(152)

19. mii. 34.

Dear Sir John.

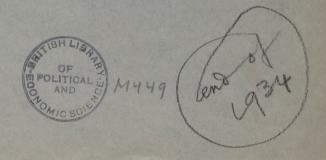
Thank you for your note re Indian speakers in the B.B.C. series of talks on Indian Constitutional Reform. I am very sorry indeed you find it impossible to organise such speakers.

You won't mind my saying that I feel confident two or three could be got together from India, and would if necessary pay their own expenses either to this country or to somewhere midway from which they might be able to put the Indian point of view.

While it is true that there is a good deal of diversity of opinion on certain matters, there is a very considerable mass of Indian agreement on fundamentals, and it is these which I think the British people ought to be told about. But, of course, I cannot question your discretion in the matter, though I must express my very keen disappointment.

Yours sincerely,

Sir John Reith, Broadcasting House, W.1.



See vol. 28. a, jo. 205 joi a letter to Si Richard Stafford Cripps and hady Cripps, dated Dec. 23nd. 1934.

Vol. 15 Section II. 1935 (All. 153-388) [?anthor]

NOTES ON THE LONDON PASSENGER TRANSPORT (AGREEMENT) BILL.

[H. of L. Session 1934-35: (111); H. of C. Session 1934-35: (84)]

It is most important to ensure that any extensions such as those proposed meet the general considerations required by main line electrification. The London Passenger Transport Board's area must be considered integrally with main line electrification as the railways in that area form part of, and are indeed, the centre of all main line activities. It becomes necessary, therefore, to consider the present proposals in the light of future developments, and to ensure that the extensions are carried out so that main line electrification would be facilitated, and to make a conversion of the voltage of existing railways and meet the possible requirements of the future.

In 1928 the Pringle Committee suggested two alternative voltages for main line work. They were: 1500 Volts Direct Current Overhead.

and these voltages were accepted by the Weir Commission on Main Line electrification, and a plan outlined based on 1500 Volts. The employment of 1500 volts involves of necessity overhead track distribution at a voltage which is higher than permits the maximum safety to human life, and

- 2 -

involves very serious risk. In addition, it is very unsightly. and what may be acceptable from the aesthetic view point on the Contenient or elsewhere is not acceptable in this country. To say that amenities are not spoilt is a mere evasion of the realities of the case, and we will solve our problems without adopting the methods of our Continental friends on such matters. For instance, cost is as high, if not higher than 750 volt track equipment, and its reliability questionable. general, the economic claims of 1500 volts seem to be greatly over-stressed, but it has possibilities. The claims of 450 volts are that the track equipment is unobtrusive and almost unnoticed, and judging by the experience on the London Transport Board's Regulation of 660-690 volts is very reliable. inadequate voltage of 750 represents probably the limit of safety, but there is ample evidence that it could be handled with safety where full and proper respect was observed. any case, it is preferable to travelling about continuously in an archway of catenaries of copper wire. The Labour Party will not countenance additional disfigurement of the countryside or the already deplorable condition of industrial areas ..

Accepting this view, there should be some standard regulation adopted for the present extensions, and as a natural result the present equipment should be converted to the standard conditions. The Government ought to take some decision on

the question immediately, for whatever Government is in power when national electrification is eventually adopted (and we believe it will be adopted) the question, and consequent expenditure will have to be faced.

There are, however, certain advantages attaching to the of 1500 volts, 3rd Rail, but the consideration of safety to life, safety in maintenance, require full investigation, and as the Labour Party is anxious that the most progressive idea be utilised, we would ask the Government to maintenance initiate a Technical Research Committee of Technicians, Trade Unions, operators and users to explore means for the safe constructive maintenance and reliable operation of 1500 volts Track for main line work, limiting the use of 750 volts to suburban schemes.

At the present time, there is no possible reason for the continuance of the present voltage, except the whims of the engineers concerned. To perpetuate the present conditions will be a serious mistake.

If it is agreed that conversion is desirable, the Government should advance the whole cost and guarantee the interest, but they should require the various companies and the Board to repay as may be agreed by them a sum equivalent to 25 per cent. of the capital cost - within a period of not more than 15 years.

If the Government do not do this or if some uannimity or progress in this direction is not made, a future Labour Government may require the various authorities to effect standardisation compulsorily at their own cost.

The advantage of such standardisation to manufacturers is quite considerable for much expense is thereby eliminated, and as a number of British electrical manufacturers have already combined their resources in the interests of railway electrification to meet the demand that will arise, such standardisation would be very welcome.

Manufacturers: Metropolitan Vickers and associated interests.

B.T.H. Co.

General Electric Co. English Electric Co.

The Scheme was introduced in the greatest secrecy (or reticence - we will leave it at that), and it can be assumed that there was something to be ashamed of. It would have been preferable had details been furnished in a White Paper at the same time as the statement was made. Can it be that the Government are conscious enough of the fact that the schemes do not go far. Such reticence leads one to the conclusion that considerable opposition is expected, and by the procedure employed it might thereby be subdued. Nothing is said in reference to the Elephant and Castle-Camberwell Green Extension which was proposed two or

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three years ago. The needs of South London would not be met by that extension, but it would at least have been indicated that the needs of South London had not been neglected. Would the Government give some assurance that a scheme for S.E. London will be proceeded with with all possible expediency. If would have been preferable if the whole of the L.N.E.R. suburban system had been included, as such piecemeal development does not indicate national planning to meet the needs of the community. The scheme for the G.W.R. should have included the Paddington-Maidenhead section which is densely loaded, but the present proposals seem to indicate that the Board wishes to further develop the district our to Ruislip in advance of revenue. Has the Government full assurance that this section will be economical and financially sound?

As regards the present Inner Circle, the Board M449 proposed recently to discontinue Circle operation, terminating the "Circle" at South Kensington and Aldgate Stations. This seems to be a policy which cannot be justified, and the residents not only in South Kensington, but passengers on the north part of the Inner Circle require greater consideration. The Inner Circle still fulfils the function of providing interchange facilities between the main line stations, at Euston, St. Pancras. Kings Cross, Liverpool Street, Fenchurch Street, St. Pauls, Charing Cross, Victoria and Paddington, as apart from the carriage

of the general public. There is every reason for its continuance as an independent service, and rather than create inconvenience to passengers increase there facilities.

The time has arrived when entire separation of the various services using the South Kensington Aldgate tunnel is required, and a further tunnel underneath the present one for Inner Circle service only is urgent. But there seems to have been general reluctance to provide a further tunnel, no doubt dictated by financial considerations, rather than engineering ones as the latter can be easily met by the exercise of no more ingenuity than the Board's engineers ordinarily exercise.

It is not possible fully to visualise the developments of the mand if it is, what proposals does the Board put forward as a solution of the problem (a matter of greater importance to the travelling public than the main extension of services) of the existing evils. If restriction of services is to be the Board's solution by termination of Circle trains at South Kensington and Aldgate, it is evident that a more progressive and courageous policy is required if the interests of the future are to be safeguarded, as transport is essentially a public service.

No tampering with Transport.

If a scheme is expensive, it will be justified uttimately because it then imposes the limit of development on

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the type of train employed whereas at present the track and tunnel facilities are the limiting factors. As evidence of this the Board recently constructed the Monument-Bank escalators etc. to divert traffic from the District-Circle Section. observed that it is proposed to enlarge and improve the power supply of the Board and other ancillary works. (To what extent is this evil being permitted?). Does this mean that the Lots Road, Neasden, or any of the other non-standard frequency generating stations will be extended?. If so, has the opinion on the desirability of such a course been solicited from the Central Electricity Board or the Electricity Commissioners, and if so, on what grounds, and to what extent have these authorities consented or disagreed with such a policy. As is well-known, the Central Electricity Board is now in the position to supply to railway authorities almost unlimited quantities of current, and its concentrated resources seem to have been neglected.

The existing generating station of the Board are operating almost continuously at their maximum capacity, and in the interests of convenience to the public, it is imperative to ensure absolute security of supply, and to obtain current from where ample resources and multiplicity of feeding points are or can be made available. It should be an instruction to the Board and the railway companies concerned to obtain the energy required from the Central Electricity Board (or from

authorised undertakings) at standard periodicity, as is the case at present in parts of the Board's undertakings and that the Electricity Commissioners be instructed to refuse applications to extend the present non-standard stations.

The Government should take a decision in respect of this problem for future guidance, and the interests and activities of all parties concerned should be closely co-ordinated to the public advantage.

A comparison of the performance of the Transport
Board's stations show them to be far below the best (or even
the average) performance of the Selected Stations of the S.E.E.
Scheme of the Central Electricity Board, and it is in the
interests of national economy, and for a number of other equally
forcible and acceptable reasons, to ensure that public
corporations co-operate to the maximum extent in the interests
of the service and the user.

There are at least a dozen selected stations in the fuel S.E.E. Scheme where the full consumption per unit is less than the average of the Transport Board's stations and on fuel consumption alone if the current were obtained from the Board, a saving of anything from £100,000 to £150,000 per annum would be affected as apart from the generation capital charges being eliminated. In addition, it is of the utmost importance to

provide load for the new selected stations and other new plant which is being brought into commission in that Scheme.

As the Board are now empowered to negotiate direct agreements with railway authorities, it is hoped that advantage may be taken of this.

In order to determine the efficiency and economy of operation of electrification (or otherwise) will the Minister instruct the Main Line Companies to prepare separate accounts for the new electrified system, so that proper comparison may be made between pre-electric and electric operation.

Trolly vehicles.

Insist all tram tracks be taken up and reinstated of road. Whole surface to be properly finished. Cost to be borne by the Board and local authorities.



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Souh Kensington Station.

It seems preferable to put Circle trains below ground as sevice will not be so heavy, and on grounds of engineering cosiderations at Gloucester Road and South Kensington.

GDucester Road.

It seems preferable to put Sircle trains below District.
The Scheme may necessitate sacrifice of carriage marshalling
space at Gloucester Road.

ldgate.

There appears little justification to keeping this station open. It would seem more desirable to use existing space to facilitate the co-ordination and improvement of all existing services. If proposals were adopted, Aldgate East Station to be moved eastwards, and author subways provided to the most desirable points. Considerably improved services generally would outweigh any disadvantages of the change.

Probably still possible to arrange better in the change facilities at Gloucester Road and South Kensington stations.

Stations affected.

Gloucester Road.
South Kensington.
Sloane Square.
Victoria.
St. James's Park.
Westminster.
Charing Cross.
Temple.

Blackfriars.
Mansion House.
Cannon Street.
Monument.
Mark Lane.
Aldgate.
Aldgate East.

(163 3rd January, 1935.

War Office 18 F. Angus [see In 28 Nov. 1934 above]

Dear Private Secretary,

You wrote to me on the 28th November in connection with the case of Private F.Angus, a constituent of Mr.Lansbury's. Mr. Angus is anxious to have his son discharged from the Army on the ground that he is not physically fit.

Private Angus is still a patient in the Cambridge Hospital at Aldershot, and the medical authorities think it would be better to defer any further examination until his condition has improved. As this will not prejudice the father's application, I think Mr. Lansbury will agree that it is better to defer the matter.

I will reply as soon as the position is clear.

Yours sincerely,

P. H. Shreve.

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to
The Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury, J. P., M. P.,
House of Commons,
S. W. 1.



22.1-35 164 Mr. Lansbury I am writing about my Son. Ple . F. angus northampton Regt who is lying in Cambridge Hospital aldershot. Ward 3, where he has been for 13 week's as there don't seem any enprovement in him we at home are worring about him as you know we have been trying to get his discharge, b your help, the army Doctors said at first he had M Interie Fever but some weeks after they had Kray while I showed or THEA had Fluid of Lung and Conjuston

he still conplains of 65 frams in left side that to after 13 weeks what me and his mother is thinking of is for you to help us his Discharge and his Mother will take great care of him, I know if he got wet as he did when on Manocuvres again, he would never full through you have got all the paper's on this case so you have got the prof. write to mr Duff Cooper again so would you oblige me a Comrade" F. angus 46 Myke Pod Bow E3

I am sending a photo of him and he was ill when it was taken don't you think it is a shame for a mere Boy, tirrible training I sent a letter from his Doolor D' Lightstone Roman Me Bow to you b mobiles. again telling the army that the Boy was not stong for the army and you sent it to Duff looker they took no notice Result 13 weeks nearly lost his life. (do not matter about sendings back)

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Telephone: National Part, Landon David Samuel Samue

THORNEY HOUSE

SMITH SQUARE

WESTMINSTER

LONDON, S.W.I

22nd January, 1935

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Some time ago it was suggested to me that some effort should be made to express general appreciation of the eminent public services which have been rendered to the nation over a period of more than forty years by our mutual friend and old Parliamentary colleague, George Barnes.

I need not reiterate these services, his championship of Old Age Pensions, his work for the Co-operative and
Trade Union Movement, and his devotion to the cause of
International Justice and Peace. We all remember how during
the War his ardent patriotism and loyalty were an inspiration
to his fellow countrymen. Believing as he did in the justice
of our cause, he joined the War Cabinet as the representative
of Labour, and loyalty co-operated with his colleagues in
the prosecution of the War. Subsequently at Versailles he
was mainly responsible for the establishing of the International
Labour Office at Geneva, erected under the auspices of the
League of which he was also an enthusiastic supporter.

M449

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Since his retirement from public life, he has consistently refused to allow any of his friends to issue any appeal, or to raise any fund in order to show their appreciation of his manifold activities in the public service. The only suggestion which he is willing to consider favourably is the presentation of his portrait to the I.L.O. at Geneva, and it is felt that this would be a most fitting tribute, because Barnes will always be regarded as the principal founder of that institution.

May I therefore appeal to you to join a small and influential Committee for the purpose of raising a fund for that purpose? Enclosed is a list of those who have already consented to serve on the Committee, and a copy of the circular letter which, if approved, will be sent out under their signatures to old friends and associates who will probably wish to identify themselves with the presentation. It is also suggested that the subscription should be limited to £1. 1. 0.

I have already sounded Mr. H. Beresford Butler, the director of the I.L.O., and he assures me that the presentation of a portrait will be heartily welcomed by the Governing Body of that institution.

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In conclusion I may say that if the Committee desires,
I shall be delighted to act in the capacity of Honorary Secretary
and Treasurer of the Fund, and undertake the necessary
arrangements for the painting of the portrait, and its
presentation to the I.L.O.

Believe me to be,

Yours sincerely,

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., 39, Bow Road.,

E.3.

Davies 22 Jan. 1935

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Dear

It has been suggested to us that some effort should be made to express general appreciation of the eminent public services which have been rendered to the nation over a period of more than forty years by our mutual friend, George Barnes.

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May we therefore appeal to you to contribute towards a fund for this purpose, subscriptions to which will be limited to £1.1.0. We have already ascertained from Mr. H. Beresford Butler, the Director of the I.L.O. that the presentation of a portrait would be heartily welcomed by the Governing Body of that institution.

We feel sure you will desire to be associated with this small token of appreciation of the great public services which George Barnes has rendered to the nation.

Yours sincerely.



PERSONS WHO HAVE CONSENTED TO SERVE ON THE BARNES PORTRAIT

COMMITTEE

The Rt. Hon. Lord Amulree,

Sir A. Shirley Benn,

Sir A. Shirley Benn,
Mr. H. B. Butler,
The Rt. Hon. Sir Austen Chamberlain,
The Rt. Hon. Viscount Gecil of Chelwood,
The Rt. Hon. Lord Gladstone of Hawarden,
The Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George,
The Rt. Hon. Lord Hutchison of Montrose,
The Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Horne,
Mr. Frank Hodges,
Mr. H. May,
The Most Hon. Marquess of Reading, The
The Rt. Hon. Sir Herbert Samuel,
The Rt. Hon. Sir John Simon.

The Rt. Hon. Sir John Simon,

General Smuts, The Rt. Hon. Viscount Snowden, The Rt. Hon. J. H. Thomas,

Sir Alfred Tyler,

Sir Robert Young.

REPLIES ARE STILL AWAITED FROM:-

The Rt. Hon. J. Ramsay Macdonald, The Rt. Hon. Stanley Baldwin,

Mr. Walter Citrine, The Rt. Hon. Arthur Henderson, The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, Mr. Isaac Mitchell.

25. 1. 35.

Dear Sir,

Wr. Lansbury has asked me to send you enclosed copy of a letter which he recently received from the War Office in regard to your son. He did not send this to you earlier because, as you will note, the Department has promised to write again and he was delaying re writing to you until he received the further letter. This has not yet come to hand, but he will let you know its contents as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully.

I am writing to the War Office again today asking if it is now possible to give further information about your son's condition.

Mr. F. Angus, 76, Wyke Road, Bow, E.Z.



re F. Angus

25. 1. 35.

Dear Private Secretary,

You wrote to me on the 22 3rd January in connection with the case of Private F. Angus, whose father wishes to have discharged from the Army on the ground that he is physically unfit.

Mr. Angus senior is very anxious about his son's condition and continually calls upon Mr. Lansbury for further news. Is it possible for you to let me know what the position now is in regard to this man?

Yours sincerely,

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary, War Office, S.W.1.



War Office re F-Angus 173

26th January, 1935.

Dear Private Secretary,

We have received an interim report on the case of Private
Angus on whose behalf you reminded me yesterday, but he is still
in hospital and no definite decision can be reached for a week or
two.

Yours sincerely,

Private Secretary.

P. G. Swews.

Private Secretary to
The Rt.Hon.G.Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,
House of Commons,
S.W.1.



Telestione: Victoria ashi, London

David Davies 51880 - 1944

THORNEY HOUSE
SMITH SQUARE
WESTMINSTER

LONDON, S.W.I

NBF/JBT

30th January, 1935

My dear Mr. Lansbury,

Many thanks for your secretary's letter of the 29th. I need hardly say how delighted I am to know that you are prepared to become a member of the committee in connection with the presentation of the portrait of George Barnes to the I.L.O. at Geneva. We shall now go ahead with the despatch of the circular letter and I am adding your name to the list of signatories who had already consented to serve as members of the committee.

With renewed thanks.

Believe me to be,

Yours sincerely,

(Davies.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., 39, Bow Road, E. 3.



Copy ser formers

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WAR OFFICE, WHITEHALL, S.W.

4th February, 1935.

My diar Landhuy

With reference to the case of Private Angus, Northamptonshire Regiment, on whose behalf you wrote some months ago and about whom you spoke to me on Friday, I have obtained an interim report upon his condition.

Private Angus has never been placed on the "dangerously ill" list. He was on the "seriously ill" list for the period llth to 24th November, 1934, since when he has been convalescent. His general health has improved and he has gained in weight. His temperature has been normal for six weeks and he is now allowed to get up daily from one o'clock.

A medical board will be held on him as soon as convalescence is complete and a decision will then be reached as to whether it would be better to retain him in the Service or not.

I hope that this information will allay the parents' fears.

The Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury, J. P., M. P., House of Commons, S.W. 1.



(et Ban Roll; 1889-

BROADCASTING HOUSE,

4th February, 1935

Privace

Dear ho Louisbury,

Many thanks for your letter of the 2nd.

I shall be very glad to have a talk with you whenever you can manage it, but if possible with just a few days warning. Perhaps you would have somebody ring me up so that we can settle it.

I am wondering what you have in mind by your reference to internal management, patronage and payments? If you are thinking, among other things, of the way in which staff are appointed, paid and promoted, it may interest you to know that less than a year ago we asked two very well-known individuals, both with great experience of Civil Service appointments, to investigate our methods here. We told them they were to have every facility they asked for, and that they could examine any member, senior or junior. They went into their work very seriously and at the end of it presented us with a report which, if this is one of the matters about which you are concerned. I will let you see.

I shall be glad if you will keep this matter private, but I had it in mind if at any time there was any agitation about our methods of appointment, to give this whole report to the Press.

You may have noticed that during

Telegrams: Broadcasts London * Telephone: Welbeck 4468

M449

Sie John CW Reite

(7)

WELBECK 4468 BROADCASTS LONDON BROADCASTING HOUSE

LONDON W. 1

- 2 -

4 Feb. 435

the time when you were in hospital, I had two meetings in the House of Commons, one with your people and the other with Conservatives, at both of which about two hundred people were present. At these meetings I said I would answer any questions that anybody liked to ask, and I certainly did answer a vast number. There were one or two on matters of this sort, and the attitude at the end of both meetings, as expressed in terms of a Resolution and otherwise, seemed to indicate that those present were fairly happy about us.

However, that was late one afternoon, and perhaps they were unhappy again by the next morning; anyhow, I shall be very glad to have a talk with you.

Thank you for what you say about my being overworked. I think I am a little bit tired, because ever since I came back from South Africa I have had a particularly busy time and two of our most senior people are off ill, also I had a succession of late nights in the office last week. I do not think, however, I feel any strain, and I do not think I ever have, certainly not to the extent of being affected by it. For one thing I do not worry!

Early many dender,

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., 39, Bow Road, E.3.

(William Ewart) Gladstone Murray (1893-)

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WELBECK 4468 BROADCASTS LONDON B.B.C.

BROADCASTING HOUSE

LONDON W. 1

of -12

25th February, 1935.

Dew Mr. Landburg.

It was a very special pleasure and a privilege to meet you here the other morning when you were broadcasting to Australia. I knew. of course, that you were a regular listener, though I was particularly interested when you said you had views on the Children's Hour, which is perhaps the most difficult and elusive part of our work. would hesitate to suggest adding anything to the burdens which you already carry in your public capacity; but I would like to think that your son, who accompanied you the other morning, might let me know from time to time of your criticisms of the Children's Hour and of anything else in the programmes, it being understood that any communication of the kind would be entirely confidential to me as a professional broadcaster, and in no circumstances to be used for political or public purposes.

Jours un Sirent gradstone Municing.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury, M.P., 39, Bow Road, Bow, E.3.

MC



23 Sterling Street 19 Win of Labour GRIMSBY. 11/2/35. hir . George hans bury M.P. House of Commons. CHOMIC SCH bear Sir, Jam sorry to have to trouble you with our troubles but some how I think you can put this matter right, if it is of any interest (the subsect) to you, I should be very pleased if you could do so, as I have faith in you. I will state our case as Shortly as I possible can do. In Grimsby a lot of forison vessels, ecspicialy during the summer months, lands this catches and the Firms or agents that sells this Jish employed an Interpreter to act as the shirt- Euroband duling the time the vessels and in the dock . Thost of the tirms and agents employed local labour balothers import this men from abroad each season, as they say that they can't

get suitable men in Frimsby or in his blub as he was interested in the England. Now that is the Knowble. In Subject. Offer Texplained to him again the first place it isn't true as here in and given the Firms name that employed Grimsby is men drawing the bole" that Interpreters from abroad he her Hondersley can and has done the tol + have excepted (now Sir Walter) said that I would hear from references as well. In the second place the local hab tax at the time another the Firms dout inquire or advertise the man was with me that got the sack fact that they do want Interpreters knowing from his place and a man from abroad that it is quite easy to get a permit for got the fob. That same man is employed a man to land here. They don't even inquire now. elswares at the hocal hat Ex. Well a few days passed, and at the finis Two years ago a Grimsty solicitor sent a I asked the tranager of the hocal Rabour letter of protest against the practice Tr. if he had heard any thing. He answered signed by a number of men that could no nothing yet. He also explained to me do the 106 (all on the bole) to the trinistry that he could not send any men round of Labour. They in reply said that they to an office if that office had not asked would bear it in mind when in the for any man to be cent round. He was Julure applications for permit to land ever so nice and it is quite true, he here from abroad was applied for. couldn't. But it shows that no inquiry But some how passes were granted just the same. has been made there for any men and the manager knows that he has men hast year, finding that the protest was no there that can do the job. We don't even good I wrote to tur. H. Womersley M.P for get the chance of a refusal. Grimsby explaining everything and in No the tirms knows that it is very answer he asked me to meet him at

has been grauled again this year, the year, that sale he year of it is brue. I you could not the year, that said man that grauls the yearing holice of you than of all the sits on the that the think of you the first of the single one that his of this included of the first of the single of the winds think of the first of the of this included by the first of the of this included the the first of the of this included the the first of the of this included the the first of the of the included the the this of the of the included the the its of the included the incl Lasy to obtain a permit for a man to taid here. Then I wrote to our saves. The Sail yeard a they sublished a tile. Sail new Joseph Joseph the Sail new Told that jassed for men. Some how it isn't right. The poly is there and the men here as why go accesses for them. If you can peop my name out of it I should be glad, that if you cant - - well, you Thou king you in anticipation found in allicipation.

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A.R.1814/1935

MINISTRY OF LAROUR,

MONTAGU HOUSE,

WHITEHALL, S.W.

1st March, 1935.

Dear Private Secretary,

see also fols. 179-180 above

Enquiry has been made into the question of permits for British firms in Grimsby to employ foreigners as "Ships Husbands" or "Water Clerks" about which you forwarded the enclosed letter from Mr. H. Peterson of 23, Sterling Street, Grimsby, on the 12th February.

It appears that the employees in question are sent out to meet foreign vessels and to canvass for orders for the firms they represent. They arrange for landing, supply stores, give information regarding fishing grounds, and generally act as guides to the crews. Fluency in one or more foreign languages is usually essential, and physical fitness for duties that involve long and uncertain hours is a qualification that must not be overlooked. Applications are occasionally received from Grimsby fishing agents for permission to employ a foreign "Water Clerk", and as a rule the requirement is for a person able to speak a Scandanavian tongue and having experience of Seine-net fishing, as distinct from the usual British trawling. When such applications are made, it is the Department's normal practice, before agreeing to the importation of a foreigner, to ascertain whether a British subject or a long resident foreigner is available for the employment. - the Employment Exchange machinery being used for this purpose. Even though the Exchange may be able to submit likely candidates for the employment, it often turns out, for example, that although they can speak the language, they lack the necessary seafaring experience, and are not, therefore, suitable for the employer's purposes.

The Private Secretary tp
Rt. Hon. G. Lansbury, J.P., M.P.,
House of Commons,
S.W.I.



1 March 435 deel in Ministry of Labour In such circumstances we should feel justified in issuing a permit for a limited period, to enable the firm to employ the foreigner whose services they desire. Note has been taken, however, of what Mr. Peterson says in his letter and his observations will be borne in mind if an employer in Grimsby should make application for permission to bring a foreign "Water Clerk" from abroad in the near future. It appears that Mr. Peterson is in touch with the Local Exchange and he can be assured that if he maintains his registration there, his case will be fully considered for any employment for which he is suitable. Yours faithfully, HI See Private Secretary.

Wm. George Althur Drmsby - Gore (1885 -

H.M.Office of Works, Storey's Gate, Westminster, S.W.1.

4th March, 1935.

Dear Lansbury,

In July last the Commons Kitchen Committee put forward a proposal that the Strangers' dining-room on the principal floor of the House of Commons should be transferred to the room on the terrace front now used as a Servery, and that the Strangers' dining-room should itself become the Servery.

After considering the matter, I came to the conclusion that the improvement likely to be effected by this transfer would be only partial, and that we should not embark upon a change of this magnitude without carefully considering the larger question of the arrangement of dining and kitchen accommodation in the Houses of Parliament generally. For the reasons given in the enclosed copy of a memorandum which I addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, this consideration can, in my opinion, most effectively be given by a Joint Select Committee. If, as I hope, you will agree, I will take an early opportunity of moving that the Committee be appointed.

I am sending a similar ter to the Prime Minister,

NOMIC SCHE

4 March 1985

Mr. Baldwin, Lord Hailsham and Sir Herbert Samuel, and I may say that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Chief Whip the Lord Great Chamberlain and the Chairman of the Commons Kitchen Committee have already informed me that, in their view, a Joint Select Committee would be the best method of seeking solutions of the many problems involved.

Yours sincerely,

Wohnsty gove

The Rt-Hon: George Lansbury, M.P., House of Commons.



5, iii. 35.

I have your letter of the 4th. and whilst expressing no final opinion on your Memorandum, I am in full agreement with your proposal to set up a Joint Select Committee.

I wish, however, to say that in my opinion the whole question of accomodation for members ought to be investigated, as in my judgement the House of Commons is one of the worst equipped legislatures so far as ordinary members are concerned. There are no private rooms for members to take visitors or friends, as there are, for instance, in the Parliament House just established in Ulster.

So, when the proposal comes up it may be that I shall ask the House to give wider terms of reference. I think members have no idea of the amount of space which could be provided if the whole building from one end to the other were surveyed and a statement of the available accommodation and how it is now used were made.

The Rt. Hon.
W.G. Ormesby-Gore MP.,
H.M. Office of Works,
Storey's Gate,
S.W.1.



186 C. Jinarajadasa THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY. mar. 9. [? 1935, after publ. of G. Lr's Looking backwards and forwards, 1935] Dear George, Dorothy + I thank you go much for the book which came last mail. De shall botte read il son of I shall protably review it-for New India. Zu vill see finette card endose some y rong activities. Cour best regards to you tyour. affectionality C. finarajadose

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF POPLAR

Copy of letter sent to Mr. W.M. Citrine, Secretary of the Trades Union Congress.

12th March, 1935.

Dear Sir,

A question has arisen between the Council of this Borough and the Electrical Trades Union resulting in the withdrawal of certain men from the Installations Department of the Electricity Undertaking. A copy of the correspondence which has passed between the Electrical Trades Union and the Council is enclosed.

The Council have entered into an agreement with the Trade Unions who cater for the men in the employ of the Council, and the Electrical Trades Union are a party to this Agreement. Clause 2 of this Agreement is as follows:-

"That there shall be established a Joint Council
"consisting equally of representatives of the Poplar Borough
"Council and representatives of the Trade Unions, to whom all
"disputes, questions of discipline or other matters affecting
"the employees of the Borough Council shall be referred,
"before any stoppage of work takes place....."

The Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement considered the correspondence at a meeting on the 11th December, 1934, but the representative of the Electrical Trades Union declined to argue the matter before the Joint Council, contending that the dispute was between the employees and the employer and that, therefore, the Borough Council's Electricity Committee were the competent authority to receive the deputation.

The Borough Council afterwards passed the following resolution:-

"That the No.10 Area District Council, Greater London Area, Electricity Supply Industry, be informed that this Council would welcome any effort on their part to bring to an end the dispute in the Council's Installations Department."

At a meeting held on Monday last, the General Purposes Committee of the Borough Council (comprising the whole of the members) passed the following resolution:-

"That the representatives of the Electrical Trades Union be informed that all the men now on strike will be re-employed immediately on their presenting themselves at the Station, and that thereupon the Council will take steps to ensure that the Joint Council will enquire as soon as possible into all grievances advanced by the Electrical Trades Union."

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The foregoing was reported to a meeting this morning of representatives of the Electrical Trades Union who replied that they were unable to advise the men to return to work.

The representatives of the Union stated that the men on strike would not return to work unless the men previously in the employment of the Council who remained at work when the strike was called, as well as the men who have since been taken on, were dismissed.

It is obvious that the questions raised are the concern of other Unions than the Electrical Trades Union and I am therefore directed to forward the foregoing statement of the case, together with a copy of the correspondence which has passed.

Yours faithfully,

(sgd) H.E. DENNIS,

Town Clerk.

W.M. Citrine, Esq.,
Secretary,
Trades Union Congress,
Transport House,
Smith Square,
S.W.1.

Council Offices, Poplar High Street, E.14.

Correspondence which has passed between the Poplar Borough Council and the Electrical Trades Union relating to the Installations Department of the Council's Electricity Undertaking.

22nd October, 1934 - Letter of Borough Electrical Engineer (Mr.R. Illingworth) to London District Secretary (Mr.G.Humphreys), E.T.U.

"During the past few weeks we have had occasion to make a large addition to our wiring staff and have asked you from time to time to send us men suitable for our purpose.

It is with regret, however, that I must protest against the quality of the men generally sent to us. Most of them profess all the qualifications desired but seem to lack the ability of carrying out quite small jobs neatly and efficiently.

Several jobs have had to be rewired almost immediately after

completion; and in consequence, several of the men have been

Thus we are still in want of Wiremen but unless I can have some assurance that they are capable of small house wiring work, obviously it will be more advantageous to this Department to seek some other solution to the problem.

Therefore, will you please let me know if you are in a position

to obtain the men required.

31st October, 1934 - Letter of London District Secretary, E.T.U., to Borough Electrical Engineer.

"I have to refer to your letter dated 22nd instant, also the visit that Mr. Coster and myself paid you yesterday (Tuesday)

It is with regret we learn that certain of the staff, both mechanics and mates, have not rendered the service you expected. one instance, as explained to you, we agree the wrong type of man

I am of the opinion that one of the chief reasons why the type of man we have been able to send along has not always come up to your expectations is the circumscribed area from which we are entitled, according to your Council's instruction, to draw the labour. Whilst we have the privilege of sending along men to a number of Borough Councils Installation Departments, it is very rare we are tied down to the employment primarily of local men and I am definitely satisfied that should your Council afford us the opportunity of sending the best men on our Unemployed Register at this office, without the restriction of them living in the Poplar area, we can I feel sure supply the type of man you require.

May I say that this also applies to electricians' assistants. In this connection I would draw your attention to the fact that by agreement with the National Federated Electrical Association this agreement with the National Federated Electrical Association this type of man is not a labourer, but is in every respect a semi-skilled and experienced man. In this regard I would draw your attention to Rule No.14 of the London Agreement, the last clause of which refers to the fact that the electrician's assistant is entitled to carry certain tools and it is in virtue of this fact and his experience in the industry that we have been able to secure a rate of 80 per cent. of the mechanic's rate for these against lasts. A very essential point in the production of the two men, mechanic and mate, is the measure of efficiency of the mate himself

I should be pleased, therefore, to know whether we may send along a further batch of mechanics and assistants, who will in our opinion be of the type to enable you to carry out the work efficiently on the small properties upon which you are mainly engaged. 9th November, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser (Mr.A.W.Coster) E.T.U., to Borough Electrical Engineer. "At a recent meeting of members of my organisation employed in your Wiring Department, considerable dissatisfaction was made known with regard to others than members of the Electrical Trades Union being engaged in the Wiring Department and I am to convey to you a resolution of the meeting which was carried unanimously: "That the Borough Electrical Engineer be notified that as and from the 7th November, 1934, our members employed in the Wiring Department are not prepared to work with electricians assistants other than those who are members of the Electrical Trades Union, and that the Organiser if necessary give to the Borough Electrical Engineer such reasons in explanation of the resolution. I would be extremely obliged if you would let me have your comments upon this matter Sir, and should you feel it necessary to see the undersigned with regard to explaining the attitude of our members, I will be happy to wait upon you at your convenience together with our Shop Steward, Mr. W. J. Newell." 16th November, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser, E.T.U., to Borough Electrical Engineer. "My members having expressed concern with regard to dismissals in your Wiring Department, duly met and considered the position.

It was alleged that members of my Union in your Council's employ in this department had been dismissed in one instance the man concerned being Mr. Taylor, electrician, a member of my Union, who was informed that he was too slow on the job; I understand no other complaint is made by your offices with regard to this man. further members of my Union, Messrs. Millar and Thompkins, electrician and mate, were discharged, it is understood firstly because their work was not satisfactory, and secondly due to complaints of your consumer. My members in your Council's Wiring Department express considerable alarm at the position and I have been instructed at a meeting of those members to make request to your good self for consideration to be given to the reinstatement of these men in your Council's employ. I would further suggest that this matter could be discussed if you will kindly arrange a time and date when a small deputation of my London District Committee could wait upon you, my District Committee having considered the report arising from the meeting above mentioned. 19th November, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk (Mr.H.E.Dennis) to Secretary of Prade Union Side (Mr.F.W.Pugh) of Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement. "The Council side of the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement will be appointed by the Council on the 29th instant and a meeting of the Joint Council will be arranged as soon as possible thereafter to consider the several matters forwarded by you.

The Electricity Committee have also referred to the Joint Council correspondence with the Electrical Trades Union (copy enclosed) with regard to the engaging of electricians and electricians' mates, and an item will be placed on the agenda." - 2 -

23rd November, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser, E.T.U., to Town Clerk.

"My Committee having recently considered reports concerning the interests of my members employed in your Wiring Department, instructions were issued that your Borough Electrical Engineer be written to on the subject. Letters dated 9th and 16th November were therefore sent to your Borough Electrical Engineer on the instructions of my Committee; although I am assured by your Borough Electrical Engineer my letters were received and have had the attention of the appropriate Committee of your Council, my Committee note with regret no communica-

tion from your Council has reached these offices upon the subjects contained in the correspondence.

My Committee therefore would be extremely obliged if we could have your Council's desires both with regard to the complaints as contained in the correspondence and the request by my Committee that a small deputation be received to go into the questions affecting our

members in your Wiring Department. Could I further draw your attention to the urgency of the position and I am instructed by my Committee failing a reply within a reasonable period a report of the situation to date is to be placed before my members in the employment of your Council's Wiring Department. Could I therefore please have the desires of your Council upon the matter?"

24th November, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to London District Organiser, E.T.U.

"I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday's date, regarding the employees of the Council's Installations Department, and to state that this matter was before the Electricity Committee at their last meeting and was referred by them to the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement for consideration. An item will accordingly be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting of the Joint Council.

24th November, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to Secretary of Trade Union Side, Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement.

"With reference to my letter of the 19th instant, regarding the engaging of electricians and electricians' mates, I enclose copy of a letter which I have to-day received from the Electrical Trades Union on this matter, together with a copy of my reply.

I shall be glad to know if Tuesday, 4th December next, will be convenient for a meeting of the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement. If so, I will endeavour to make arrangements accordingly."

26th November, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk.

"I am in receipt of your favour of the 24th instant, the contents of which I note and for which I thank you. I await your further communication.

th November, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk.

"With reference to your letter dated 24th November, I am advised by my District Secretary, Mr. George Humphreys, that an item upon the agenda for the next Joint Council Wages Committee is 'Correspondence from the Electrical Trades Union on the subject of the Council's

Am I to understand in accordance with my letter to you that a

deputation of my District Committee will be asked to attend.

Could I please have an early reply to this urgent matter?" 1st December, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to the London District Organiser, E.T.U. "I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, and to inform you that it is not the practice of the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement to receive deputations." 4th December, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk. "I am in receipt of your favour of the 1st inst., for which I thank you, and my Committee notes therefrom, as we felt would be the position, that the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement Committee do not receive deputations. In view of that position could I draw your Council's attention to my letter addressed to the Engineer in the first instance, copy of which I furnished him again on the 16th November, wherein my Committee seek that a small deputation be received for the purpose of placing before your Council's Electricity Committee, in the capacity of the Employers, matters arising from complaints of members of my Union recently in your Council's employment, and the decision of members of my Union still in your Council's employment in the Installations Dept. My Committee feel that we should explore every channel with a view to the complaints of my members being investigated and therefore I am to again reiterate our request for a small deputation from my Committee to be received by the appropriate Committee of your Council to go into these matters. I am further to inform the that this question is becoming most upont and trust that inform you that this question is becoming most urgent and trust that we shall receive notice that the deputation will be received at the earliest possible date." 5th December, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to London District Organiser. "I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date and beg to state that as the Electricity Committee have referred the question to the Joint Council, I do not expect the Committee will receive the deputation. Your letter will, however, be submitted to the next meeting of the Electricity Committee. 6th December, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk. "I am in receipt of your favour of the 5th December, from which I note my letter of the 4th December will be submitted to the next meeting of your Electricity Committee.

I am however to inform you that my members employed in your Council's Installation Department are of the opinion that the subjects mentioned in my letters addressed to your Borough Electrical Engineer have not received the attention the important matters merit, and my members are therefore desirous that a deputation come before your Committee for the purpose of placing my members' complaints before that body before Wednesday next, 12th December.

I would further inform your Council that my District Committee are equally desirous of securing audience by that date and am to inform you that if the relationship between your Borough Council and my Union is to continue, that the deputation should be received before the date mentioned above." - 4 -

8th December, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to London District Organiser.

"Referring to your letter of the 6th instant (AWC/DM) I beg to inform you that the previous correspondence relating to employees of the Council's Installations Department was submitted to the last

meeting of the Electricity Committee.

You are, no doubt, aware that the Electrical Trades Union have entered into an agreement with the Council for dealing with questions of this nature and, in accordance with this agreement, the matters raised will be considered by the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement. Until the Joint Council have considered the matter I am afraid the Council's Committee are unable to make any decision thereon."

10th December, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk.

"I am in receipt of your favour of the 8th December and in reply would inform you my District Committee are not aware that any agreement has been entered into with your Council or any Joint Council to deal with questions of this nature covering the Installation Department and express surprise that your Council should suggest different.

Could I draw your attention to my letter dated 6th instant and impress upon you the urgency thereof. I am to inform you that unless the deputation is received as requested by my Committee by the appropriate Committee of your Council, in the capacity of representing my members' Employers, my Committée are not prepared to take the responsibility even though there may be a stoppage of work so far as your Installation Department is concerned.

In view of the urgency expressed above, could I have an assurance that in accordance with my Committee's desire to come before your Council, the deputation may be heard before Wednesday,

12th December.

11th December, 1934 - Letter of Town Clerk to London District Organiser.

"With reference to our telephonic conversation to-day, I enclose for your information a copy of the Joint Council Wages (No.2) Agreement, together with a copy of a letter from the Assistant General Secretary of the Electrical Trades Union dated 28th February, 1934.

28th February, 1934 - Letter of Assistant General Secretary (Mr.R. Prain) E.T.U., to Town Clerk.

"With further reference to your letters dated 22nd December 1933 and 19th February 1934 our Executive Committee have now decided to accept the Agreement referred to in your correspondence and this letter can be taken as the acceptance of our Executive Committee on behalf of the Union.

13th December, 1934 - Letter of London District Organiser to Town Clerk.

"I have to thank you for the Copy of Agreement enclosed with letter dated 11th instant.

I have noted the alteration in the Copy as per your telephone message.
Thanking you for same," KISH LIB

2nd February, 1935 - Letter of Area Secretary (Mr.G. Humphreys) E.T.U., to Town Clerk.

"I have to refer to the correspondence that has passed between our Mr. Coster, on the one hand, and Mr. Illingworth, Borough Electrical Engineer and yourself, on the other, and in which Mr. Coster made an application for your Electricity Committee to meet a deputation from my London Central Committee to discuss certain grievances affecting our members in the employ of the Installation Department and in regard to which my Committee have not received a favourable reply to date.

The whole of the above-mentioned facts have been referred to my Executive Council and again reviewed by my London Central Committee and, as a result, I am instructed to inform you that the Committee will withdraw all members from the Installation Department of your Council's Electricity Undertaking at the expiration of three days from the receipt of this letter by you.

It being reasonable to assume your receipt of this letter on Monday morning, 4th February, the notice will expire on Thursday morning, 7th instant.

I shall be pleased to hear from you if there is anything helpful to communicate to my Committee."

Council Offices, Poplar High Street, E.14.

Rev. E. A. Harrison

Te T. Radley St Grosh's Vicania PBO E.g. 18/3/35 Dlar In handring Fragic me for troubling you again, it the Roddly 200 but I dichar you the letter secured from the humatry of now they only tachet leability for person, shottad dans alase of as before treatment fellowances of pension, for as you king the case was defultely duly to Hor Sensey In fall, the allawances 4 weight meluded was & 3/0/6, this has now bew reduced for you will sel, to 28/-. Through that you on splindly introsted in this trase 2 g of you could advise me what to do I should be most grateful . I dan h and anxious todo what I know for Mus Radley your Smerity (Re) E.a. Homson

ze T. Radley

19. iii. 35.

Dear Mr. Hanson,

I am writing to the Ministry of Pensions about Radley and the Ministry accepting liability for his treatment at Claybury. But I do not quite understand the question of the pension. Did Mrs. Radley receive more than 28/- while her husband was being treated in the Ministry of Pensions hospital? You see, you say "all the allowances and everything included was £3. Os. 6d. and what I do not understand is the question of allowances.

If these were in connection with Mr.
Radley, then now he is in the mental hospital
they will naturally stop because he will be
getting his treatment there. Perhaps you
will let me know. The point is, did Mrs.
Radley receive £3. Os. 6d. while her husband was
in the M.O.P. hospital?

I will let you have the Minister's reply when it comes to hand. I think if you know the local British Legion people that it would be a good thing to get them to take up the case as well: it will do no harm if they will do so.

Yours very truly,

Rev. E.A.Hanson, St. Marks Vicarage,



re T. Radley

19. iii. 35.

Dear Major Tryon,

May I call your attention to the case of Thomas Radley about whom your officials wrote on March 13th to his wife (AM2503.C.8).

This man has been under treatment for years in your hospitals and also at hom, and is now, I am informed in the London County Council Mental Hospital at Claybury.

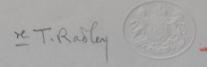
We are all extremely anxious that liability for this man should be accepted by your Department. I understand it had been the rule for some years that these cases were not allowed to come under the Public Assistance Institutions.

I shall be much obliged if you will look into this case. I think you will probably remember the case as we have had previous correspondence in reference to the man

I am,

The Rt.Hon.Major Tryon, M.P.,
Ministry of Pensions,
S.W.1.





(198

MINISTRY OF PENSIONS,
SANCTUARY BUILDINGS,
18, GREAT SMITH STREET,
S.W.1.

20 March, 1935.

Dear Mr Landbury

I write to thank you for your letter of the 19th March concerning the case of Mr. Thomas Radley, at present a patient in the London County Council Mental Hospital, Claybury.

I am looking into the matter and hope to write to you again shortly.

yes su 2

The Rt.Hon. G. Lansbury, J.P., M.P., House of Commons, S.W.1.



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VICTORIA MARK'S HALL. PARK. E.9 MARK'S GATE. Ap. 10, 11, 18 (4 POLITICAL W Thanh you ve Om Kadly, 9 I have just visited Ohns Madly, of 105 Codogo Radly received to 3/0/6, while h w the humsky Kadly was being treated Pensions Kospital, this included the the 3 children. One of allavorus for granted is now out at not,

wages being 14/6 a week, 45/ this he gives his mother 10/-. He is handrapped as justime physically, as he has inputely povalysis, voit of the 7/6 he hup his and clothes. The other two chelors on still at school. Thus Radly did recent the £ 3/0/6 while her husband was in the her. O. P. Bospital, & Fercher you some of the papers or connection with the case. I feil son you will do you best, as it is a tempe struggle, for as . Headly of ever berong ony better, & I and auxious that justice shall be done. At the same time, I will get the Boutish hegen interested as you suggest.