDENS CRUSHING TRADE.

'CRUCIFIED ON THE CROSS OF NATIONAL EXTRAVAGANCE.'

SIR F. LEWIS.

MOUNTING MILLIONS OF "DOLE" DEBT.

"The American orator Mr. W. J. Bryan [at the time of the great currency controversy] once said this world was being crucified on the cross of gold. I am sometimes inclined to think that the industries of this country are being crucified on the cross of national extravagance."

This statement was made to-day by Sir Frederick Lewis, who presided in the absence of the chairman, Mr. Frank Houlder, at the ordinary general meeting of the Houlder Line, Ltd.

Sir Frederick said that he agreed with Lord Incheape that it was essential that there should be some reduction in national expenditure.

"To me," he continued, "one of the most distressing features of recent political development was the appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the working of the Unemployment Insurance Act."

While the Royal Commission was investigating the question the fund continued to run into debt at the rate of 30 or 40 millions a year. Heavy taxation was largely the cause of increased costs of production.

INSURANCE FUND DEBT MAY REACH £100,000,000.

The prospect that—in submitting any scheme by which the Unemployment Insurance Fund might be made solvent—the members of the Commission might have to deal with a debt of £100,000,000 was mentioned by Mr. F. G. Bowers, the Accountant-general of the Ministry of Labour, when he continued to-day his evidence before the Royal Commission which is considering the subject.

Mr. Bowers said that the Exchequer contributions under the insurance scheme for the current year at £37,000,000 represented in income tax about 7d. or 8d. in the pound.

PRISON FOR MUSICIAN ON CHARGES OF FRAUD.

Ronald Henry Paget, a 25-year-old musician, pleaded guilty at the Old Bailey to-day to nine charges of obtaining money by false pretences from musicians. He was sent to prison for six months with hard labour.

Mr. J. F. Eastwood, prosecuting, said that Paget became acquainted with a band, and, telling them he had been appointed musical director at a Shanghai hotel, said that he would pay them £17 or £18 a week in Shanghai. Several of the men parted with their last £5, as Paget said that he had to pay commission to an agent.

Detective-sergeant Paires said that when the first complaint concerning the bogus engagements were received Paget was touring in India and China in "Journey's End," in which he played the part of Mason. He had been a professional pianist.

TRAMCAR PASSENGERS "SCARED" BY ACCIDENT.

A verdict of Accidental Death was recorded at an inquest at Friern Barnet, N., to-day on Albert Henry Howe, aged 42, of Heysham-road, Tottenham, N., a member of "The Roosters" concert party, well known to wireless listeners, who died after falling from a tramcar at East Finchley on Sunday.

The tramcar conductor said that Mr. Howe came down the stairs rather hurriedly. He seemed to lose his balance and dive into the roadway. The car was not jerking.

The conductor added that when he rang the emergency bell the car stopped in twice its length. The lower deck was full of passengers, but after the accident they left hurriedly.

Dr. Cohen (the Coroner) said that it was unfortunate that people who could have been valuable witnesses got scared and ran away after the accident.

GREAT BOOM IN WIRELESS.

SUCCESS OF THE PRESS ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN.

To the Editor of the "Evening Standard."

An official of the Radio Manufacturers' Association writes—

Sir,—During the year that is past the radio industry spent more than £1,000,000 in Press advertising. During the same period the turnover of the industry has increased by nearly 40 per cent. on the previous year.

As a result of a careful survey of the trading operations represented by those two facts, and scientific market research, I have come to the definite conclusion that newspaper advertising is vastly superior to any other form of sales promotion.

The investment of one million pounds during the past year has yielded dividends in the shape of business to the extent of a total of sixteen million pounds.

As my association includes all the leading British radio and radio-component manufacturers, it is obvious that the members are careful only to adopt the most productive form of sales-promotion. I consider that to be Press advertising.

In view of this letter it is worthy of note that the "Evening Standard" carried more columns of wireless advertising throughout 1928, 1929, and 1930 than any other London evening newspaper.



Now in its 12th WEEK.

HELL'S ANGELS

HOWARD HUGHES' THRILLING AIR SPECTACLE

"The flying scenes are the most amazingly vivid and spectacular yet screened"

—Daily Mirror.

DAILY 2.30; 8.30. Sundays 6.0 and 8.30. All seats bookable from 2/4. Gery. 0704.

LONDON PAVILION

Thierry SALE NOW ON



Tan Grain Golf Shoe. Leather or Uskide sole. A really good shoe. Reduced from 35/ 26/9

SPECIAL PURCHASE. Men's GOLF HOSE in an immense variety of patterns and colours. 4/11. Usual prices 8/11 to 12/9. All guaranteed perfect.

Thierry

70, REGENT ST., W.1. 48, Gresham Street, E.C.2 Also at 47, Sussex Place, S.W.7

→ GWR ←

MONDAY, JANUARY 19.

F.A. CUP, 3rd ROUND—2nd REPLAY, Charlton Athletic v. West Bromwich Albion, at Villa Park, Birmingham.

EXPRESS RESTAURANT-CAR HALF-DAY EXCURSION TO BIRMINGHAM. RETURN FARE 6/.

PADDINGTON dep. 11.18 a.m. Birmingham arr. 1.20 p.m. Return from Birmingham 6.50 p.m., Paddington arrive 9.25 p.m. JAMES MILNE, General Manager.

Grips till it's gone!



A HIKER WRITES: "Just like walking on air, and they don't tire your feet."

The wonder sole for golfers. Brings the confidence of a firm foothold to improve every game.

Worn by thousands in daily wear for extra comfort and extra wear.

PHILLIPS 'DURAGRIP' RUBBER SOLES

From all bootmakers. Fixed by the famous Phillips System.

(with letter of Rev J. C. Carlile to
R W Postgate of 39 Bow Road
London
9 Aug. 1940; q.v.
in Section II.) E.3

TELEPHONE
East 3247

G. L. to
Rev. John Charles Carlile

(2)
22nd January, 1931.

Dear Mr. Carlile,

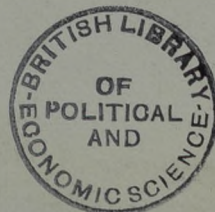
I have written just what I think. If you feel it is not an answer to your request, or that it is too vague, put it in the waste paper basket.

When we come to remedies, I can only say "Co-operation", which for me is "Socialism", which is also practical Christianity.

All good wishes

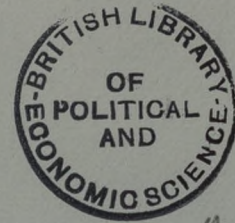
R. L. Crossman L.W.

J. C. Carlile, Esq., C.H., C.B.E.,
4, Southampton Row,
W.C. 1



M449

39 Bow Road
London
E.3



3

TELEPHONE
East 3247

22nd January, 1931.

M449

G.L. to
Rev. John Charles Carile
[with Rev. J.C. Carile of Anguano to R.W. Postgate]

Dear Sir,

You ask me - "What can Christians do in a practical sense to help the hard-driven, stricken and underpaid workers, the unemployed, and all the other victims of our social and industrial life?" Some one also has asked me - "Do you believe in prayer?" This last question is easily answered in the affirmative. Prayer is the innermost expression of our thoughts, to ourselves and to that great universal almighty power we know as God.

You, like myself, must often feel uneasy and distraught when faced with those who fling themselves before you, thrusting their penury and want at you as a sign of reproach. All sorrow and suffering is not caused by industrial or social wrong doing, but it is true that industrial and commercial life based on fighting for our daily bread, creates most evil in the world. It is our way of seeing things that really matters. Once we believe in Christ as the guiding teacher and controller of life, then, like St. Francis, who kissed the leper because he saw Christ in the disease-stricken body of the afflicted one, we, too, shall see God in our fellow men and women. If, at present, we see no solution, we must pray for knowledge, wisdom and understanding, so that we may explain to our own consciences why, in the midst of plenty, there is poverty; why, with each development of science, tens of thousands of people are thrown out of work; and why people who toil long hours and long years at manual labour, remain poor and depressed to the end of their days.

All of us need more understanding minds. That intuitive knowledge that comes direct from God Himself, and which enables us to see ourselves in our brother man. This was the outstanding characteristic of Our Lord's life. He saw His own nation in the woman of Samaria: He suffered with the destitute and hungry on the shores of the lake: He became a little child when He saw the children rebuked because they wanted to touch Him. All through His daily walks and talks in the Holy Land, He entered into the

lives

G.L. 22 Jan. 1931
39 Bow Road
London
E.3

TELEPHONE
East 3247

lives of the people.

Do not forget that Our Lord, though he proclaimed the truth that "Man does not live by bread alone", also recognised and taught by deeds that He knew man could not live without food.

Prayer, thought, experience, call these what you may, all teach me that industrial and social evil is caused through the strife, chicanery and competition of everyday life, and yet it is true to say that every step along the road upward from our lower stages of existence has always been based on service and co-operation.

Many of you who read this do not agree with me - neither your prayers nor your reason lead you to what is my conclusion of the whole matter. But you dare not leave it there. If we who base our Socialism on Christian ethics are wrong, you who think the present system right, must find a way out of the morass which compels millions of our brothers and sisters to live a miserable existence on public or private charity. Our Lord's message rings in our ears, simple, all pervading and true, "Do unto others as ye would they should do unto you". If we believe in Him and His teaching, then we dare not accept as final the economic situation which faces us. I repeat, if people like myself are wrong, it is up to the rest of you to work out the solution for yourselves. Do you also remember the other great saying "Love thy neighbour as thyself" and the parable of the rich young man? If any of you who read this live comfortable lives, come away at times from your ease and comfort, come into the midst of these stricken ones (who you will find in all parts of our great industrial cities), look at their lives as if they were your own, help them to understand the true significance of the gospel of discontent, and carry into their lives the love which enables you to see them as your equals. You will find some ugly, nasty lives where the poor live, as you will where your own life is spent, but as you pass in and out think of those noble words "There, but for the grace of God, go I". These thoughts will enable you at least to shew yourself as

one

G.H.
to Carole 22 Jan. 1931
39 Bow Road
London
E.3

5

TELEPHONE
East 3247

one striving to follow in His steps who went about doing good, and who was never content to see individuals suffering hunger and pain and just to talk about it. He used His powers to help all in need. His was no message of other-worldliness, His was a gospel of love based on action, or action based on love. Reverently but robustly, we must try to follow Him.

I write and speak as I do, to myself as well as to you. Forms and ceremonies have become small in my life, but truth compels me to say that, as my years lengthen and draw to a close, the fiercest belief gets hold of me that this civilisation (now about 1,000 years old) in our land, is doomed unless we can overcome our neglect of the gospel of Christ which teaches us how to live. I therefore feel that politicians, laws and organisations are only a make-believe for the one thing needed, which is complete conversion - a new birth, new light on the way, simple straight and clear like the little maid's message to Naaman to wash his sore smitten body in Jordan. Naaman rebelled, but in the end he bowed his stubborn will, washed and was cleansed. So it is with us. Love one another, follow after Christ, live in peace and harmony, each one helping the other, asking no favour and no privilege above what we will concede and give to our neighbour, this alone, in practice, can save us, and whether my way of co-operative social effort is the right way or not, it is up to you to find out what is the solution, because though the evil is solid the remedy lies in individuals realising personal responsibility.

If religion, if civilisation, is not to be once again blotted out, then Christians must find a more excellent way. Don't leave off reading and say this is either too hard, too easy or too much in the sky. Get your mind right and think, and think, which is the way of prayer: seek the guidance which is promised you, and then follow the light wherever it may lead -

"He has sounded forth the trumpet which shall never call
retreat,
He is searching out the hearts of men before God's
judgment seat,
Be swift my soul to answer Him, be jubilant my feet,
Our God is marching on."

G.L.
to Carlisle, 22 Jan. 1931
39 Bow Road
London
E.3

(6)

TELEPHONE
East 3247

Be sure the God we worship is served in the fields, by the sea, in the street and in the market place, in fact wherever men and women learn to do His will by doing little or big acts of kindness and love to one another, and work together to bring joy and happiness into the lives of all. You have to find out, in co-operation with your fellows, how to prove that the kingdom of God is attainable here on earth. Prayer alone is not enough. Faith is not enough. Love and Love alone is the conqueror, because Love is of God. Also remember, however much we as individuals may fail - and I fail as often as any one - Truth is Truth, and Right is Right.

Always
Jesse Lanabury

The Editor,
"Baptist Times"
4, Southampton Row,
W.C. 1

COPY.

1931

7

~~David Lloyd George~~
1st Earl Lloyd George
(1863 -

Feb. 16th 31.

My dear Lansbury,

I was very gratified to receive your frank and cordial letter. It only reached me today. It indicates that there is some prospect of clearing up the atmosphere of suspicion which has hitherto confused and hindered cooperation between progressive minds in both our parties. I propose to reply to you in the same spirit of good will and complete candour.

The great majority of our party are in accord with yours on the general lines of advance for the next ten years. The differences are not vital and can easily be adjusted. It will be time enough to determine the programme for the following decade when we come within sight of completing our present tasks. I am for the learning and of account the possibility that economic development throughout the world may drive us all to revise our ideas. The outlook is alarming.

I quite agree with you that attacks and counterattacks which a lack of understanding between us inevitably provokes weakens and imperils the chances of fulfilling our common policy. Anything which prevents these misconceptions would be of advantage to us both. I have given a parliamentary undertaking on behalf of myself and my colleagues that we will give real support to the government to ^{lessen?} any effective plan they put forward and press through to carry out the unemployment proposals sketched out in Labour and the Nation. So far we have been given no chance of implementing our pledge. ~~We~~

16 Feb. 1931

Earl David Lloyd George

(8)

The one exception is Addison's Bill ^{15m} that you know the problem of the lower worker better than any living man. I have been brought up amongst the country workers, that is why Addison's Bill gave me ^{real} great joy. By the way A: and I had passed through a real bad quarrel, that did not prevent my hailing his first Bill with delight.

As to the best method of ensuring cooperation I should like to speak freely. "Coming over" is not the best way to help. It would antagonize millions of Liberals with hereditary party loyalties, who otherwise would gladly support any government from another party provided ^{it} carried through a bold programme for the reconditioning of Britain. I am sure I can render more effective assistance to a government of energetic action by remaining where I am. If the government go ahead fearlessly with measures for the redemption of their electoral promises on unemployment they will not be turned out by your party. so far as I can forecast events. And when the dissolution comes then through the agency of the ^{alternative} vote there will be such cooperation at the polls as will ensure a fresh opportunity for a progressive government/ to complete the real programme upon which we are agreed.

^{Personally}

^{Personally} Secondly I have had enough of office. Seventeen years is just as much as anyone can put up with. Like yourself I am now mainly concerned with spending the remainder of my life and strength in advancing ^{ideas and} ~~years~~ a cause which I was brought up to believe in. Despite the "opportunism" ^{which} ~~or hope~~ is one of the temptations and necessities of office and now and again deflects every man from his duty I have always sincerely striven to do my best for the class from which I sprang. As an ^{independent} member I am confident I can now be more helpful to that class. I can and will give effective assistance to the Government -

16 Feb. 1931

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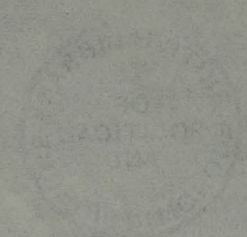
if they mean business.

At present I am genuinely perplexed and disappointed by the stickiness of some of your colleagues. They are always finding reasons for not doing things. They are too easily scared by obstacles and interests. Unless you can inoculate them with some of your faith and courage your party and ours will be landed in an overwhelming catastrophe.

Yours sincerely,

D. Lloyd George.

COMMUNIST
LONDON



THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST CRUSADE

President: RT. HON. GEORGE LANSBURY, M.P.

Vice-Presidents: REV. A. D. BELDEN, B.D., AND REV. CANON F. L. DONALDSON.

Chairman: DR. SOMERVILLE HASTINGS, M.P.

10

Hon. Secretary:

REV. REGINALD SORENSEN, M.P.

Hon. Treasurer:

CECIL WILSON, M.P.

Hon. Organising Secretary:

A. L. WAGLAND,

"WOODEND,"

WEST DRIVE,

HARROW WEALD,

MIDDLESEX.

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WALTER AYLES, M.P.

REV. JAMES BARR, M.P.

H. H. ELVIN

FRED GOULD, M.P.

J. HUDSON, M.P.

FRED HUGHES

DR. F. LAWSON DODD

OWEN A. RATTENBURY

REV. T. W. ROFF

DR. A. SALTER, M.P.

REV. DONALD SOPER

MISS PICTON TURBERVILLE, M.P.

E. WINTERTON, M.P.

19/2/31

All good wishes &
many Happy Returns
of the day

A. L. Wagland
A. L. Wagland

Joseph Bentley

(11)

(Feb 21)

[20 Feb. 1931]

As to-day you are 73!

A Line will be falling from me:

May old Time ~~be~~ in his flight

Glide you down Very Gently,

Is the wish of the writer

Who signs

Joseph Bentley.

MANY Happy Returns!

Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.

39. Bow Road,

London, E.



M449

With every
Good Wish for

POST CARD.

Life, Health & Happiness.

THE WONDER BIRDS.

O little birds so wonderful,
That nest among the trees,
Who chatter there with joy so full,
Trying your best to please.
Close by the Dell, within Hyde Park,
Where bunnies run and sit.
From early morn till it is dark,
Your lightsome bodies flit,
For crumbs of bread you upward fly,
And soar upon the wing,
To catch the pieces deftly try,
Which many to you fling,
Feeding upon the open hand.
You cluster fast, and cling.
Quite fearlessly you take your stand,
As if it's just the thing,
May spirits of the angels bless,
Keep you from every foe;
As roaming cats, and hawks possess,
A love for you — I know!

"Ye are of more value than many sparrows,"

God is everywhere, manifesting in many degrees — working for the welfare of all, the Giver of all true life, health, and peace, Upholder of all Truth — the knowledge of which lived up to, is perfect life in His Kingdom on Earth, as in Heaven.

Can be had from:—R. HEDGES BATES, 13, Ainger Road, N.W. 3.

Accepted by H.M. The King and H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

ONLY THE ADDRESS TO BE
WRITTEN HERE.



Geo Lansbury. M.P.
Commissioner of Works.



M449

Many Happy Returns. to both of you

James Gilchrist

12

postmark 20 Feb. 1931



From

HYDE PARK CORNER.

James Gilchrist, 14 Glenelg Place
(59) Melkoshill.

Grateful memory of the old D. Herald
Lanarkshire

Rev. T. C. Gobat

13

GEDNEY VICARAGE,

HOLBEACH,

LINCS.

Feb. 20. 1931

My Dear Friend,

Just a line to wish you very many happy returns of
your birthday. The Day (Week) is to my paper with
publications and interesting items of news to the world!

Your friend, J. C. is now at Bedford College (London
University) and getting on very well there. Shall I tell you her to
write you up at the chance one day?

We don't like this place very much - having fled country

GEDNEY VILLAGGE

HOLBEACH

LINCS

(intentionally to a man)

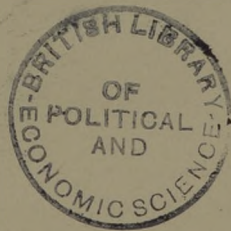
without a hill in sight - bad water, and wretched farmers who
have lots of money during the war, and never read a book!

Since financial position is much better, as I must not presume.

With love for us all and every good wish

Yours ever

J. C. P. Oakes



M449

FROM

Rev. **C. H. GRINLING,**

71, RECTORY PLACE,

WOOLWICH, S.E. 18

Station: Woolwich Dockyard, Southern Rly.

To

14

20th. Feb.

31
19

TT 43711

My dear Lansbury,

My love and greeting on your day.

You are a great inspiration to us all, and I am one of the very grateful ones.

Yours always,

C. H. Grinling

Guy W. Harle

15

with letter 20 Feb. 1931



Guy W. Harle

16

102 Bartholomew St.

Newbury

Berks.

Feb 20. 31

Dear Sir,

I notice in the "Daily Express" that tomorrow is your birthday, and I am taking the liberty of sending you a little home-made sketch of mine, wishing you very many happy returns of the day, and still further success in your efforts for the welfare of the people.

Yours respectfully,

Guy W. Harle.

(Labourer).

Right Honourable

George Lansbury, Esq., M.P.

International Fellowship of Reconciliation [say 26 Feb 1931]

KINGSLEY HALL, POWIS ROAD, BOW, E. 3.

TELEPHONE: EAST

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. C. P. Lester, Westminster Bank, 147, Moorgate Street, E.C. 2.

Architect: C. Cowles-Voysey, Esq.



"I KNEW THAT CHRIST HAD GIVEN ME BIRTH TO BROTHER ALL THE SOULS ON EARTH."
—JOHN MASEFIELD.

Dear Mr. Lunsbury

Many happy returns of the day
and may you see many more as it would
be a hard task without you. Remember
all sections of I. F. R. ^{with} your loving wife
wish you well
yours ever

John Docker

E. Rindan

M. Lester

C. Riley

G. Macfarlane

H. Capon

alf. Kitcher

B. Penney

Ursula V. Freyer
from Switzerland

Camille A. Solomon
from America

18

JEWISH CHARITABLE AID SOCIETY,

147 130th. Rd.

Hon. President: S. BUTCHINS, Esq.

Headquarters: ~~6, LINCOLN STREET, BOW, LONDON, E.3.~~

All communications to M. Van GELDER, Secretary, 46, Merchant Street, Bow, E.3

G. Lansbury, Esq. M.P.

20/2/31.

Dear Sir

On behalf of my Executive I wish to offer you their sincerest congratulations on the attainment of your 72nd birthday.

With best wishes
Remain yours truly

M. Van Gelder
Secy.

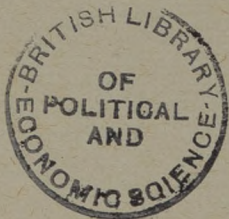
POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



G. Lansbury Esq. M.P.
39. Bow. Rd.

E.3



M449

(Mr. + Mrs.) David C. Lamb (1866 - 1951)

B or C

Charges to Pay
s. d.

This form, and if possible the envelope, should accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram.

From *M*

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

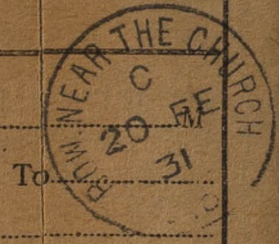
Telegrams for INLAND handed to the messenger The Post Office accepts

addresses may be who delivers this form. telegrams by telephone.

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

221 Lamb City Q. 28

No. *19*
Office Stamp



THE INFORMATION OVERLEAF WILL INTEREST YOU.

*George Lansbury 39 Bow Rd 6
Rejoice in your year and be
cheered with the love of your
spouse God bless you and your
Commissioner and Mrs Lamb*

James Macpherson

20

Phone—
Southend 4709.



"AMULREE,"

6, GROSVENOR ROAD,
WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA.

M449

Feb 20/31

My Dear Lambury.

I see by the Daily Herald
that you will be 73 tomorrow.

I have the greatest pleasure
in wishing you - even at 73 - many
happy returns of the day. I hope
you are fit & well. I hope
Mrs Lambury is also fit and
well. My wife - who will be
80 in June - joins me in heartiest
wishes to you both, for many
years yet of usefulness in this
very interesting world!

Many wonderful things have
happened since I first met you
in Bow. Changes that neither
you would then have credited.
One of them is that you are a
Cabinet Minister in a Labour
Government. I will be 81 years
of age in Sept next. It will
be 40 years at Easter since
we laid the foundations of the
Ship Account which at B. have
How times does fly!

Thanks awfully for what you
did about my son. It has
turned out alright for him.

With best wishes to you & Mrs J
yours truly
Jas. Macpherson

James Smith Middleton

21

Telegraphic Address: "LABREPCOM, PARL, LONDON."

Telephone: VICTORIA 8016, 8017, 8018, 8019.

THE LABOUR PARTY

Hon. Secretary:
Rt. Hon. ARTHUR HENDERSON, M.P.
Assistant Secretary: J. S. MIDDLETON.

TRANSPORT HOUSE (South Block),
SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, S.W.1.

February 20th. 1931

My dear George.

Providence has been good to me in the number and loveliness of my friends - and among them all you have been very dear and near to the heart.

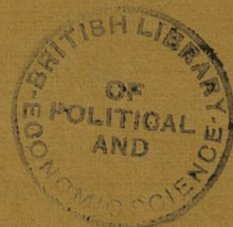
And I know there are many more like me in that respect up and down our wonderful movement.

And that's why I wish you ever so many Happy Returns. I only hope I am as hale, as hearty, and as helpful when I get to the same milestone. And a word of cheer

and congratulations to the good
lady who has helped you through
it all!

always

Jim Muddleton



M449

22

Borough of Poplar
and East London Labour Football League.

Presidents:

RT. HON. G. LANSBURY, M.P.
ALD. A. PARTRIDGE, J.P.

Chairman:

GEO. MILLS, Esq.

Hon. Sec. & Treas:
Mr. E. FARRANT,

151, ST. STEPHEN'S ROAD,
BOW, E. 3.

Feb 20 1931

At Hon G Lansbury M P

I have been instructed
by the above committee to send you
these greeting they wishes you on behalf
of the clubs affilliated to the above
League many happy returns of the Day
hoping god will spare you many
years to carry on the work in which
your office enable you to provide sports
and grounds for the poor children
you love so well good luck a god
Bless you George

Yours fraternally
E Farrant
Hon Sec

26, KINGS ROAD,

LEYTONSTONE, E.11.

Wait
Chester Sewell

Feb 20. 31.

Dear George

Best wishes from Lizzie
 Bert, Brothor, Auntie, Alec &
 Miss Peter ^{and} for your birthday
 & for many happy Birthdays.

I am so glad that you
 have lived to see some of
 your dreams & of ^{the result} your
 labours realized.

Kitts used to say "We
 unite you when all men

Speak well of you"

I fancy however there are a few
 people who will doubt this too

(24) Of course the more one progresses
the further our ideals seem to
recede, but you have helped
to bring to pass some of the
things we talked about years
ago; and to create an atmosphere
which will make it easier
for others to push reforms
forward.

With all the good wishes
to yourself, Ben and the
family

Yours sincerely
Walt.

Mrs. Ernest Thurtle
(n. Dorothy Lambourne)

Proprietors of the Drytone patent processes for colouring woodwork without stain.

25

Robert O. Menell
Malcolm Sparkes
Dorothy Thurtle
E. L. Parr

DRYTONE
LIMITED

Designers and Makers of Distinctive Woodwork
Silver Medal, Paris, 1925

Drytone Doors
Shopfitting
Panelling
Staircases
Furniture

DRYTONE HOUSE
65 High Street
CAMDEN TOWN, N.W.1
MUSEUM 9938

20. 2. 31.

Dear Dad:

Just a line to wish you many happy returns
of the day from all the Thurtles. I hope you
will find the little book reads of service. If you
haven't one already it will be useful for bedside
books.

You will be pleased to know that Claude
Leipö's introduction to an architect has brought us
a £500 order this week, and more too soon.
We are also in touch with another architect
to whom he gave us an introduction and
expecting to hear from him soon.

We hope both you and mother are
fit. The photo of her in the Herald is most
lovely, flattering.

Did you know I snoozed in
your room at the house one day last week for 2 or 3 hours?
With much love from us all.

From Solly.

26

Edmonton Union.

GUARDIANS' OFFICES,

EDMONTON WORKHOUSE,

✓ UPPER EDMONTON,

20 Feb 1931

Roadside Home
Hoddesdon
Herts

FRANCIS SHELTON,
SOLICITOR AND CLERK,
RANKINGS,
SUPERINTENDENT RECEIVING OFFICER.

~~Edwin Webster~~
late

Dear "First Commissioner
of Works" (because you were
- an - first Man of Faith!)

I see by its days 'D.H.'
that ~~you~~ you can give you 3
years more experience of this
"Mysterious Universe" than
I can claim. - I am "70
not out" (last June) while you
are "73 not out" to day, - and
are as young, fresh, & alive in
mind & heart as when I first
had the pleasure of meeting
you, 3 decades + more ago! -
What can I say to you

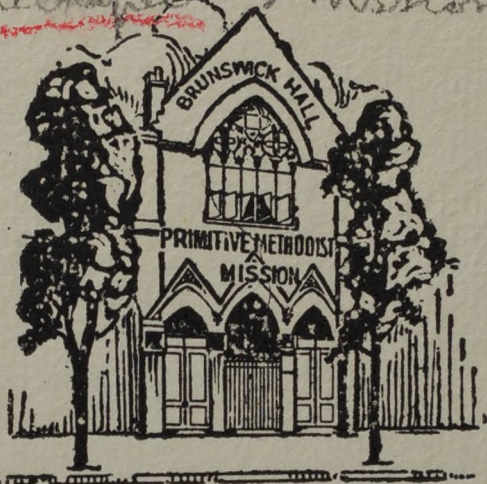
on this anniversary day of ⁽²⁷⁾
your life? Only, I think, that
I pray that the God whom
you have sought to know
and serve, may grant you
all that is best for you in
the remaining years of your
life, and that the Spirit of
the Christ - who revealed that
God - may animate increasingly
- as it has ever done - your
"works" for your fellows. -

Altho you have not probably
"that strength which in old days
mold earth & heaven" - yet I
feel that what you ~~work~~ work, you
are "one equal temper of heroic
hearts, made weak by time and
fate, but strong in will TO STRIVE,
TO SEEK, TO FIND, AND NOT TO
YIELD"

Believe me 'old'
friend of the years
The Rt Hon
Gen Lansbury MP. Ch. Edw. Sincerely yours
"First Commissioner of Works"
Edwin Webster

Whitechapel Mission

28



The Right Hon. Geo. Lundberg M.P.

BEST WISHES

for
Your Birthday

February 25th 1931

from **THE MINISTERS**
and **STAFF** of
THE WHITECHAPEL
MISSION

Agnes M. Williams

"Cheslyn"
("late Waterloo")

(29)

Carleton
Mou

20-2-31

Dear Comrade Danbury.

It is with very very great pleasure & with sincere joy & thankfulness, that I am again writing to wish you the best of the best & many happy returns of the day.

I express this heart-felt wish not only for the sake of your dear ones at home, - but for the sake of the Country we love so well, & which you have served so loyally & well.

Believe me amongst the
Thousands who are grateful
for your life, so nobly
given for the Service of
Socialism, there is no one
more appreciative than I
am. Although we know
the years speed on, I pray
that you will yet be
spared to us for years.
It is men like yourself
whose teaching if heeded,
would help us out of
the troublesome times in
which we find ourselves.

Another year has
passed & I have not
had the joy of welcoming
you to Caerleon.

That would be one of
the greatest joys I
could have, & one of the
proudest days of my life.

If you come to
South Wales & can squeeze
in an hour or two - any
day or any time - the
welcome will always
be awaiting.

Yours very Sincerely
Aneurin Williams

(31)

BOW CENTRAL HALL MISSION,

BRUCE ROAD, BOW, E.3.

Deaconess:
SISTER WINIFRED,
67, Campbell Road,
Bow, E.3.

and

Minister:
REV. HARRY WILLIAMS,
41, Addington Road,
Bow, E.3.

Feb 20th 1931.

Dear Mr Lausbury.

We all join in sending you
loving greetings on your birthday. It is an old
custom to wish each other - "many happy returns
of the day -" The wish comes to you once more - and
comes from sincere loyal hearts - your years increase
in number - & I fear - the burdens which they bring -
increase also - Great Souls - and you belong to the number -
are the target of - which fickle & small spirited men -
aim some of their deadliest arrows. But - Great Souls
are never really hurt - or hindered by small men,
or small ideas - As the years come and go - many
of us thank God for giving you to us - amid
all the cares which high office brings - & the
thought; - touched with sadness, that - all our dreams
do not come true - at least - not all at once -
Please believe that very many poor & lowly hearts
love you - and that, I believe - is a very great
reward. God bless you both abundantly - not only on
your birthday but through all your days
as ever. Sincerely yours
H. Williams.

32

21 Feb.
1931

M449



MR. LANSBURY (by Low) is 72 to-day.

Norman Kark

B or C

Charges to Pay
s. d.

This form, and if possible the envelope, should accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram.

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Telegrams for INLAND handed to the messenger The Post Office accepts

addresses may be who delivers this form. telegrams by telephone.

From
127pm

Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

London 3.33

THE INFORMATION OVERLEAF WILL INTEREST YOU.

At Home George Lansbury Bow Rd to
congratulations and hope that you
may remain long with us to
continue making London a bright
and happier place
Norman Kark, alias Grand Boss
Trafalgar Square.

James Ramsay MacDonald

B or C

Charges to Pay
s. d.

This form, and if possible the envelope, should accompany any enquiry respecting this Telegram.

POST OFFICE



TELEGRAPHS.

Telegrams for INLAND handed to the messenger The Post Office accepts

addresses may be who delivers this form. telegrams by telephone.

From
14

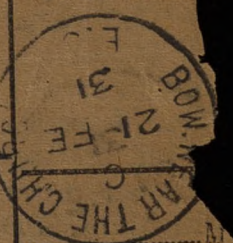
Prefix. Time handed in. Office of Origin and Service Instructions. Words.

London 3.18

THE INFORMATION OVERLEAF WILL INTEREST YOU.

At Home George Lansbury
39, Bow Road 63
Many happy returns still of
your birthday = Ramsay MacDonald

No. Office Stamp

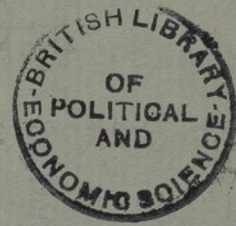


To

1st Viscountess Pirrie



46 MOUNT STREET,
LONDON, W.1.



35

M449

23rd February, 1931.

Dear Mr Lansbury,

I have taken a note in my birthday book that you celebrated your birthday on the 21st. I wish I had known before hand so that I could have had my letter and birthday card waiting for you.

I now pleasure myself by sending you a copy of "The Teacher", the model of which Mr Pegram had in the Royal Academy the year before last. I hope you will hang this in your bedroom where I have mine hung.. I hope you will care for it. ?

I trust the New Year upon which you have so recently entered will be a healthy happy one for you and all dear to you.

Times are very difficult and all those in Office have a terrible load to carry. I am not a politician, but I do wish the Conservatives and the

Liberals would join and so bring greater peace to Great Britain. If things go on as at present we soon will not know where we stand. It will be too sad for words if men like Sir John Simon and others leave the Liberal Party, but I feel sure they are doing so after due deliberation and consideration. I wish so many of the arrogant people were not so troublesome.

You are one of those who all the time are working for the good of the young and of the poor, which all of us who have common sense thank you for. My sister reads aloud to me the papers each morning and to hear what you propose further doing is very encouraging and I hope you will get the monetary help to carry out your wishes. I trust the four leaf shamrock is still bringing you the success you deserve.

Joined by my sister in all best wishes and with apologies for length of letter,

Very sincerely yours,

Mary Anne Davis

COPY

place number
24 Feb.
23. ii. 31.

36

G.L. to Viscountess Pirrie

Dear Lady Pirrie,

You are very kind to so graciously remember my birthday. I will read the book with pleasure and instruction. The picture will go in my bedroom and give pleasure to my wife and myself as we see it day by day. So please accept my grateful thanks.

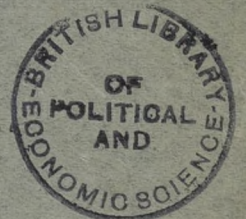
Yes, I still wear the Shamrock Orange symbol of unity, brotherhood and love. Luck is a fickle sort of friend but often comes our way when least expected.

Times are out of joint, but mankind is wiser than ever, and so will get through the present muddle. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Having solved production we shall surely solve the difficulties connected with distribution. There is more than enough goodwill, love and commonsense in the world to enable us to overtake the follies of stupid people.

I hope you are very well and once more send you my best thanks, and with all good wishes remain,

Always,

George Lansbury.



M449

Friedrich Hansen

(37)

HANSEN & CO.

(M. C. HANSEN).

COAL, COKE, IRON & STEEL
MERCHANTS,
GENERAL AGENTS.

TELEPHONES:—

MIDDLESBROUGH, 2914.

PRIVATE: CASTLETON, 13.

TELEGRAMS:—

"MACOSEN," MIDDLESBROUGH.

15, DURHAM STREET,

MIDDLESBROUGH-ON-TEES.

February 27, 1931

Dear George

My brother-in-law Charlie
^{Coates} Coates is in dire distress as all
most of us. Can you find for
him (lending it to Marion and
me) money. He is making a big
effort to keep his market garden
going - but is in immediate need
of assistance. He will pay back in
April may and June when he has
his best time. I am sure
February are always very keen.
Please do let us have what you
can spare.

Times were when the Coates
family & myself all did our
best to help the movement and
its leaders. Now - is it possible
for any of the leaders to help us
as Marion puts it?

I shall wait anxiously for
your reply. Ever

Friedrich

We have done all we can for Charlie

Venerable
Venerable E. J. Cross

FROM THE ARCHDEACON OF CHESTERFIELD.

1858-1921

post 2931

Bro

GRAYCOTE,
LITTLE BARRINGTON,
BURFORD,
OXON.

36

2nd Mch 1931

Dear Mr Lonsbury.

I have watched with great interest all your work as a Cabinet Minister.

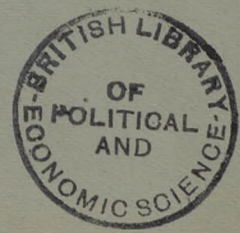
I wonder if you remember having breakfast with me at Chesterfield vicarage many years ago - I remember so well one incident in that election - when you and the chairman of the Conservative party and the organizer of the Liberal candidate were all three at the early celebration on the day of the election - I always remember it as one of my happiest days in my ministry - It was grand - I am 73 & have retired but am well & still interested in affairs - I had 40 years without a break in large industrial parishes & always working amongst miners - what wonderful improvement I have seen since I first became interested in the spiritual & temporal betterment of miners now 50 years ago.

BRAYCOTE
LITTLE BARRINGTON
BURFORD
OXON.

I was always as you may remember
an old fashioned conservative but I loved
the miners & my work amongst them

to give my writing - In my quiet time I
think of old friends & times gone by - & I
can still keep in touch with men & things
in my prayers.

Always yours sincerely
E. J. Crosse



M449

HANSEN & CO.

M. C. HANSEN.
COAL, COKE, IRON & STEEL
MERCHANTS,
GENERAL AGENTS.

TELEPHONES :-
MIDDLESBROUGH, 2914.
PRIVATE : CASTLETON, 13.

TELEGRAMS :-
"MACOSEN," MIDDLESBROUGH.

Frederick Hansen

15, DURHAM STREET,

MIDDLESBROUGH-ON-TEES.

March 3rd 1931.

My dear George.

We are both extremely sorry that you also are in a tight corner. You can rest assured that all you have said will be regarded as strictly private.

The position on this coast is simply dreadful - Huge masses of unemployed cripple industry in every direction and it has become a mass of "shillings and pence" with four upon four - so to speak - to say nothing at all about pounds.

Charlie is almost driven to distraction to find £4 to £5 per week for his men's wages - for people buy only a ~~very~~ veritable minimum. He has not made his working expenses during the last 3 months. It has been a hellish season. He has not made a penny for his wife and family of course. He has come again and again to us - We

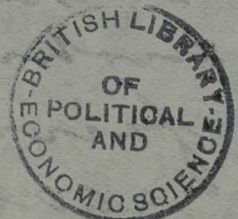
ourselves are fighting against
the greatest odds so keep your own
business afloat. Maria is working
from noon till night in the
office herself apart from doing
all the housework and her public
work. We are without any help.

We dare not draw another £5--
even from the Bank at the
moment. - and with the
renewal of storms there will
be another blank week or two for
Charlie.

A small amount such
as £5 or £10 would help us
to see him over the next week
two weeks after which his
produce should find a
market.

Maria sends you her love
and I send you mine.
I want to thank you for
writing me so quickly and
putting matters so clearly
before us. We both appreciate
very much all you say.

Ever
Frederick



M449

Sir Benjamin



Drage

40

March 11/1931

My dear friend

I do hope all is well with
you & Mrs Lawbury.
Our holiday has taken us
across the Atlantic - to Cuba
& now Florida. - We hope to
pay a passing visit to
Washington - a week or

Could not resist talking
to the newspaper people -
they are coming to me again
tomorrow, evidently by news,
for what they are well, have
picked up a new vision
of the old Country -

my affectionate greetings to
Mrs Lambour & to you.

Yours sincerely
Benjamin Dress



M449

If you think it would do
any good, you might care
to pass the enclosed on to the
London papers - It
indicates something of what
travelling English people shiver
and shudder to do. ~~It~~ refers to
action being taken to be talked
down -

BD

The Rev. Mr. Hook

Grays Lambour, M.

New York returning to the
old land about April 1.st

My impressions of America &
Americans will I trust be
worthy of telling, we must
meet & have a chat upon my
return —

I am sure the enclosed will
interest you, tho' the term
"Capitalist" scarcely fits in with
my character and disposition —
there is much an air round
feeling here that England is
furnished with, that I

14. March 1931.

42

MAYFAIR 2007.

10, UPPER BROOK STREET,

Stanley Baldwin (1st Earl Baldwin;
1867-1947)

W.1.

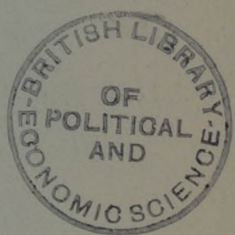
Dear Mr. Lansbury,

I am grateful
to you for your kind
and generous letter.

Believe me to
remain

Sincerely yours

Stanley Baldwin



M449

Copy
DURRANT'S PRESS CUTTINGS,

St. Andrew's House 32 to 34 Holborn Viaduct,
and 3 St. Andrew Street, Holborn Circus, E.C.1.
Telephone: CITY 4963.

East London Advertiser

357 Mile End Road, London, E.

Cutting from issue dated..... **14 MAR 1931**.....193



**POPLAR'S NEW LIBRARY.
CABINET MINISTER AND FAMOUS
AUTHOR.**

EXCHANGE BOW MEMORIES.

A famous author who was born, lived his early life and married in Bow, came back to the neighbourhood on Saturday afternoon last to take part in the proceedings which marked the opening of the new Library at Fairfoot-road, Bow. He was Mr. H. M. Tomlinson, the author of "Gallion Reach" and "All Our Yesterdays." He has often written of Poplar, but the mention of his early connection with the Borough was news to some present on Saturday.

The Library stands upon a site occupied by houses which were demolished by a bomb dropped from a Zeppelin during an air raid whilst the Great War was in progress. The Mayor of Poplar (Councillor T. J. Blacketer, J.P., L.C.C.) opened the new library. Among those present were the Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., Mr. Sam March, M.P., Mr. E. Cruse, L.C.C., Alderman Mrs. Lambert, Councillors A. Overland, Jones, and Mrs. Harris, Mr. H. E. Dennis (Town Clerk), Mr. W. E. Nicholls (Deputy Town Clerk), Mr. Bullen (Borough Librarian), Mr. Thorne, Mr. H. Rowlett, Rev. A. Balley, Rev. Fitkin, and Mr. Harley Heckford (Borough Surveyor) who designed the building.

Dreams Come True.

Councillor Mrs. Mackay, the Chairman of the Libraries Committee, said that she desired to extend on behalf of the members of the Committee, a very hearty welcome to all present. The establishment of that library had made the dreams which many local people had held for thirty years, come true. The late Alderman Charles Sumner was never tired of demanding a public library for that side of the Borough, but until the present time circumstances had proved too strong. Until the year 1919 the law did not permit any authority to levy a rate of more than a penny for library purposes. As in those days a penny rate only produced £3,000, it was only by the exercise of the most rigid economy that the four existing libraries could be maintained with any degree of efficiency. In 1919 the Public Libraries Act (amended) and

what was a long detour to get to the existing libraries. This was a serious matter so far as the children were concerned, and parcels of books had been placed in Knapp-road School so that the boys and girls might have some reading matter at their disposal. This work had been supplemented by a very excellent library maintained by Miss Clara Grant at her settlement. She intended continuing this activity particularly in the interests of the younger children.

A Memento Key.

Mr. Harley Heckford, the Borough Surveyor, said that as one responsible to the Council for the erection of that building by direct labour, he had much pleasure in presenting the Mayor with a key as a memento of that occasion.

Councillor T. J. Blacketer, J.P., L.C.C., then read letters of apology from Miss Ishbel MacDonald, L.C.C., Rev. W. E. Clapham, Miss Muriel Lester, and Rev. Miss Mary Collins, regretting inability to attend. He commented upon the fact that he was described upon the programme as "Councillor T. J. Blacketer, L.C.C.," and said he supposed the officials of the Council felt everything would be all right, despite the fact that there was an L.C.C. election on. (Laughter). He wished, on behalf of his comrade Mr. Cruse and himself, to thank the people of Bow and Bromley for again putting their faith in them and sending them to be their representatives upon the L.C.C. for the next three years. The result was really remarkable, because it showed that of every four people in Bow and Bromley who went to vote, three of them voted for their policy. It showed that the longer Labour represented Bow and Bromley, the more people would go to the poll for them and less for the other side.

A Scheme Completed.

With the opening of that building the Council might be said to have completed its scheme of public library service. There were now six libraries and no resident lived more than half a mile from one of the buildings. Higher provision was not made in any London Borough, and few had the provision made there. It remained for the people of the Borough to reap full benefit from the rich library resources now so readily placed at their disposal. The remodelling of Bow Library was long overdue. Plans were approved two or three years ago, and everything was ready as soon as present difficulties were overcome.

At Poplar Library, the Council was about to go ahead with a scheme for providing improved accommodation for children, whereby they could have direct access to the shelves. When those changes had been accomplished all their buildings would be working

on up-to-date lines, and their people would have free access to the selections of the world's best literature.

It was not enough to buy books and store them. A library was a place where there was a wisely selected list of books, made easily accessible to the unlearned as well as the learned. That ideal had ever been kept in view by those responsible for the Library progress in their Borough.

Poplar was a pioneer in encouraging school children to make regular use of the libraries in their midst, and probably the only Borough in London where regular lectures on the use of the libraries were given to children in their last term at school.

"From Better To Better."

Mr. George Lansbury said that the first thing he would like to do would be to congratulate the Librarian and the Borough Engineer and Surveyor on the arrangement of that building. It seemed to him that they went from better to better. They had recently



Photo by—
The new library opened at F...

opened a Library at the Wick, and he had said that was too small, and he would not be satisfied until they had a larger building. They would remember that in Venice they built palaces to live in. In England to-day, slums were created for people to live in, and fine public buildings. He was all in favour of building good public buildings, adequate and not at all mean, but he hoped that people would say that if it was right to have a nice big building for a library, it would be right to have a nice big room for their children to sleep in. (Applause). He did think the people of the district rose above their surroundings and found an ideal if something beautiful was put in front of them. He congratulated the Mayor on his part in helping to bring about the erection of the building, and the Committee on having the work done in the fashion in which it had been done. They were glad to have Mr. Tomlinson with them that day. They had doubtless read his books. He had read many of them, and many a beautiful article, both during and before the war, and since. He belonged to Bromley-by-Bow, and he remembered long conversations with him before the war, and he had been struck by his understanding and love of London.

A Memory Of Charlie Sumner.

Mr. Sam March said that the work done at that spot was a great recognition of the agitation and the work put in by many of the Labour members of the Borough Council. He had never, while he was on the Borough Council, heard any of those who had learning or knowledge, advocating for those who had not got it. A great tribute had been paid to his late colleague, Charlie Sumner, with whom, in the year 1903, he was elected to the Council to represent the adjoining ward. He agitated, but he did not get all that he required. He was even told he was "one crying in the wilderness." He could not make a great impression on the other people there, but he carried on, and when he was taken from them his work never stopped. He supported the expression of thanks to the Mayor.

The Mayor, responding, said he was thankful that Library was in Bromley South West Ward, one which he had represented on the Council for twelve years. They would have to come before them at the end of the year for re-election, and he had no fear. It gave them a great pleasure to represent them, and serve the people of the Borough in which they resided.

His Claim In Bow.

Mr. H. M. Tomlinson said that he might be asked what was his claim

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Cambridge Daily News

Theatre Buildings, Cambridge.

16 MAR 1931

MR. GEORGE LANSBURY AT CAMBRIDGE

Unionism and the Workers' Struggle

IMPORTANCE OF INDIA

Loyalty of Local "Outpost"

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, visited Cambridge on Saturday night and attended the annual dinner of the Cambridge Branch, No. 1, of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers at the Dorothy Cafe. The occasion was to celebrate the 42nd anniversary of the Union and the 17th anniversary of the branch.

Mr. Lansbury, in the course of his speech, made a stirring appeal to the members. He also asked for loyalty, and referred to the problem of India, saying that much more would be heard of it in the coming months.

Bro. A. W. Mason was in the chair, supported by Mr. Lansbury, Dr. Alex. Wood, Bro. S. J. Wright (district secretary), Bro. E. Brasher (branch secretary), Ald. W. L. Briggs and Bro. C. E. Knight (organiser).

PREVENTION AND CURE.

Ald. Briggs proposed the toast of "The National Union of General and Municipal Workers, London District." He said that the Union had done a most wonderful work. People who cured disease were looked upon with great respect, but the members of the Union prevented disease. It was said that prevention was better than cure. They should take pride in the great Union and realise the great value to the community that their members represented. He believed the members of the Union had done as much or more to build the standard of life as any other union. The people depended on them.

He coupled with the toast the name of Bro. Lansbury—a man they respected and loved. Bro. Lansbury had done the great thing all great men did—he had always been honest and simple. He had not attempted to reach the moon, but had carried out faithfully and well the things that needed doing. He had done his best to feed the hungry and had brought joy, mirth and pleasure to the youth of the nation.

MR. LANSBURY

Mr. George Lansbury, replying, described the Cambridge branch as one of the oldest outposts of the Union. He said the Government had suffered a very great loss by the death of Mr. Vernon Hartshorn. He worked very hard indeed as a member of the Miners' Federation, as a Member of Parliament, later of the Simon Commission and as Lord Fray Seal, attending to unemployment. Above all he was one of those characters which the Labour movement produced who knew what loyalty to the movement meant. He sank his individuality and found it in the life of the movement.

Mr. Hartshorn had helped to build what there was in the great Labour movement and that would express itself in those who followed him. Their movement would be fortunate, indeed, if it continued to hold in its ranks men of such courage and loyalty.

UNION AND EDUCATION.

Their Union was the leading organisation of unskilled workers in the task of trying to make the workers understand that organisation to determine wages and hours was only part of the work of the Labour movement. From the beginning the Union had taken its stand in saying that the working class ought to educate itself in order to use the machinery of Government to the best possible advantage. That had been their business from the start, and their representatives in the House of Commons and on hundreds of local authorities were a tribute to the work.

They were meeting not to look back, except to take courage and make up their minds to go forward. The later days of the war brought women and men into organisations by tens of thousands. With the passing of the war a year or two afterwards there came the reaction of unemployment, which always followed such great upheavals, and made it more difficult to cause people to realise that trade unionism and organisation was worth while.

"THROUGH THE WORST."

"I think we are through the worst of that period," declared Mr. Lansbury. "I take no stock of the fact that within the party in Parliament and outside there are great differences of opinion as to whether we have done all we ought to have done and left undone other things. When you have got a movement such as ours there will necessarily be differences of opinion as to how fast we should go or how slow we should be content to go."

All ought, however, to have loyalty to the principles for which the movement stood. There could be no such thing as a dual loyalty. In the long run they must either be within an organisation or outside. Much as he deplored the fact that some of their friends felt they must go out, he thought it much better that they should go than be a disintegrating force inside.

"THE COMPETITIVE STRUGGLE."

They were still what they started to be—a Socialist Party, pledged to work for Socialism and to stop the competitive struggle which created most of the misery of the world. Fundamentally it was the struggle to get daily bread that often made people what they were. The Union all through the years of its existence had fought definitely and without reservation for equal opportunities for men and women to be organised, also for universal franchise and education. They had also fought for better wages and conditions and done that for the very poorest of the workers. Looking back over 42 years, he saw a tremendous difference, and the standard of life had improved considerably.

He was not one of those who thought that a standard of life could be fixed by mere bread and butter. Men and women, if they were intelligent, wanted more. It was what they were and how they developed that really mattered. The workers today had better means to develop themselves than ever before, and that was largely due to the work of men who had gone out with the message that they wanted to make the very best of what God and nature had given.

"I come from a district," continued the speaker, "not well to do like Cambridge, where you have pots and pots of money and budding young millionaires. There are no such things. People who work in places in East London, such as churches, missions and trade unions—the thing that hits you in the eye is that whenever anybody has got two halfpennies they will not live in Poplar. We are just a mass of poor people. There may be some parts of this University centre where there are a few people who are poor, but there are other parts where it is different. With us it is one dead level of poverty."

WORK AND AGITATION.

They might curse the unemployment insurance—it was not what some of them wanted it to be. He thought it would be better if it was paid for by the State. In spite of that, if it were not for the unemployment pay where would they be today? That only came in because they fought for work or maintenance.

It was a great tribute to the social services of the country, every one of which had been agitated for by people who were like those of the Union. If it were not for the social services people would be starving by tens of thousands. Work and agitation had compelled Parliament to institute those services.

He believed that ultimately they would settle the problem of unemployment by dealing with the problem of distribution as well as production. As the power of production increased so the distribution should increase, and the standard of living should improve more and more. That was really the thing they were struggling and working for.

They of the Union were also internationalists and knew that life as individuals in a country could not be lived. They were interdependent one upon another, and what was true of individuals was true of nations. Consequently, they were pledged to consider international things, and from the start they took that line. They

could take some sort of credit to themselves from the fact that the question of India was in the position it was. He remembered Indians being brought to big meetings by members of their organisation and taken up and down the country to try and make British People understand the position of India.

INDIA.

Much more would be heard of India in the next few months. He had never heard a more courageous speech made in the House of Commons than by Mr. Baldwin, who took his stand as every intelligent man must. When this country took possession of India it was put on record that it was done to help the Indian to a fuller realisation of national life. Much water had gone under the bridges, and pain and suffering, misery and mischief gone on in India since then.

Many a good white man and woman had given all they had in service to the Indian people and the present Viceroy was one of the men who had been actuated by the very best ideas of what Christian principles meant. There had never been a viceroy like Lord Irwin, since Lawrence, and he had set himself definitely to help the Indian people along the road to self-government. As much as he was opposed, the fact that Gandhi and Lord Irwin could be brought together proved that character counted.

Mr. Baldwin had thrown in his lot with those who said that the very biggest step forward must be taken. He also said what they had been saying for years, that the East as well as the West was awake, and the people were not going to be content to sit down any longer but wanted to be partners and comrades in the development of humanity.

A young Indian student would come to Cambridge to learn and could meet people on terms of equality. When he went home he wanted to meet people on the same kind of conditions. He wanted above everything else, to be able to take part in the development of his own country. The test of British democracy would be whether they would be able to see the problem of India and the subject race in such a manner that a democracy Britain would be able to do to others what we would have them do to us. He believed that was going to be done.

BROTHERHOOD OF MAN.

He was proud to think that the Union when it started on its course nailed the flag of international brotherhood at the mast. To them there had never been any such things as sects, creeds and division of races, but believed in the brotherhood of man and comradeship of man and woman whether black, yellow or white.

They never could have the struggle through which Mr. Will Thorne and his



Mr. Lansbury.

comrades came from the beginning. Now they had the organisation to build on and the tradition by which they could stand. He took no account of those who joined the Union merely for what they could get out of it. The true Unionist was he who came in to improve his and his neighbour's condition. They had got the power, means and machinery by which they could transform poverty at least into a condition by which people could get their needs supplied.

FINE BRANCH.

"Cambridge Branch No. 1" was proposed by Bro. S. J. Wright, who said it was an extremely fine branch. They were pleased to have such a branch at Cambridge because of the real worth they got from the officers and members generally. Bro. Brasher had been secretary for 13 of 14 years, and it was by such officers in such outposts that the real work was done.

They were pleased to know that in this town men and women had stuck loyally to the organisation during a period of great depression. They were pleased to belong to an organisation of such a character and proud of it for the work it had tried to do in the past and what it was to attempt to do in the future.

During 1930, 53,315 members were enrolled, and if they could enrol that number during the depression, wonderful figures would be made when matters improved.

With the vast army of unemployed, they had got to be determined that conditions were not going to be made worse. They had not got to get that kind of psychology which said it could not be helped. If they got that point of view the employers would see that it could not be helped. Conditions had not got to become lower without a fight. They had got to stand together in the fight to resist lower conditions.

It was not as if the land was poorer, for there was greater wealth than ever before, but it was unequally divided. Men and women must take the first step, join a trade union and use it as an arm and combine it to the political arm of which Bro. Lansbury was such a glorious example.

"FAIRLY TREATED."

Bro. Brasher, responding, spoke of the splendid lot of officers of the Cambridge Branch. They realised they were an outpost. The majority of the member were municipal workers and there was not a man in the municipality who ought not to be a member. In answer to the Town Council he said they had never put up a case without it was fairly treated. Those who were not members ought to be thankful that their neighbours were, because they reaped the benefit. The time had gone for individual bargaining. The Cambridge Branch was flourishing and the doors were open.

The toast of the "Chairman, Artists and Visitors" was given by Bro. Knight, who said that as a union they had always been met with the utmost courtesy by the local council.

TIME OF OPPORTUNITY.

The first to respond was Dr. Alex. Wood who said the time of greatest difficulty was the time of greatest opportunity. If they could face the position with loyalty it would lead them nearer to the order of society to which they hoped to be. He hoped the fact that they were facing the difficulties would mean that they would go forward more firmly with the conviction that only Socialism would find the solution. It was not a case of Socialism having failed, but not having been tried.

The chairman also replied. An enjoyable entertainment was provided by Bros. Martin, Ward and Carter (songs), Mr. J. Twinn (recitation) and Mr. E. J. Clarke (accompanist).

Bishop and Dying Curate

The funeral took place at Epsom, curate of the Rev. Donald Joseph Bishop, curate of St. Barnabas, Epsom, Surrey, who took Holy Orders last year, was to have been ordained a priest at Godalming next Sunday. He was taken ill about a fortnight ago and removed to a nursing home, when his condition became very serious. Last Sunday week the Bishop of Guildford, Dr. Greig, went to the nursing home and ordained him a priest in the presence of the vicar of St. Barnabas, a doctor, and a nurse. Mr. Bishop died on Friday.

During the week-end seven boys living in Cambridge, S.E.—four of them members of a boys' club—were found to have a mild type of smallpox.

Personal.

Charles Alfred Cripps
(1st Baron Parmoor; 1852-1941)

45

29, Wilton Crescent, S.W.

March 16th. 1931.

My dear Lansbury,

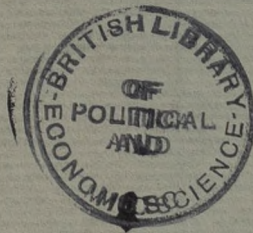
I cannot deny myself the pleasure of helping, when you say that help would be of value. I am sorry to say that my finances suffer from the common difficulty of too many appeals, but you will know this as well as I do. I am, however, enclosing a cheque for £1.

Believe me to be,

Yours very sincerely,

Parmoor -

I would always consider
sympathetically any appeal from you
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M449

Off Works

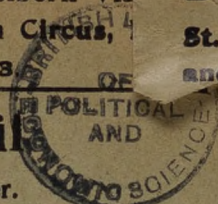
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M449

VITAL CONFERENCE Miners' Leaders Favour Impartial Inquiry

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, caused amusement when presiding at a conference held by the Christian Socialist Crusade at Friends' House, Euston-road, to-day, by declaring that pastors, in his opinion, knew a good deal more about business than was generally believed.

"Some people ask us to believe that religion is concerned only with the spiritual side of our lives," he said, "and the worship of God is only carried on through prayers, supplication and singing.

"I cannot accept that view of religion, and as to our pastors knowing nothing of business, it is, on the contrary, true that bishops, priests and other teachers of religion are exceptionally cute business men, as is proven by the amounts paid to the Treasury in death duties when such persons die."

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Withy Grove, Manchester.

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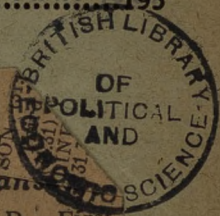
Pastors Usually Business Men

—Says Mr. Lansbury

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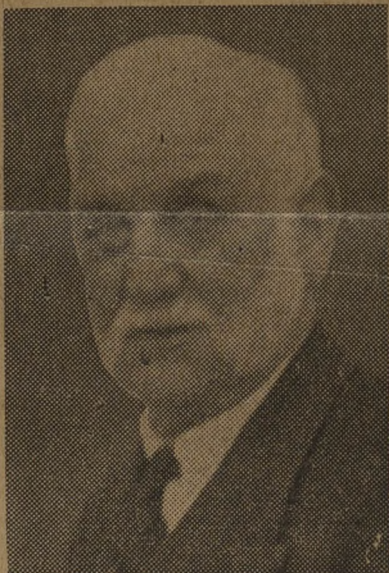
48

Pastors are Cute
Business Men

—Mr. Lansbury

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, caused amusement when presiding at a conference held under the auspices of the Christian Socialist Crusade at Friends' House, Euston Road, London, to-day by declaring that pastors, in his opinion, knew a good deal more about business than was generally believed.

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Mr. G. LANSBURY.

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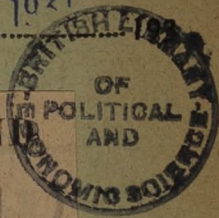
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Midland Daily Telegraph

18 Hertford Street, Coventry.

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MR. LANSBURY AND PASTORS.

49

"USUALLY CUTE BUSINESS MEN."

M449

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., First Commissioner of Works, caused amusement, when presiding at a conference, held under the auspices of the Christian Socialist Crusade, at the Friends' House, Euston Road, London, to-day, by declaring that pastors, in his opinion, knew a good deal more about business than was generally believed.

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East Anglian Daily Times

13 Carr Street, Ipswich.

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East Anglian Daily Times

IPSWICH, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1931.

THE CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST CRUSADE.

Of recent years the term "crusade" has been so often misappropriated to dignify the concerted efforts of zealots keen on the pursuit of secular aims and objects that the lofty origin of the word has been well-nigh forgotten by many whose lips and pens habitually employ it. However objectionable may be the application to purely worldly agitations of a word fraught with sacred associations—like the thoughtless use of the word "christening" to signify the baptism of a ship—there would appear to be some excuse, superficially, at any rate, for its use in such a context as the "Christian Socialist Crusade." This movement began not many weeks ago among a group of Labour Members of Parliament who seem to have made the startling discovery (startling, that is, to the Opposition political parties, one of which is actively, and the other nominally, opposed to Socialism) that the ethics of Christianity and Socialism are identical. Mr. George Lansbury, First Commissioner of Works, whose boyish exuberance is ever belying the benign senility of his bodily appearance, welcomed the formation of the "Crusade" with Athenian delight. Incontinently this Peter Pan of the Commons wrote to a leading Liberal newspaper an impulsive letter (published with portrait) championing Socialism in the name of Christianity, which letter drew one (also published with portrait) from Lord Brentford, refuting Socialism, likewise in the name of Christianity. On Monday last Mr. Lansbury appeared as the chief ornament of the movement at a conference held at the Friends' Meeting House in Euston Road, London. At that conference, summoned by the Christian Socialist Crusade, and blessed by the Premier, the assembled clergy, ministers, and theological students heard the glad tidings that Socialism is the economic and social expression of Christianity.

From the published account of the proceedings, it is a little difficult to determine what is the real object of the Christian Socialist Crusade. Are the Crusaders out to permeate Socialism with Christianity, or to convert Christians to Socialism? After twenty months of mild Socialism, there may well be doubts in the minds of many as to the justification for the claim that Socialism is Christianity in action. Your true-red Socialist maintains that the capitalistic system is unjust and unjustifiable. The nationalisation of the sources of wealth is a fundamental tenet of his faith. Presumably he finds an analogy in Christianity in the injunction "Sell whatsoever thou hast and give to the poor," an injunction, by-the-by, laid upon a particular individual in particular circumstances. Teachings about stewardship, "occupying," and trading with talents are also part of the Christian message, which would seem to contemplate the continued existence of capital and capitalists; but no doubt the ingenious Socialist has ready-made explanations to fit such passages. In theory, Socialism may have much in common with the doctrines of the Founder of Christianity. Mr. Lansbury has explained that there is no truth in the supposition that Socialism spells "something for nothing." But Socialism, as practised by his party, certainly merits the impeachment he has been at pains to deny. During nearly two years of office Mr. MacDonald's Government has produced, but fortunately not always "got away with," measure after measure intended to benefit one section of the community at the expense of the rest; to give and not to count the cost—to others; to level down, or up, according as one looks at it. And Mr. MacDonald and his followers are in a minority in the House. If they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?

No Administration of recent years, except the first Labour Government, whose life of eleven months was too short for much to be accomplished, has betrayed such lamentable class-consciousness or shown such gross partiality as the present Administration. Why, even the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health has openly boasted of what she was pleased to designate the Government's "Robin Hood" legislation, which she and those who think with her regard as a clearing of the ground for "nationalisation" later. Nationalisation in the sense of the acquisition by the State of the sources of wealth, not by appropriation—"convey the wise it call"—but by fair purchase, and not for purposes of exploitation for the benefit of a class, but of wise use for the good of all, would not be out of tune with Christianity. But that is scarcely the sort of nationalisation likely to appeal to the "Robin Hood" mind of the full-blooded Socialist. As has been well said, the ethics of Robin Hood are not the ethics of Christ. If the Christian Socialist Crusade is out to make a better

Christian of the more virulent type of Socialist, then it is worthy of the welcome which has been accorded it by a number of responsible Church leaders. But it may well be that the real motive behind the "Crusade" is to capture the Churches for Socialism. It needs to be remembered that the initiators of this campaign are adherents of a party whose spiritual home, if its spokesmen are to be believed, is Russia, where Christianity has been officially repudiated. That sinister fact should be pondered and the deeds of the Socialists weighed by all who may feel an urge to throw in their lot with a movement bearing so plausible and high-sounding a title as the Christian Socialist Crusade.

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THE ECONOMIC EXPRESSION OF THE GOSPEL.

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All-Day Conference in London. M449

THERE has recently come into existence a movement known as "The Christian Socialist Crusade," which aims at securing the recognition of "the main proposals gathered under the name of Socialism" as being "essential to the economic expression of the Gospel of Jesus Christ," and on Monday about 100 ministers met at the Friends' House, Euston, to hear an exposition of the Crusade and to take part in a discussion concerning it. I went—and came away—interested but unconverted.

Mr. George Lansbury, First Commissioner of Works, presided, and read a carefully prepared speech advancing the general thesis of the Crusade. His religion, he said, made him a Socialist. Unless Christianity could be applied, not only to the spiritual life of man, but to the everyday affairs of business, it stood condemned as a delusion and a sham. Christ was crucified because He challenged the then existing social order, and the Church must follow in His steps. For ownership by the few must be substituted ownership by the many; production for profit and dividends must be replaced by production for use and the general good. We had thought in terms of love only in relation to wife, or children, or friends; we must learn to do so in every department of life.

Dr. Herbert Gray followed with a short defence of the Crusade as the expression of basic Christian principles. Dr. Alfred Salter, M.P., of Bermondsey, said that Capitalism allowed a man the use of tools and land (of which it held a practical monopoly) only on condition that he should forfeit all ownership of what he produced. For every shillingsworth of goods produced the labourer received only fourpence. Control of land and means of production should be nationalised, as only so could they be spared the sight, common in Bermondsey, of men fighting each other for a job. Christ could never have survived in the modern system as a carpenter; He would have gone to the wall.

The Rev. R. Sorensen, M.P., said he was a working man—and had some hard things to say about the Church. The Labour movement had grown in spite of organised religion, and not by its help. The pulpit was afraid to preach the truth for fear of offending the wealthy. Canon Donaldson and Dr. Somervell Hastings, M.P., completed the list of official speakers, and Dr. Donald Soper summed up and replied to questions.

* * * *

METHODIST ministers seemed to be in a majority, and were apparently about equally divided in support and in criticism of the Crusade. The Rev. Lewis Brown (Hampstead) asked what would be done with the "scrimshankers"—those who preferred the dole to hard work, and expressed the fear of regimentation and standardisation as consequences of Socialism. He had had enough of that in the Army! Mr. Lansbury replied that they were "down" on the "scrimshankers"—especially those who lived in the West End. This drew from the Rev. W. J. Tunbridge (Ealing) a tart request that questions should be more adequately answered. He objected to the alliance of a temporary system like Socialism with an eternal fact like Christianity.

A Presbyterian minister and others protested strongly against the assertion of Mr. Sorensen that the Church had done nothing to help the Labour movement. It was from the little Chapels that its earliest pioneers had come, and the Church's duty was to continue to supply the inspiration and vision needed to bring in a better order—whether that order should prove to be Socialism or anything else. And, indeed, one could not but feel that recognition of the verdicts of such observers as G. M. Trevelyan and Benjamin Kidd, and of the work of such as Frederick Denison Maurice and Charles Kingsley (to say nothing of several present-day leaders) would have saved Mr. Sorensen from extravagant and inexact statements more commonly heard at the street-corner.

A Congregationalist told how in his district several Churches had got together, and out of their slender resources had provided clubs for the unemployed—only to find that electric lamps were stolen, cupboards forced open and funds embezzled. To this a Wesleyan (the Rev. L. Scadeng Cheshire) replied that Socialism deplored such things, and laid the blame at the door of the system which so demoralised and degraded men, and the Rev. Sam Rowley (Primitive Methodist) cheerfully asserted that he still ran his clubs and hoped other Churches would do so.

So the discussion went on throughout the day. Two facts at least emerged. The first is that there is a strong body of ministerial opinion in the Free Churches favourable to the Crusade and its ideals; the second, that many fear the linking of the Church with any political party is a step which, in the long run, would prove retrogressive and defeat its own ends. The discussion, no less than a wide view of the world-forces operating to-day, confirmed my own opinion that ultimately we shall have to choose between that crude and irreligious mechanisation of life which lies at the root of Soviet Communism, and that religious faith which undoubtedly inspires the best minds of English Socialism—a faith which finds its formulæ in the Sermon on the Mount, and its dynamic in the life and teaching of Jesus.

But, of course, there are many in the other political parties who share that faith—and one wonders whether they should be compelled to choose between co-operation in the Crusade and the denial of political theories which, to them, are as religiously valid as is Socialism to Mr. Lansbury and his friends.

F. H. EVERSON.