

258

G. P.

at 52, Clare Court,  
W.C.1.

Wm. Strang Esq.,  
The Foreign Office.

27th September 1938

My dear Strang,

1) Seeing there is the basis in fact for what Herr Hitler said last night about Monsieur Benes, charging him with responsibility for an initial "lie" regarding the population question, in the creation of Czechoslovakia, has everything possible been done, or can anything now be done, to acknowledge that fact to Herr Hitler

- a) by M. Benes
- b) by the British and French Ministers especially as regards our share of responsibility for the initial misrepresentation?

The same question applies, as regards M. Benes, to the misrepresentation of fact regarding the alleged German mobilisation and alleged discontinuance of it under British and French pressure, in the summer, and also to the recent Czech assertion that the Czech mobilisation was officially advised by Britain and France.

I feel deeply that acknowledgement of these errors, to Hitler, as a man who is indignant and angry, may be a vital necessity now for peace.

2) I feel that Hitler cannot withdraw before solemn warnings; his position, his personal and the national psychology, possibly his principles, prevent it. Some way must be found of saving peace by saving Hitler's face.



M449

G.P.  
259  
Wm. Strang Esq.,  
The Foreign Office.

- 2 -

27th September 1938

Can the Czechs make the following offer now:

that before or on Saturday they will withdraw military, police, and administration from the Sudeten areas, relinquishing them to a mixed neutral force or to the British Legion or International Ex-Service men (Sir Ian Hamilton)?

Can the Germans be asked, on these terms, to halt their troops at the frontier or even to withdraw them a distance? This might be, to them, a march home after a bloodless victory. The thought came to me a few weeks ago "He will order his troops to march, but it will be in the opposite direction."

Even if the Germans insisted on marching in on Saturday this would not, with a neutral force of some kind in occupation, and the Czech forces withdrawn, be an invasion of Czechoslovakia. Could the Czech offer be made in such a way that it is clear that even this possibility, of the Germans going in, is not finally rejected - or if not, could it be made now as a conditional offer as above?

You will understand that only under great constraint would I approach you in this manner.

With kindest regards and warmest thoughts for yourself

Yours sincerely  
G.P.



M449

G.P.

260

at 52, Clare Court,  
W.C.1.

27th September 1938

My dear Strang,

Acting on a suggestion from George Lansbury, I am asking you whether you would, if you feel it right to do so, bring the contents of my letter to the immediate attention of the Prime Minister. I am thinking of his broadcast to-night, and of every possibility.

Last night Lansbury sent a night-letter telegram to Dr. Benes, a copy of which I enclose for your interest, *and any use.*

Yours sincerely

GP

Wm. Strang Esq.,  
The Foreign Office.



M449

FACULTY OF DIVINITY

(TELEPHONE 25438)



NEW COLLEGE

THE MOUND

EDINBURGH, 1

(261)

Rev. Norman Walker  
Porteous (1898 -

27th September, 1938.

The Right Hon. George Lansbury, M.P.,

Sir,

A letter is being dispatched to-night in the name of a number of Scottish Clergymen to the Prime Minister, putting certain constructive proposals before him which, it is felt, might be worthy of his consideration in the present grave international crisis. One of these seems to be particularly relevant to the immediate issue and I venture most respectfully to put it before you. The Prime Minister has given a pledge to Germany that Britain will see that the

terms of the agreement with Czechoslovakia are scrupulously carried out. Should he not also give a pledge to Czechoslovakia that British wealth and economic assistance will be at the disposal of Czechoslovakia to recompense her for the enormous sacrifices which are being demanded of her and to assure for her a prosperous and happy future? This would be an answer to those who say that we are throwing Czechoslovakia to the wolves and it would be an act of sacrifice on our part which might unite the country as even a call to arms would not do.

The other proposals are that a conference with Germany on all outstanding issues, including colonies and raw materials, should be offered without delay and that an attempt should be made to reach the German people by broadcasting.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Professor) Norman W. Porteus M449



Charges to pay

s. d.

RECEIVED

*H. Williams*

**POST OFFICE  
TELEGRAM**

No. *262*  
OFFICE STAMP

0 P.M.  
\*  
27 SP  
38  
4

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

D 170 4.46 LINCOLN 124

From

*Red*

To

IMMEDIATE = GEORGE LANSBURY 39 ROW RD LONDON E 3 =

DO PLEASE MAKE FURTHER DESPERATE EFFORTS FOR PEACE  
CANNOT AMERICAN PRESIDENT PERSUADE BENES OR OTHER  
PRESSURE BE BROUGHT TO BEAR UPON HIM TO CANCEL  
MOBILIZATION AND TO RENEW NEGOTIATIONS WHY SHOULD  
THOUSANDS UPON THOUSANDS OF INNOCENT AND UNPROTECTED  
WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN ENGLAND BE SLAUGHTERED JUST

x c  
c

Charges to pay

s. d.

RECEIVED

H. Williams

39 3 4  
**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**

No. 263  
OFFICE STAMP



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

5.42P

m

From

RS

To

BECAUSE FRANCE MADE A PACT WITH CZECHS WHY SHOULD ENGLAND BE DRAGGED INTO WAR SURELY HAVING POINTED OUT HOW PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT CAN BE REACHED ENGLAND CAN NOW STAND ASIDE AND TELL THE WORLD THAT WAR DOES NOT END AND THAT HER ARMS ARE FOR DEFENCE CZECHS ARE STANDING FIRM BECAUSE THEY ARE RELYING UPON OTHER COUNTRIES GO TO SUPPORT HER NO SUCH SUPPORT WAS GIVEN TO ABYSSINIA

enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

= H WILLIAMS +

Charges to pay  
s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIVED

*Altonby,*

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**

No. \_\_\_\_\_  
OFFICE STAMP



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

**51**

From \_\_\_\_\_

351 2.25 HEATONMOOR MR 14

To \_\_\_\_\_ *264*

GEORGE LANDSBURY PARLIAMENT WESTMINSTER

WITH YOU IN DEMANDING AN INTERNATIONAL PEACE  
CONFERENCE NOW = ALTONBY + +

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C

Charges to pay  
s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_  
RECEIVED

*Barrett, Rev. Grosvenor and F. Cecil*

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**

No. *265*  
OFFICE STAMP



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

**32**

From \_\_\_\_\_

32 10.40 COLCHESTER 34

To \_\_\_\_\_

LANDSBURY HOUSE OD COMMONS LONDON

HAVE SENT FOLLOWING TO CHAMBERLAIN URGE CHECKS ACCEPT OFF  
FULL FREE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE OPEN WORLD FUND TO  
RE-ESTABLISH INDUSTRIES = REV GROSVENOR AND F CECIL BARRETT  
26 ELMSTEAD RD COLCHESTER + + + +

For free repetition at office of delivery

CS CT REV GROSVENOR + +

CT 26 + + + +

B or C



Charges to pay  
s. d.  
RECEIVED

*Bell, -*

POST OFFICE  
TELEGRAM



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

*4.32* m **22**  
From *TA*



222 12.8 SOUTH MLTON 60

GEORGE LANSBURY HOUSE-OF-COMMONS

*M449*

AS A PRACTICAL MOVE TO EASE PRESENT CONFLICT AND SPREAD BROTHERLY LOVE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WE SUGGEST THAT AN UNARMED ARMY OF VISITORS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY TRAVEL TO GERMANY AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO FRATERNIZE WITH THE PEOPLE AND CONVINCE THEM OF OUR PACIFIC AND FRIENDLY DESIRE OTHER NATIONS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED TO TAKE THE SAME STEPS

For free repetition of order at office of delivery. Other **BELL** 4395 \* ENQUIRY or call, with this form its form and, if possible, the envelope. B or C

Charges to pay  
s. d.

*Curry, -*

RECEIVED  
Central Telegraph  
Office, E.C.1.

POST OFFICE  
TELEGRAM

No. *267*  
OFFICE STAMP



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

*1.12* m **28**  
From *TA wife*

28 12.50 TOTNES TA 60

TELEGRAPH LETTER MR GEORGE LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON  
= IMPLORE ON BEHALF OF NUMEROUS FELLOW CITIZENS THAT BEFORE WORLD ENGAGES IN UNSPEAKABLE CALAMITY OF WAR GREAT BRITAIN SHOULD PROPOSE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR REVISION OF VERSAILLES AND REDRESS OF GRIEVANCES INCLUDING OFFER OF SACRIFICE AND CONCESSION BY BRITAIN HERSELF AND THAT THIS PROPOSAL BE BROADCAST IN ALL LANGUAGES = CURRY DARTINGTON TOTNES +

*with*

B or C

Charges to pay  
s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

*Eddington*

No. 268  
OFFICE STAMP

RECEIVED  
Central Telegraph  
Office, E.C.I.

# POST OFFICE TELEGRAM



*10 26 AM*

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

m **25**

From 225 9.54 NORWICH 19

*Amk*

To HOUSE OF COMMONS  
28 38  
m

GEORGE LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON

= OUR PRAYERS AND UPHOLDING ARE WITH YOU TODAY ARTHUR  
AND DORIS EDDINGTON NORWICH \*\*

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

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s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

*League of Nations Union:  
Christchurch Branch*

No. 0507  
OFFICE STAMP

RECEIVED  
at Central Tele-  
graph Office, E.C. I.

# POST OFFICE TELEGRAM



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

8.33 PM m

From SEM

7.31 PM CHRISTCHURCH

45

To

269  
LEICESTER  
28  
\*  
S.S. 28

GEORGE LANSBURY ESQ MP HOUSE OF COMMONS LDN

PLEASE URGE HIS MAJESTYS GOVERNMENT TO REQUEST  
PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT TO APPROACH GERMAN CHANCELLOR  
WITH A VIEW TO CALLING A CONFERENCE TO SETTLE ALL  
OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS

CHRISTCHURCH BRANCH OF LEAGUE OF NATIONS UNION  
AND SUPPORTERS OF OTHER ORGANISATION

For free repetitio of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

(00843) W.T. 38594 500m. 2/58 Ev. G.030

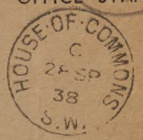
Charges to pay  
s. d.

*Morrison, Edward*

No. **270**  
OFFICE STAMP

RECEIVED

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**



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

*3.16g*

m **54**

From *4*

154 1.44 LONDON T 34

To

RT HON GEORGE LANSBURY PC HOUSE OF COMMONS

= SUGGEST APPEALING TO HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY KAISER

WILHELM THE SECOND TO MAKE BROADCAST APPEAL

EX-SUBJECTS FOR PEACE = EDWARD MORRISON MB 57

STNALEY AVENUE WEMBLEY + *57* +



*M449*

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C

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s. d.

*Peace Pledge Union*

No. OFFICE STAMP

RECEIVED  
Central Telegraph  
Office, E.C.I.

*Manchester Region*

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**



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

m **87**

From *3.10PM*

287 2.17 MANCHESTER T 20

To

**MR E**

LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON

= MANCHESTER REGION PEACE PLEDGE UNION SENDS

GOOD WISHES AND SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL PEACE

CONFERENCE = KIRKLEY +

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C

pay

d.

*[anonymous]*

No. 272

OFFICE STAMP

RECEIVED  
Central Telegraph  
Office, E.C.1.

POST  OFFICE  
TELEGRAM

PARLIAMENTARY  
28 SEP 1938  
LONDON

PM 6 55

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

39

From 439 5.10 MANCHESTER Y 76 To \_\_\_\_\_

MR G

LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON

= PEACE OR WAR CZECHOSLOVAKIA WILL SUFFER PEACE IS THE

LESSER OF TWO EVILS AND WILL LOCALISE THE SUFFERING WHICH

CAN BE ALLEVIATED BY FINANCIAL COMPENSATION BY WESTERN POWERS

WHY NOT SAVE EUROPE BY ACCEDING TO ULTIMATUM EVEN THOUGH IT

MAY MERELY BE STAVING OFF WAR TIME MAY ENABLE THE

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

pay

d.

RECEIVED  
at Central Telegraph Office, E.C. 1.

[unsigned]

No.

(273)

OFFICE STAMP

# POST OFFICE TELEGRAM



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

MR G

m

m

From

Lansbury Hse of Commons  
Ldn

To

ADJUSTMENT OF OTHER PROBLEMS WAR CAN ONLY MULTIPLY

AND INTENSIFY THEM ANY RISK FOR PEACE IS PREFERABLE TO

MAKING WAR A CERTAINTY ++

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

(34899) N.C. 2742, 8.00

JAMES  
NORBURY  
JOURNALIST  
& LECTURER

Peace Pledge Union

15, Stanhope Street,  
Levenshulme,  
MANCHESTER.

274

28th. September 1938.

The Rt. Hon. George Lansbury. M.P.  
House of Commons,  
LONDON. W. I.

Dear George,

It is now many years since we first met and discussed together the ideals that we held in common. I, and the group of friends who have signed this letter, are co-operating in writing to assure you that the torch of peace is being held aloft in Manchester and will be kept burning no matter how dark the clouds may be or how difficult the days may become. The Peace Pledge Union must become a vital force in the present hour. It must be a life-giving fountain of strength and fellowship and inspiration to all who are striving to give uncompromising fidelity to the cause of peace and fellowship and justice throughout the world. We will stand firm in the cause of constructive peace,

Yours fraternally,

Edwin Rathwell  
D. H. P. H. H. H.  
A. H. Decheke  
William J. Hyon  
G. J. Lawson  
Jan Barton.

James P. Tolson  
Stephen C. Allouby  
E. Kathleen Allouby  
Hester Kibler  
Christine Fullerton  
Norman Andrews  
Dorothy L. Smith  
Alex Thompson  
Bernard Ingelby  
Raymond O. Wyld  
R. Arnsley Skilston  
H. Arnsley



M449

Charges to pay  
\_\_\_\_\_ s. \_\_\_\_\_ d.

RECEIVED

*Porteous,* —

**POST OFFICE TELEGRAM**



No. 275  
OFFICE STAMP



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

**75**

*1-29*  
\_\_\_\_\_ m  
From \_\_\_\_\_

75 11.30 NOTTINGHAM 17

To \_\_\_\_\_ m

LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS LONDON =

= CAN THE KING INTERVENE PROPOSING IMMEDIATE CZECH  
EVACUATION UNDER JOINT SAFEGUARDS = = PORTEOUS ++

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

Charges to pay

s. d.

RECEIVED

Summers, —

POST OFFICE TELEGRAM

No. 276

OFFICE STAMP



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

82

82 11.50 EARLS COURT EXHIBITION 52

From

To

GEORGE LANSBURY HOUSE OF COMMONS =

SINCERELY URGE DISENTANGLEMENT FROM EUROPEAN CRISIS AAA  
DESPITE PARTY LEADERS VIEWS AM CONVINCED BULK OF PEOPLE  
DONT WANT TO BE INVOLVED AGAIN IN A WAR WHICH DOES NOT  
IMMEDIATELY CONCERN US AAA SUGGEST YOU PRESS FOR REFERENDUM  
HERE BEFORE IRREVOCABLE DECISION TAKEN

= SUMMERS 7 VERMONT RD UPPERNORWOOD ++

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQ  
at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form

CT 7 ++

m e. B or C C



(248899) Wk. 2742b 8,000 paid 12/30 H.V. T.5440

Charges to pay

s. \_\_\_\_\_ d. \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED  
at Central Tele-  
graph Office, E.C. 1.

Women's Co-operative  
Guild

**POST OFFICE**  
  
**TELEGRAM**

No. 277

OFFICE STAMP

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

*AMM*



\_\_\_\_\_ m

3.4

From DEB

12.42 EASTERN DISTRICT OFFICE 77

To \_\_\_\_\_ m

GEORGE LANSBURY LABOUR MP HOUSE OF COMMONS WESTMINSTER.

WOMENS CO-OPERATIVE GUILD PLEAD FOR YOUR IMMEDIATE  
SUPPORT AND ACTION FOR THIS MESSAGE SENT TO PRIME MINISTER  
WOMENS CO-OPERATIVE GUILD REPRESENTING OVER 83000 WOMEN  
DEMAND YOU MAKE KNOWN TO GERMAN PEOPLE THROUGH  
SIMULTANEOUS BROADCAST IN GERMAN ON DIFFERENT WAVELENGTHS  
FROM VARIOUS CAPITALS A DIRECT APPEAL TO THE GERMAN PEOPLE  
FOR SETTLEMENT BY REASON AND NOT BY WAR FOR THE SAKE OF  
HUMANITY EVERYWHERE WE DEMAND REASON INSTEAD OF FORCE +

For free repetition of doubtful words telephone "TELEGRAMS ENQUIRY" or call, with this form at office of delivery. Other enquiries should be accompanied by this form and, if possible, the envelope.

B or C  
C

Evangelical Free Churches

278

From

Wilbert Francis  
The Rev. Dr. W. F. Howard  
(1880 - 1952)

OAKFIELD,  
FRIARY ROAD,  
HANDSWORTH WOOD,  
BIRMINGHAM 20

Telephone: NOR. 0948

Oct. 1, 1938.

The Right Honourable  
George Lansbury, Esq., P.C.

Dear Mr Lansbury,

It has come to my knowledge that many members of the Representative Council of the Evangelical Free Churches of Birmingham are thinking of you at this time of national rejoicing and hope, and are filled with gratitude at the remembrance of your devoted labours in the service of international peace and friendship.

They admire the splendid faith and hope which inspire you at your advanced age to undertake such heroic labours in bearing far and wide your witness to the belief that good will can bridge the widest and deepest gulfs that separate men and nations, and that under the divine guidance the world may be led out of the way of war into the joyful serenity of peace.

May I be allowed on behalf of very many others to assure you of the grateful affection in which you are held by men of all parties and of none? We pray that on you may fall the beatitude of the peacemaker, and that you may prove the truth of the scripture which declares "And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace for them that make peace"

With warmest regards,

Yours very sincerely,  
Wilbert F. Howard

(President for 1938-9 of the Representative Council  
of the Evangelical Free Churches of Birmingham)

Rev. Duncan Gordon Macpherson

279

October 1<sup>st</sup> 1938

43, MANOR PARK,  
REDLAND,  
BRISTOL. 6.

My dear Mr. Lausbury,

Amid all the applause & gratitude being offered to Mr. Chamberlain at this time, & indeed he deserves all the credit he is receiving, I feel I want to send to you a few lines of very deep and heart felt thanks.

I had the pleasure of lunching with you at Mr. Love's, when you spoke at his dinner-hour service at St. Peter's (City) Bristol, and I learnt from you, at first hand, what you were doing to help forward the cause of peace. I have followed your visits to the Continent with interest & prayer, since I first knew what you were doing - even before I met you - and I feel that a large measure of the success of the last conference is due to the selfless preparation you have given & made to the events which to-day are enjoining the hearts of millions. And so I say to you Thank you.

Y<sup>rs</sup> sincerely

(Rev) D. G. Macpherson

Our Church Congress (for which I am Secretary) begins tomorrow, & proceeds throughout next week. I hope & pray that by God's blessing it may have a very special significance.

Hill, Catherine M.

280

40 Warwick Road  
Wanstead E11

Sunday evening

2<sup>nd</sup> Oct.  
1938

Dear Mr Lansbury

For some time it has been my intention to tell you of an incident that refers to your brave and noble mission to Herr Hitler and to Mussolini. My sister and I were visiting a dear soul who lives now in Hastings but was an anti East Londoner. She referred to your journey to the dictators and told us that she spent much time in prayer for you that no harm might happen to you and that your message might get through to those you visited. Just at this moment we in our house are listening in to the Thanksgiving Service, instead of being bombed! How much of our gratitude may be

due to you, Mr Lansbury for paving  
the way, and explaining to Herr Hitler,  
the will of us all, for peace.

The gratitude so many of us feel  
would like to find a practical  
outcome in a fund for those who  
have made the great sacrifice  
the Czechs. So many people are  
sorry, deeply sorry, and the Czech  
message to us is that their sons  
are commended to the British and  
French people. Will such a fund be  
possible! With thanks for all you  
have said and done, in the cause  
of Peace.

Yours gratefully  
Catherine M. Hill

London  
Card of Appreciation



M449

281

MOSLEY COMMON METHODIST CHURCH, BOOTHSTOWN, NR. MANCHESTER.

3rd. October, 1938.

*Acknowledged*

Dear Friend,

Will you kindly consider the enclosed manifesto on the urgency of using the present situation for renewed efforts for world peace? ~~Will you kindly bring it before your Bible Classes, Guild or Church organisation in some appropriate way?~~ It was drawn up by the signatories and signed by 66 members of our little chapel on Sunday October 2nd, following a discussion at the united Bible Classes on the urgency of a new and bigger effort of all Christians and other citizens for world peace.

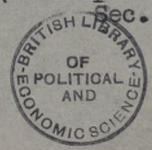
The Classes appointed Mr. Leslie Hope, of 28, New Row, Mosley Common, Boothstown, Nr. Manchester, as correspondence secretary, and all correspondence should be directed to him.

We think that all Bible Classes, Guilds and similar meetings should consider these questions, and we shall be pleased to help by ~~supplying speakers or answering~~ questions, and we welcome suggestions and help from all.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) Bertrand J. Coggle (Minister).  
William Johnson.  
Oliver Howarth.  
Edwin Roscoe.  
Arthur Lloyd.

Leslie Hope. (Correspondence Sec.)



M449

Mosley Common Methodist Church  
with 30 Oct. 1938

2nd. October 1938.

282

We declare that the Churches must not lose the opportunity, as they did in 1919, of rising to the challenge of a supreme opportunity of leading the nations to rebuild the life of the world upon sure foundations of justice and peace. We have all been on the edge of a terrible calamity. Our relief should not be dissipated in mere emotion but should lead to definite acts of peace making. We therefore call upon all those who call themselves Christians to make the most strenuous efforts to ensure that the Churches of which they are members give effective practical support to the following programme by teaching it and preaching it and by every other means which are likely to promote the programme.

□ □ □

1. The building of a system of international law and order.
2. International disarmament as a proof of the sincerity of the Hitler-Chamberlain pact.
3. The calling of a World Conference to secure justice and appeasement by removal of restrictions on trade according to the principles of the Van Zeeland report.
4. Generous and practical recompense should be given by Britain and France to relieve distress in Czecho-Slovakia.
5. The confession that war is contrary to God's will, and that it is a crude weapon which does not always punish the guilty but injures the innocent.
6. Repentance for our own selfishness, pride and fear, both national and personal, and personal dedication to Christ's way of life.



M449

Bishop, W. O.  
of Peace Pledge Union

283  
51, COTTENHAM PARK ROAD,  
WIMBLEDON, S.W.20.

3/10/38

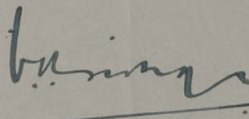
Mr. George Lansbury, M.P.,  
House of Commons,  
Westminster.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

I suggest that now is the time to urge upon the Prague government a policy of complete and permanent disarmament. It is apparent that for any small nation armaments are completely useless as a protection ; indeed, their existence is more likely to provoke disaster than to prevent it. Their effective use must depend upon the collaboration of some more powerful neighbour, and the occasion for such collaboration - as events have shown - will be chosen by the neighbour without regard to the interests of the small nation.

I am sure that Dr. Benes would see the logic of this if it were put to him.

Yours sincerely,



W.O. Bishop.

(P.P.U.)



M449



CAERNARVON BRANCH OF THE PEACE PLEDGE UNION.

284

'Bryn Heulog',  
Segontium Road,  
Caernarvon.  
October 3rd, 1938.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

At a meeting of the Peace Pledge Union Branch at Caernarvon last night I was asked to convey to you our deep appreciation of the work you have done in the past months in preparing the way to the solution of international problems through negotiation and not through war.

We sincerely hope that your efforts to call an International Conference to settle all disputes through peaceful negotiation and to remove the economic causes of war will soon be realized.

We thank you for all your efforts in the past and pray that you will have health and strength to lead and to inspire all lovers of peace "until they all shall be one"

Yours respectfully,

R. R. Pritchard (Hon. Sec.)



M449

The Vicarage

Gulval

Penzance

285

Rev. Charles Hector

Simon Buckley

Oct. 4. 1935.

Dear Mr Lansbury

I read with great  
joy your contribution to the Debate  
yesterday.

No one pretends that every or indeed  
any human effort is without flaws  
and imperfections.

Trust and Love are mutual agents  
- we shall never win love if we do  
not project our lives towards the  
others in Trust. The Divine Spark  
is in everyone and everything that  
can love, and we must try and  
find it.

I wish the same rapprochement  
that the Prime Minister has made  
towards Germany, could be extended  
to Soviet Russia - Then we should

be beginning<sup>2</sup> to understand the hearts  
and minds of the three leading lines of  
government in the civilized world.

Till we understand men's hearts, we shall  
often misjudge their actions.

I am a no-party person, (as I  
have voted in every way) but I do thank  
you for what you have been doing  
for the Cause of Peace, as the Establi-  
ment of the Kingdom of Love among  
Men of all Classes, Creeds, and Nations

Yours Sincerely

Charles H.S. Buckley



M449

Peace Pledge Union  
(Raymond F. Matchett)

To Mrs Wall, " (286)  
"Woodview"  
Plymouth Road,  
Buckfastleigh,  
Devon

Oct 4th 1938

Dear Mr Lansbury,

May I thank you for the splendid way in which, during the past days, you have voiced the real Pacifist view of the Czecho-slovak, problem. It is good to know that in spite of the hysterical press headlines, there is some Christian reasoning left.

Next I should like to make a suggestion. We have proved that war can be avoided, and at the moment everyone feels great relief, but people forget very easily, and if the Premier's hopes are to be realised and we are to establish a lasting peace I think we must keep alive the sense of gratitude to God, and be prepared to sacrifice in our turn something for peace. To help

in this I thought a Peace Day, or day of  
thanksgiving, might help. We have  
Armistice Day, but the ~~work~~ gratitude  
we should have felt last Friday  
should have been every bit as great as  
that experienced in 1918. I am only an  
obscure member of the P.P.U. but you are  
in a position to judge the practicability  
of such an idea and to help set it in  
operation.

Could we not somehow establish an  
annual celebration to remind the people  
of the blessings of peace, and the need  
for sacrifice so fully realised at the  
moment, but in danger of being forgotten  
if nothing is done.

My sincerest wishes follow all  
your work,

Raymond F. Matchett



M449

TELEPHONE,  
NORTHWOOD 360.

R. R. Plowman

(287)

RED STACKS,  
COPSEWOOD,  
NORTHWOOD,  
MIDD<sup>X</sup>.

4<sup>th</sup> Oct 1938

Dear Sir,

I have been reading the debate in the House on Monday with much interest. I am a conservative & a business man. As a layman to politics, I think a lot of froth was put forward in elegant language in criticism of the Gov<sup>t</sup>.

My purpose in writing to you is to congratulate you on your speech which I was delighted to read & which I most thoroughly endorse I have held for years past as I know you have, that the fundamental

problem of Europe is bread +  
butter. I believe the solving of  
this problem is of more importance  
than any other if peace is to be  
maintained. How it is to be  
done I don't know but I believe it  
to be of vital importance to Europe.

You can't satisfy a hungry man  
with words or treaties. You must  
give him bread + if you do this  
he will be your friend.

I trust your efforts towards



R. R. Plowman

TELEPHONE,  
NORTHWOOD 360.

404.4/38

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RED STACKS,  
COPSEWOOD,  
NORTHWOOD,  
MIDD<sup>X</sup>.

him with bread will meet with  
success

Yours truly

R. R. Plowman

W. Lansbury  
House of Commons

# THE LAND WORKER

EDITOR: H. B. POINTING

289

Journal of THE NATIONAL UNION OF  
AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

Telephone: TERMINUS 3913

Telegrams: NATAGRIC, KINCROSS, LONDON

Headland House,

308 Gray's Inn Road W.C.1

4.10.38.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

I wanted to say how much I personally appreciated your speech in the House yesterday; I admired its clarity & force, and the courage behind it. I am sure you are right.

Sincerely  
H.B. Pointing



M449



John A. Callender

(290)

121 Lothian Road,  
Edinburgh, 5<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1938.  
George Lausbury, Esq.  
M. P.

---

Dear Sir,

I sincerely hope  
you will take a leaf  
from the late John  
Bright to whom I liken  
you in many respects,  
in your great efforts  
to save the world from  
the terrible cataclasm  
of war, if you address  
the House of Commons  
tomorrow.

Surely it is better  
for the World that the  
Prime Minister should  
have brought

"The greatest relief"  
rather than  
"The greatest grief"  
out of the very valley  
of the shadow of  
Death.

Some people say he  
brought Peace but  
not Honour I wonder  
how much Honour  
he would have brought  
if he had brought back  
World War.

(291)  
Did you ever see  
the hand of God  
more unmistakably  
in evidence than it was  
last week.

One could almost  
hear the fluttering of  
the "Doves of Peace"  
over Europe.

The sun's "Shield"  
of God was over the  
Peoples of the Earth  
and all the powers  
of Hell were swept  
aside like chaff  
before the wind.

Hoping you will

29<sup>th</sup> Make the speech of  
the debate.

Fraternally Yours  
John A. Callender

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[Wed.] 5 Oct. 1938

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A meeting of the Pacifist Members of Parliament, over which George Lansbury presided, decided to abstain from voting on Thursday and agreed on the following statement:-

[? 29 Sept.]

While appreciating the sincere efforts of the Prime Minister and others to avert immediate war, a war made possible through the bankruptcy of European statesmanship, we remain convinced that violence and war cannot bring peace to the world. We, therefore, strongly oppose any intensification of the race in armaments and proposals made by eminent people for industrial and military conscription. Peace will only be secured when nations are willing to co-operate in sharing the resources and markets of the world, and in a complete abandonment by all countries of imperial, economic and political domination. We whole-heartedly support the demand for a world conference of all nations to secure economic co-operation and the removal of territorial and other grievances.

5th October, 1938.



M449

Minister  
REV. FREDERICK HUDSON,  
437 BARKING ROAD,  
LONDON, E. 13.

Telephone  
GRANGEWOOD 2483.

Deaconess  
SISTER MAY DUTTON.

Coloured Peoples' Institute  
PASTOR F. E. ROBB.

Methodist Church

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THE SEAMEN'S MISSION,  
CANNING TOWN BRANCH,  
(BARKING ROAD METHODIST CHURCH)  
LONDON, E. 16.

6<sup>th</sup> Oct 1938.

Dear Mr Lansbury,

As a humble member of the rank and file of Methodist Ministers I write to assure you of my whole-hearted agreement with the stand made by the Pacifist Members of Parliament to-day. As you yourself have urged so often, a world Conference of leading statesmen should be called at once to find definite ways of appeasement, by removing the causes of war and securing economic co-operation and the removal of territorial and other grievances.

While the memory of last week's horror is fresh in the minds of all, why is the first step not being taken towards a federation of Europe? The will of the common people everywhere is for peace. The politicians go blindly on for "security", which means more and bombing planes until Hell it is let loose.

You have earned the respect and will be supported by the prayers of thousands who believe in the possibility of the Christian ideal.

Yours faithfully,  
Frederick Hudson.



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1937

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Edward Turnour  
(6th Earl Winterston; 1883—

Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W. 1.

2nd November, 1938.

My dear Lansbury,

I have looked into the case of Mr. Leopold  
Jellinek, about whom you wrote to Lloyd on the  
27th September, and you will be glad to hear that  
he has now been granted an extension to enable  
him to continue his studies in this country.

Sincerely Yours,

Walter R.

The Right Honourable  
G. Lansbury, M.P.



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The under hand  
Henry Hooley



Mr. Erwin Strunz,  
c/-Nr Mr. Hubert Butler,  
etc.

Hubert Butler

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ANNAGH-MA-KERRIG,  
NEWBLISS,  
CO MONAGHAN,  
IRELAND.

Send a note  
say will do what I  
can & write to you  
the day tomorrow or day  
think planning with  
for letter.

Nov. 3. [1938]

[see fol. 302  
below]

Dear Mr Lansbury,

I don't know if you'll remember me paying  
you a short visit this summer to discuss question of  
refugee camps. Mrs Mumford gave me an introduction  
from. I'm over here now ~~that~~ trying to get a small  
one into action ~~here~~ in Ireland.

I found to-day that an Austrian refugee  
who is staying with us had written to you the attached  
letter. I am afraid you must get many such and can  
have little time to deal with them. At the same I did  
not discourage him from sending it, as, who knows, perhaps  
you might feel inclined to help him. We know him and  
his family very well, and can give him & them the



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the very highest recommendations. He is a great friend to  
of Emma Cadbury, who is in charge of the Friends House  
in Vienna, and she has given him a letter of recommendation  
that over here as representative of the 'Kagan Group', a group  
of agriculturally trained refugees, in whom she & the other  
Friends in Vienna take a special interest.

Of course don't bother to answer me, but  
I should be very grateful if you or your secretary  
could give Edwin Strung some advice.

I'm going back to Vienna in a month's time. Have you  
seen Conrad Hoffmann's scheme for refugee camps? What do you  
think of them?

Yours sincerely

Hubert Butler

---

---

P.S. If you see Mrs Mumpford please tell her I am ~~not~~ still  
deeply taken with her ideas of a camp, but haven't  
written because I'm overwhelmed by an experiment on  
a small scale in Kut line over here - & will be  
very influenced by its success or failure.

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Home Office,  
Whitehall,  
S.W. 1.

3rd November, 1938.

Dear Private Secretary,

The Home Secretary asks me to express his regret that you have not had an earlier reply to your letter of the 12th October about the case of Dr. Wilhelm Solzbacher. An authorisation by telegram was, however, sent to the British Consul in Luxembourg on the 31st October under which Dr. Solzbacher would be allowed to make a visit of two weeks to this country.

Yours faithfully,

*J. R. Inlow*

Private Secretary.

The Private Secretary to  
The Right Hon. G. Lansbury, J.P., M.P.



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to } for G. L. E.  
German Embassy in London } see fol. 299  
 this is the German Ambassador  
 Dr. Herbert von Dirksen 3-11-1938

Dear Sir

re Dr Max Wachstein

Please excuse this letter. I write under great pressure from friends who desire friendships with your great nation & who quite understand how difficult it is ~~to~~ for you to act as me so often ask you to do. Some friends who have relatives in prison or camps are terribly worried. I think you may have heard of Dr Max Wachstein late of Russia in which city he was born & lived all his life. <sup>I am told</sup> he is <sup>not</sup> a political, but has been put in a camp at Weimar & is detained there even though he has a visa to this country en route to America. His friends think he cannot survive a winter in the Weimar camp. So I expect to join my appeal on this subject to any you may have already received & express the fervent hope that the



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3.11.1938

G.L.

Rubens will grant him his release. D:

Again will you very kindly do anything possible to get  
this man case dismissed & permission granted him to leave  
the country.

His name is

Dr Herbert von Sicksen  
of Carlton House Terrace  
S. M. 1

I had better put the details in & Pipe the letter



M449

G.L.

(299)

39 Bow Road  
London  
E.3

TELEPHONE  
Advance 3247

3. xi. 38.

[see ms original above]

His Excellency  
the German Ambassador,  
9, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.1.

Dear Sir,

Please excuse this letter. I write under great pressure from friends who desire friendship with your great nation, and who understand how difficult it is for you to act as we so often ask you to do. But friends who have relations in prison or concentration camps are terribly worried.

I think you may have heard of Dr. Max Wachstein, late of Vienna in which city he was born and lived all his life. He is, I am told, non political but has been sent to a camp at Weimar where he is detained even though he has a visa to this country en route to America. His friends are convinced that he cannot survive a winter in the Weimar camp, and at their request I have agreed to join my appeal on his behalf to any you may have already received, and to express the fervent hope that the Fuhrer will grant him his freedom.

Will you very kindly do whatever is possible to get this man's case reviewed and permission granted him to leave the country.

Yours very truly,



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