

Harold Cox
(1859 — 1936)

6, Raymond Buildings,

Gray's Inn, W.C.

100



See p. 70

My dear Lady

Many congratulations
on your success!

I don't like your politics
as you know but on all
personal grounds I am
very pleased that you
have won.

Yours very truly
Harold Cox

Rev. George Lawther Davey

101

Bristol Rectory,

D. G. W. 8 Dec. 1910

Dear Lansbury I would like to
add my kindest congratulations to
the file you are receiving. Tho' I hope
your commission to J. H. Payne is
merely a matter of time, I am
very glad Bro & Bromley have
elected you & with a dumped article
from Timbuctoo, who will now put a
foot inside the consistency again in
an audacity.

Yrs sincerely,

George L. Davey

Dec 8. [1910]

Rt. Rev. John Edwin Watts - ~~Ditchfield~~
(Bishop of Kelmsford)

102

2d. 1929

The Vicarage,

St. James the Less,

Bethnal Green, E.

Dec 8. 1910

My dear George

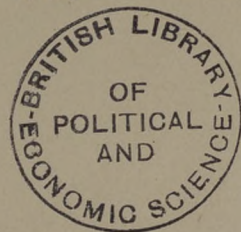
For so I must
still call you, M. P. though
you are

You cannot tell how anxious
I was yesterday and delighted
I was last night. A little
coherence of dreadful Socialists
sitting waiting in my
study for the telephone

Labour men have lost seats through
needlessly saying things which
simply offend taste & hurt
peoples feelings

2nd May I also remind you that
afts all it is the "Christ" who
alone can put & keep men
right. Take Him more closely
them live into your life and in
your new sphere may He
control you. He has laid a
great responsibility upon you

to bring the news & when it came
there was a shout. My hearty
congratulations on a well earned
success



Forgive me if I say
1st Remember the Liberals have helped
to send you to Parliament. I
would be the last to suggest
any violation of principle but
I think tact & consideration of
their feelings ought to keep
them with you - I fear several

The House of Commons is a different
 place from the LCC. There are
 many pitfalls but with God's
 blessing I believe you will ^{seize} ~~catch~~
 the opportunity, & use the privilege
 & that good work will result from
 yesterday

Forgive this lecture. It is one who
 has for years trusted that some
 day you would be able to do
 greater work for God & man than
 ever before & no one prays more
 earnestly for this than
 Your old affectionate friend
 J. S. [unclear]

104

TELEPHONE NO 505 CENTRAL.

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S. B. Walter Gay

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12 & 13, HENRIETTA STREET,

COVENT GARDEN,

LONDON, W.C.

Dec. 8th 1910

My dear Mr. Laubsing

I am very pleased
at your success yesterday
and hope you will do
much good in the House.

I consider you a
Christian Socialist & so
am I although a Conser-
vative in Imperial matters.

You may not recall
my name, but I was at
New Southgate a few weeks

105

ago & heard you & affirmed
your to me - I am also
a member of Lond. Div. of
& remember your address
in the Church House some
three years ago.

May God bless you
& guide you.

Yours sincerely
S. B. Walter Gay

106

The National Committee for the Prevention of Destitution.

President: The Very Rev. The Dean of Norwich.

Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Sidney Webb, D. Litt.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT BRANCH.

Hon. Sec.: ARTHUR GREENWOOD,

Nunscroft,

(1880-1954)

Roundhay, Leeds.

£. 12/10

Dear Laushery

Very heartiest Congratulations on

your success at the poll. - it is a great victory

both for Socialism & for the minority Report. -

More power to you!

With kind regards

I am

Yours sincerely

Arthur Greenwood

J

BERGER HALL

(900 Free Seats).

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ALSO THE

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Rev. D. Hayes

Mr. Spio.

My dear Mr. Sausbury

Will you allow me to add
 my tiny pair of congratulations
 whole hearted sincere, at your
 brilliant success on Ride, Purse
 Privilege. Yesterday. I am only
 sorry that I have failed, so
 prevented us giving our answer
 to Birmingham's seven. I am
 more proud of the Librals in
 Mrs. Consherey however - they
 did their duty joined hilariously
 in the choro last night. And even

Your letter is read for you. I am a warm
friend of mine who is an accountant
in how beautiful what he had done -
all it was, doomed a red lie. —

But you have no time to read
house. If I may, advise a Commoner
I should say, do not lose sight of the fact
that you represent very considerable Liberal
interests & therefore I trust that all your
circle of friends will for moderate
emphasize Labour representation within
than Socialism. And you will build
an unshakable foundation. Your
success is my award, & the approbation
& bitter letters which has been my lot
these past days are nothing.

My wife joins me in the most sincere
feelings & best wishes highest hopes.

Truly
Yours
L. H. G.



M449

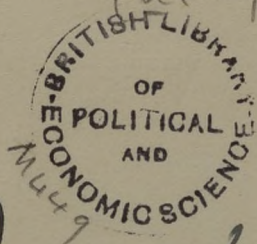
Rev. Henry Scott Holland

(d. 1918)

(108)

Dec. 8

1, AMEN COURT, [1910]
ST PAUL'S, E.C.



Dear Sir,

My reply to

your letter

is as follows

in your programme

and I have the

pleasure to

send you

a

copy of

the

document

which

you

are

10 Henry Road
Botley Road
Oxford.

109

Dec. 8th 1910.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Heartly congratulations
on your successful attempt to
enter Parliament. Hoping you
will have a prosperous career
as a Member of Parliament,

I remain,

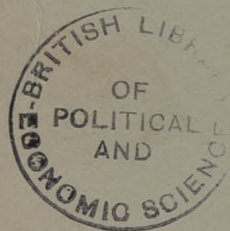
Yours sincerely

J. W. Lansbury

POST CARD

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M449

Mr Lansbury M.P.

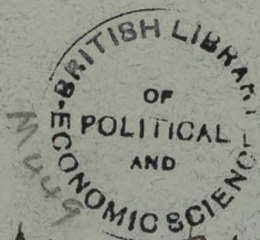
135 Bow Road

London

Hilda S. Lidgett

110

Hull



Thursday

[8 Dec. 1910]

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Now we shall get

on at Westminster!

We are glad, all of us
that you have won this
time! And by 863! What
does it feel like! I wish
I knew what the Bow + Bromley
worker says this time! I shall
try & get one. The best of
every party find each other

other out, don't they!
Poor Mrs. Lansbury! But
she'll be proud and
glad too!

Once more - a big
Hurrah from my very
best!

Yours sincerely

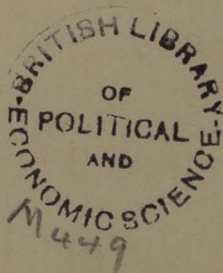
H. S. Lyall

111
Rt. Rev. Henry Mosley
(Bishop of Southwell)
1868 — 1941

THE RECTORY,

POPLAR, E.

TEL: 3336 EAST.



Dec: 8th / 40

Dear Lausbury.

I need not assure
you of my whole hearted
delight at your success.
Many sincere congratulations

Yours ever

H. Mosley.

TELEPHONE,
1835 PADDINGTON

Edith R. Mansell Moullin
(Mrs. Charles Wm. Mansell Moullin)

112

69, WIMPOLE STREET, W.

Dec 8th [1910]

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Rejoicing, and heartiest
congratulations on your magnificent
victory. I can't tell you how
thankful I feel to know there
will be one first man in the
H. of C. for I know that even
that terrible atmosphere will
not injure your goodness -

It has been a great trial to me
not to be able to help in this election
but I have been very ill, & am
still laid up. Had I been well
I could have done nothing,
for ever since that terrible meeting
we had last June of the

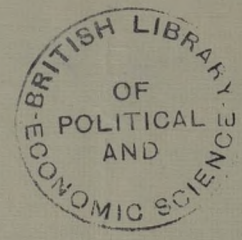
TELEPHONE
RADDINGTON
NOTTINGHAM

69 WIMPOLE STREET W

London 13th C.S.L. on Women's Suffrage
I have pledged myself not to help
any parliamentary Candidate
at any Election until women get
the Vote.

I know the whole C.S.L. will
rejoice in your glorious victory
Heartiest & best Congrats & Wishes
Yours in the Cause

Edith P. Dransell. Woulton



M449

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113

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27, CHANCERY LANE, LONDON, W.C.

Please Address all Communications to the Hon. Secretaries.

8th December, 1910.

Dear Mr. Lansbury,

Heartiest congratulations on your brilliant success of yesterday. Will you excuse me informing you that through my canvass yesterday I came across a very large number of Liberals whom I had the greatest difficulty in persuading to vote against the Tory candidate. I found them rather unfriendly towards yourself, and I could only get them to the Poll on the plea that they were voting against the Tory. Now that you are in I am certain with the exercise of considerable tact, added ^{by} ~~to~~ your genial personality, these doubtful ones can be won over before the next election comes round, and pardon me for pressing the matter when I beg of you to lay yourself out to secure this happy result.

With best wishes and the kindest regards,

Faithfully Yours,

C. R. W. Offen

George Lansbury, Esq., M.P.,

Bow Road,

E.

C. R. W. Offen

Jane Gxley
101, Rochdale Road
Bostall Hill, S.E.

Dec. 28th 1910

114

Dear, Kind & True Friend

Of course it goes
without saying that
my two sons - one
old servant and
myself rejoice that
you are the member
for Bow & Bromley
in such a parliament

as all being well. This
will be -

We know how earnestly
& conscientiously you
always have worked
to bring about good
& fair conditions for
your fellows - & how
kindly is your way
of bettering things -

God bless & keep you -

But - for pity's sake
do not overstrain

your strength too
much - Your duty
lies largely in
caring for yourself
for the sake of your
noble, unselfish wife
and your children -

It is good to know
that so many good men
are at the head of affairs -

My heart goes out to you
& Mrs. Lansbury

yours very truly
Jane Orley

on no account reply

Mr. Ormesby

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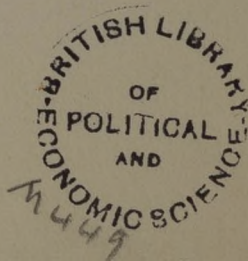
Mble

Porter (Edward; 1860-1921) 2. F. 10

Mr. G. Sanbury.

Accept Congratulation^s
on your splendid
victory.

Porter.



O. E. Post

117



8/12/10

Sir

I beg leave to express my
congratulation on your victory
against the forces of Destitutionism,
of the policy of leaving one minority in
a state of actual destitution in order
to preserve the power of another minority
to live on unearned income levied
privately in the shape of rent & interest
impropriated from the income-earning
majority, who are forced to live as
tributaries of the income-impropriating
classes owing the economic insecurity
in which income-earning people are
kept by the bare presence of a destitute
minority. Your success will no doubt
further the scheme of statutory
income-insurance for all alike which

Mr. George & Mr. Churchill are promoting
When we have once got equality of
economic security, we shall have
broken the power of that "iniquity of
Sodom" which Ezekiel has described
with such surprising accuracy.

I hope Mr. Asquith will not falter
in dealing with the House of Lords, which
consists of improPRIATORS of unearned
income acting as a vigilance committee
for the classes that impropriate income
without earning it by taking advantage
of the economic insecurity of income-earners.
perhaps Anti-Distributionists like Mr. George
& Mr. Churchill can be trusted to stand
firm against the Distributionists in the
Cabinet. Time will skew.

With best wishes for the success
of your work in parliament

I am, Sir, yours faithfully

G. Lansbury Esq.

O. E. Post

Henry H. Schloesser

(119)

TELEPHONE,
12961 CENTRAL.

11, KING'S BENCH WALK,
TEMPLE, E.C.

BRITISH LIBRARY
OF
POLITICAL
AND
ECONOMIC SCIENCE
M 449

[say 8 Dec. 1910]

Many congratulations -
It was splendid!

Henry H. Schloesser

Wait Chester Sewell (120)
36 Kings R J

Heybushme
N E

Dec 5. 10.

Dear George

I cant tell you how
glad we are down here
to hear of your splendid
victory. Ma, Bertie,
Cissie Aunt Mary &
Alan Howard join with
me in congratulations.

It brings back the dreams
of our youth & the ideals
we talked of. Even then
we thought more of the
end than the means & looked
less on the hour than the
opportunities it would bring
for realizing our Utopias.
And so now I am hoping
that you will have health
& strength to begin the
bigger fight before you,
and of setting the pace

in the arena where the final contests
are fought.

With all other good wishes

Yours sincerely
Walt

Street Traders', Costermongers' & Shopkeepers' Union

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where all communications shall be
addressed to.

HEADQUARTERS:

"DUKE OF CLARENCE,"

ALFRED STREET, BOW, E.

London, December 8 1910G. Lansbury M.P. Esq

Dear Sir I have been instructed by my committee and members to congratulate you on your victory of representing the Bow + Bromley district in the House of Commons. We only hope & trust that you will ever remain there and do your best for your neighbours.

In Conclusion we wish you every Luck + Prosperity with your wife and family, whatever days in our power we shall and be only too pleased to do for you and I can assure you that the Costermongers and Street Traders will be the first to come into the field for you in any shape or form.

allow me to remain

Yours Respectfully

Sol. Schaverien Secretary

R³. Mrs. T. Pullin Thompson

123

Dec. 8. [1910] The Vicarage,
27, Tite Street, S.W.

Dear Mr Secretary

I thought I

would like to congratulate
you on having been elected
Member of Parliament.

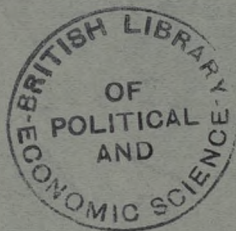
Without touching on the
political side of it, I am

quite sure you deserve the
honour, and will be found
worthy of the trust.

I hope you and yours are

well. I often think of
Mrs Brine for whom I
had a great admiration.
With kind regards

Yrs sincerely
G. Pullin Thompson



M449

Telegrams :
"Prohibition, London."

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Westminster, 785.

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Metropolitan Superintendent
And Parliamentary Agent.

20, Tothill Street, Westminster,
LONDON, S.W.

December 8th., 1910.

G. Lansbury Esq., M.P.
103, St. Stephens Road,
Bow. E.

Dear Sir,

I beg to offer you my heartiest congratulations on the important victory which you won yesterday.

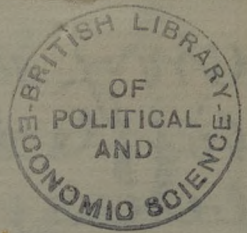
It will be of immense value to us in our fight for freedom and Temperance in London.

I am, Yours faithfully,

Alexander Thomson

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Edmonton Union.



EDWD. WEBSTER.
SUPERINTENDENT RELIEVING OFFICER.

Guardians' Offices,

M449

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other times by appointment.

77, Bridport Road,

Upper Edmonton,

Telephone—Tottenham, 114.

Nearest Station—Silver Street, G.E.R.

8 Dec

1910

My dear "M.P."

What can

one say but the prior
line of the obitology—

"Praise God from
whom all blessings
flow!" — my daughter
stepped to my bedside
last ^(Thursday) night, shortly after
midnight — for I was old!
too 'queer' even to sit
up to learn "the result" —
& although I was sleeping, — her

(126)

penetrating whisper "Dad
he is in" woke me, & I
said "that's good", & woke
to see her radiant face
close to my own, — and,
although you have girls of
your own to smile in
gladness at you on account
of the opportunity afforded
you to live hard nights
& laborious days on behalf
of the poor & those that
have no (efficient) helpers,
— yet, if you could have
seen her, & heard the
gladness in her tones, you
would have felt (as I
said to one of your
rather faint-hearted subscribers
on Tuesday) "There is a spirit
in man (two-man especially) &
the almighty sixth (her) ^{standing}

I flensed her, sent her
to bed & turned myself
to peaceful sleep again,
feeling secure that there
was at last one MAN
in the House of the Commons
to stand for, & voice the
need of, the Commons -
the poor average dumb
(or often only barking) "bottom
dog" of the common people;
- a MAN whom money
cannot buy, nor flattery
nor cajoling - a MAN
with abrain, ^{to understand} as well as
a heart to feel, a MAN who
will not alienate men
but win them, - from the
men opposed to him, at
last) - a MAN who will
never turn his back but
march breast forward, never
doubt that clouds will break,
never dream that right is
worsted, even though for the time

weary should triumph - if
baffled will only fight the
better, & only sleep to wake
& fight again, - & so dear
Comrade, I, a humble private
"in the ranks" bid you, in the
noontide bustle of man's
worktime greet the unseen
with a cheer - bid you
forward, breast & back as
either should be, "Strive &
thrive!" by "Stoed" - fight
on, fare ever there (in that
Assembly of the Commons - every
commoner, some of 'em) as here
(among the people;) - & so
God speed thee - &
fare - well

Ever forays thy
Comrade - friend
Edward Webster.

Ys
Geo Lansbury
M.P. - for, - ^{well}
FOR THE PEOPLE (the people
and the people - men women & children)

9.12. 1910

Mrs Isaac Brine

127

CARISBROOKE,

CHELMSFORD ROAD,

WOODFORD,

ESSEX.

Dear George
Just a line to say
how pleased I am
that you have attained
your desire at last
all things come to
those who wait I am
sure you will use your
power wisely and well

I am sending the
enclosed a note
towards the expenses
which I am sure must
be heavy you were all
very excited waiting for
the result and was so
sorry we could not see
the sight at the end of
the conflict I hope you
will be able to have
a little rest now that
the election is over we
are still flying our

flag in honour of
your victory we shall
have an exciting day
at Woodford tomorrow
I was glad to see Daisy
looking so well and I
think Garrison was looking
years younger. Now I must
close with much love
from yours as ever
J. Poine

P.S) Albert is
a little better
to day

STATION, LEWISHAM JUNG.
TEL. LEE GREEN 789.

Ven. Charles
Ernest Escart Dec. 9. 19
(1852-1919)

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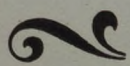
1, ELLIOT PARK,
LEWISHAM HILL, S.E.

Dear Lambury

Heart Compliments

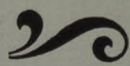
Ernest Escart
Ch. Street.

But why do they have
the tickets as I have
known so ??



SOCIAL - DEMOCRATIC PARTY.

(S.D.F.)



130

OBJECT.

The Socialisation of the Great Means of Production and Distribution under a Co-operative Commonwealth, the complete Emancipation of Labour by the abolition of Capitalism and Landlordism, and the establishment of Social and Economic Equality between the Sexes.

CENTRAL HALL AND OFFICE

SECRETARY:
H. W. LEE.

TREASURER:
F. H. GORLE.

Telephone No. 13877 Central.

Henry William Lee
of S.D.F.
(1865-1932)

21A, MAIDEN LANE,

CHARING CROSS,

London, W.C.

Dec 9. 1910.

Dear Lansbury.

I send you sincere and hearty
congratulations on your success at
Rus & Bromley. But, at the same time,
I cannot help saying that, had you stuck
to it, after the Kibiki election of 1900,
you would have been in at the 1906
elections, without any benediction
from Lloyd George.

However, it is well - though it
is almost five years late.

Yours sincerely
H. W. Lee

THE LIBERAL-CHRISTIAN LEAGUE.

131

President: Rev. R. J. CAMPBELL, M.A.
General Secretary: Mr. ROBERT STEWART.
Travelling Secretary: Rev. F. R. SWAN.
Treasurer: Mr. J. J. BOUTWOOD, J.P.

Official Organ:
"THE LIBERAL-CHRISTIAN MONTHLY."
Every month, price 1d.

Headquarters: KING'S WEIGH HOUSE,
THOMAS ST., GROSVENOR SQ., W.
Telephone 9771 Gerrard.

9 Dec. 1910

At last!

Hearty Congratulations.

F. R. Swan

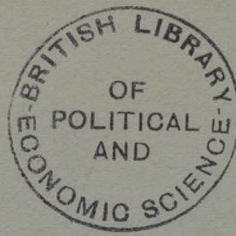
Rev. Manley Power

HAGLEY RECTORY,
STOURBRIDGE.

Dec: 9 1910

Dear Lansbury

It would be ungenerous in me to withhold my congratulations for your well merited victory last Wednesday. It is a splendid recognition of the worth in which you are held by the people amongst whom you have worked so strenuously for many years to better the conditions of human life. At the same time I am bound to confess that had I been able I should not have felt able to vote for you, though it would have gone to my heart not to do so. I cannot bring myself to think that the ^{extreme} views for which you honestly stand can ever bring any real solution to all the problems & abuses & difficulties for which a solution is so urgently needed. It seems to me that the outlook for the immediate future is very gloomy. The Government will be as dependant as before on the Irish & other chits, who will hamper them at



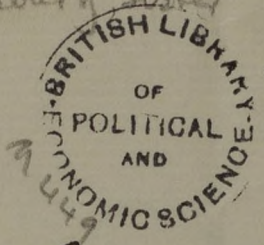
M449

long time if they do not pronounce their throats.
 As regards myself in Parliament I have two aims of
 conduct. (1) I am sure that my voice & vote will always
 be on the side of righteousness, independently of the cause and
 of any mere party ship. (2) that while my views
 of what is righteous may not, on some points, tally with
 mine, neither will they tally well with the views of
 many on the Government side of the House & on with those
 of the Unionist party & that therefore you will be
 powerless to carry over our whole views into effect!
 So you see there is a good deal of the old Adam still in
 me, & that my conversion from to Scott Russell's scheme
 is far from complete!
 With all best wishes & kindest remembrance to the wife &
 children

always yours
 Manly Power

1251 Chester Road
Stretford
of Manchester

John W. Slater
(m. Amy Hamabury Slater
of G. L.)



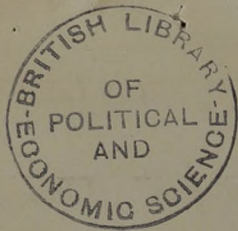
9th Decr. 1910.

My dear Brother-in-law,

I just send a line,
in the name of Amy and myself
to congratulate you on your success.
It is a great blessing to think
we shall get back with a good
working majority and that the
Veto of the Lords is done for.

Amy is ill with indigestion or she
would have written herself. She
sends her very best love. I trust
you and your family are all well
and that you will do great things
in the house.

Very sincerely Yours,
John W. Slater



M449

Richard Henry Tawney
24, SHAKESPEARE STREET,
(1880 →) GORLTON OR NETLOCK,
MANCHESTER.

134

Dec: 9th 1910.

Dear Mr Lansbury.

You'll have had many letters
of congratulation on your splendid
victory for Labour & Socialism: but
I should like to add mine.

I am going to venture to trouble
you, being as you must be,
with a matter that ~~concerns~~
is contained in the enclosed typed
copy of a letter to Justice &

the "Railway Review":

135

You will see that Thorne says that
you wiped the floor with
some representatives of the W.F.A.,
and uses your name to give
the impression that well-known
Socialists regard it as a sort of
Capitalist conspiracy. At least I
suppose that is his object.

I don't blame Thorne, because
I know that he has no time to
go into these things, and that
his letters are written by Mr
Bridger Adams: I have no

3
doubt that he was inspired by her,
though of course we can't
prove that it was. Her intense
bitterness against the W. E. C.
is mainly a personal question.

Now I don't know what your views
about the W. E. C. are. But I do
know that the backbone of the movement
consists of men who are also working
at the political side of the Labour
& Socialist movement. Socialists
predominate in all the classes I
teach, and I believe that this is
so in everywhere, because

4
it is they who know best what
education can do for labour.
Many a man has told me that the
W. E. C. has helped him to be of
more in the trade union's Labour
movement. And none of them
object to the W. E. C. for being
non-political in the sense of trying
to aid students of all political
views.

If you can spare the time,
will you call at the head office
of the Association, 14 Red Lion
Square, Holborn, and ~~see~~
see for yourself what ~~are~~
it

9 Dec. 1910

23, SHAKESPEARE STREET,

CHORLTON ON MEDLOCK,

MANCHESTER.

work is? and if you
are taken in general sympathy
with its objects, will you
become one of the individual
members of it?

I ask this because I am
fully confident that those who
know the work of the W. F. C.
will support it, and because
your approval and membership

will add strength to it. It has
a real work to do in helping
working people to prepare for
coming struggles, and ~~we~~
~~we want to enrol all who~~
we want to enrol all who
care for education &
social progress.

I should have written before, but
I did not like to bother you
you fight.

7.

If you ever come to Manchester
or want a bed, may I
put you up for the night?
I live near the centre of the city.
Yours sincerely
H. T. Tannery.

138

Mr. George Lansbury

Dec. 1910

Mr. George Lansbury, who has won Bow and Bromley, was born fifty years ago in Suffolk, but has passed the greater part of his life in the East End, first in the coal trade, and afterwards at some veneer works, where he is now a partner. He has made four previous attempts to enter Parliament. He was a member of the Royal Commission on the Poor Law, and a party to the minority report.

STATIONS:
FENTON, 1 MINUTE.
STOKE-ON-TRENT, 1 1/2 MILES.

Ven. Charles Philip Stewart Clarke

139

So glad to see G. Conker
got in again.

FENTON VICARAGE,

STOKE-ON-TRENT.

10 Dec. 1920

10. Dec. 20.

My dear Lambury

Just a word of warmest congratulations
to you on your victory. I am delighted
that you have got into the House at
last and am quite sure that you will
be a most valuable member of it. I look
forward to your career there with the greatest
interest and confidence.

Yours most sincerely
C. P. S. Clarke

Sir Henry (John) Manton
(1835 - 1924)

ELLERBURN,

WOODBOURNE ROAD,

EDGBASTON.

1490

December 10. 10

Dear Mr Lansbury

I congratulate you
most warmly on your success
- I only wish Rhom had
a share in this momentous
struggle - and had struck or
blow for the right - I had
the honor - though I took it
on with some reluctance from
personal & physical reasons -
of voicing Liberalism in the
Central Division of this City.
- the one that John Bright once
represented - I failed as I

Expected to fail - but none
 the less was it a duty owed
 by some one to Electors of his
 faith - and possessed by the
 same hopes and aspirations -
 - I do hope that the Prime-
 Minister's plans will harden
 as respects the House of Lords
 now the power is placed in his
 hands - I do not like the
 long period covered by the
 Government Bill - as I said
 at a meeting - I would give
 the dog one bite - but not
 two - that is if I kept the
 dog at all -

- It is a pleasure that our
 mutual friend Crooks has
 returned to Woolwich -

- Surely a brighter day is
 dawning - kind regards

Yours sincerely

Henry J. Mantow

I will send you a copy of my address by
 P. S. O. as soon.

142 SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1910.

M449
WAIT AND SEE.

People are asking more and more, "Why on earth was there an Election?" And no wonder. The voter may be by nature a trifle fickle, but he could not be expected to have changed his views very much from January to December of the same year. And it is evident he has not done so, for the results of the polls come in with monotonous regularity "No change." And where there is a change it is not as a rule a very big one. The Liberals, for instance, told two seats in Lincolnshire by small majorities—Gainsboro' by 80, and Louth by 82. But what Mr. Asquith fancies he has gained by putting us all to this trouble and expense at an inconvenient time of the year we cannot tell. We must wait and see. At any rate, the fight has not been without its lessons. For instance, we have found a Minister of the Crown coquetting even more closely with Socialism than he had done before. Mr. George Lansbury is in favour of abolishing the Monarchy. Mr. Lansbury, in his candidature for Bow and Bromley, received the blessing and recommendation of Mr. Lloyd George. Mr. Lansbury is now a Member of Parliament; Mr. Lloyd George is a Minister of the Crown! Whatever may be the actual figures of the new House of Commons, as finally constituted, one thing is certain. The Asquith Government cannot possibly return to Westminster with the strength and authority necessary to carry through a great Constitutional Revolution. In other words, the Prime Minister has no mandate from the people to demand from the Crown those "guarantees" without which, he says, he will refuse to continue in office. Well, in that case, what next? Two courses would be open to Mr. Asquith: he could either resign the Premiership, carrying along with him Mr. Lloyd George and the rest; or he could advise another—and an immediate—General Election. To remain at the head of a Government more dependent than ever on the favour of the Dollar Dictator would mean, as he is never tired of telling us, "ploughing the sands." To resign would, of course, be the simplest way of escaping from his self-created difficulties. But what would Mr. Asquith's colleagues in the Cabinet say to this? There are such trifling matters as "salaries" to be considered. Of course, the above involves the unlikely assumption that the Radicals, even with the votes of their Separatist and other confederates, will come back with a majority at all. The bare prospect of such a national disaster ought to make every Unionist, every true Briton, every loyalist, every lover of his country, work his hardest in the elections yet to be decided. Not only is this a patriotic duty, but it is dictated by the most elementary laws of self-preservation. Political "deadlocks" are very bad for trade. They check and cripple enterprise, and they produce a feeling of unrest which affects our industrial and commercial life in a thousand ways. The way, then, to get rid of "deadlocks" is to give a commanding majority to the Unionists. It can be done, and it ought to be done. No nation can possibly thrive on a series of political "crises."

T. J. Stokoe

145

THE PROSPECT,
HAY,
HEREFORD.

Dec. 11th 1910

Dear Mr Lausbury,

Just a line to say how very pleased I am that your life-work among the people has met with such a fitting recognition in your election as member for Row & Bromley.

Please put this among the many letters that don't need replies, because I am not writing to worry a busy man

with compliments; and accept
a Liberal's warmest good wishes
~~for the success of your own~~
for the success of your own
career & for the cause of the
poor for which you are working.

Sincerely yours

T. J. Stokoe.

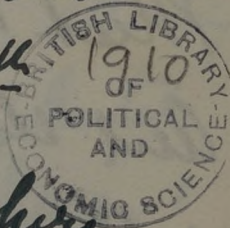
Geo. Lansbury Esq, M. P.

Marianne Dale

143

69 Oxford Gardens. S.W.

Dec. 11th



Dear Mr Lauchlin

M449

Dear Mr Lauchlin
I am sending
you a few lines to
congratulate you upon
your success. Nothing
could have been better.
You will be a tower
of strength to the

(144)
Movement, & Poor Law
Reform in particular.

I was glad to
find last night
that your voice was
not quite gone.

Perhaps now you will
rest it for a
considerable time.
What a grand Meeting!

What superb eloquence!
And what filled me
with admiration
was the Marvellous Memory
translation of Mr —
and Mr. Sanders.

I call that a
regular "tour de force".
Well! there are
plenty of brains

in the movement.

At present, I am attacking
the police for their brutal
conduct. Wm. Brown &

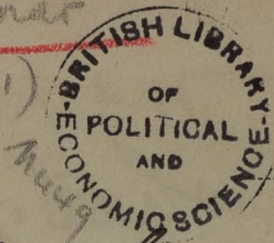
I am to go to Scotland
Yard on Wed: about it.

I have secured plenty of
signed documentary
evidence against them.

With kind regards
best wishes for

Yours sincerely
Marianne Dale.

James Bonar
(1852-1941)



ROYAL MINT,
OTTAWA.

147

12th Dec. 1910

Dear Mr Lansbury,

Allow me to express my great satisfaction at the news of your election. I have not forgotten your chivalrous action on an occasion now 17 years old; and we had a not un-pleasant meeting round a table in Whitehall since. I feel that we agree far more than we differ, and, even at this far distance, the

sympathy may count
for somewhat.

Ever Yours Sincerely
James Bonar

Geo. Lansbury Esq.,
M.P.

[G. L. Bruce]

(148)
12. xii. 1910

London County Council,
Education Offices,
Victoria Embankment, W. C.



Dear Kensington
I am very glad
that you did succeed -
your party are with
out - represented, though I
eye them some what
ask and as likely to
sacrific the whole to
the path -
but I am sure you
yourself will look
absolutely straight
I hope the daughter
goes on well

"THE BRIARS,"

(149)

NEWBURY,

BERKS.

Faulkland Rooke
(of Poplar Schools)

Dec 12th.

Dear Mr Lausbury [1910]

Please accept my
heartly congratulations
upon your success
I am exceedingly
glad that you
got in altho' a
Tory myself for a

few more earnest-
workers like yourself-
are desirable.

Yr truly
Frankland Roote
(of Poplar Schools)

United Socialist and Labour Military Band.

Affiliated to the London Socialist and Labour Musical Federation.

151

President:
H. M. HYNDMAN.



Vice-Presidents:
W. THORNE, M.P.

G. LANSBURY, M.P.
L.C.C.

A. A. WATTS.



Conductor:
S. W. SOUTH.



The Band is open for
Engagements,
GARDEN PARTIES,
DANCES,
DEMONSTRATIONS,
&c.



For Terms apply to the
Secretary,

H. CHESHIRE,

27, LEFEVRE ROAD, BOW, E.

December 12 1910

Dear Comrade

The Band wishes to congratulate you on your great
Victory for Socialism & Labour and to express their regret that
they were unable to play you Home on Wednesday night - owing
to the result being announced earlier than we expected
Many of our Members arriving after the result was made known
and was disappointed that they were not able to reach the Committee
room in time on account of the dense Mass of people
again congratulating you and wishing every Success against the
Capitalist- & Landlord Class in the House of Commons

I am

yours fraternally.

H. Cheshire

The United Socialist and Labour Military Band has been formed for the purpose of providing High-Class Music at any Socialist function where such would be considered an advantage to the movement.

All sympathisers with the object of the Band are invited to become members, either active or honorary. Particulars of the Secretary.

Rev. G. Algernon West

152

THE RECTORY,
EASINGTON,
CASTLE EDEN, S.O.

Dec 12 1910

My dear Mr. Lausby

I have no doubt
but that you have been
inundated with congratulatory

words on your splendid

Victory - Let me add my
tribute of very hearty

congratulations, and that

my wife joins in sincere good

wishes for every gift & blessing

in such profuse measure for the
Cause of the People.

With our kindest regards

Yours truly
G. Algernon West

Rev. T. C. Gobat

153

S. JAMES' VICARAGE,

Church Socialist

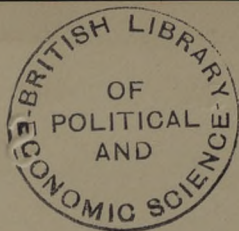
DARLINGTON.

League

(Darlington Branch) Dec. 13. 1910

Dear L. Lancelotti,

I send a whell of the
wishes of the Church Socialist
League as well as a whell of
yours & my wife's to offer to
you on my best congratulations
on your success in the election.
May God give you strength and
abundance to further the cause
of His people. We trust you to
keep to the same principles as
to the work! Be sure



M449

James Vicarage
Darlington

as come to see us if you
are in their parts. In these
days to lead to see you a
bed or meals, or both!
When you can offer us a date
to come & check for us we
will accept!

With very good will, and kindest
remembrance to your wife
Yours

Your affectionate

J. C. Lovell

REG. No. 863.T.U.

Telephone No 4666, CENTRAL

UNDER THE MODERN COMMERCIAL SYSTEM.

THE WORKERS CANNOT, WITHOUT ORGANISATION,
REMEDY THE SOCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL EVILS WHICH
SURROUND THEM.

THE OLD ORDER CHANGETH
YIELDING PLACE TO NEW

NATIONAL AMALGAMATED UNION

OF SHOP ASSISTANTS, WAREHOUSEMEN AND CLERKS.

CENTRAL OFFICE 122, GOWER STREET,

OBJECTS.

- TO REDUCE THE HOURS OF LABOUR.
- TO SECURE FAIR PAYMENT FOR SERVICES RENDERED.
- TO REGULATE THE RELATIONS BETWEEN EMPLOYER & EMPLOYEE.
- TO ASSIST MEMBERS WHEN ILL OR UNEMPLOYED.
- TO ASSIST MEMBERS TO OBTAIN EMPLOYMENT.

OFFICE HOURS:
9 AM. TO 1 PM. 2 TO 6 PM.

SATURDAYS:
9 AM. TO 1 PM.

LONDON

W.C.

14 Dec 1910

BANKERS:
NATIONAL PROVINCIAL
BANK OF ENGLAND.

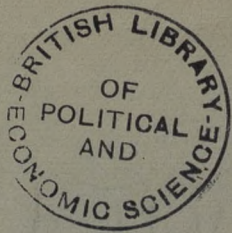
Cheques payable to the Treasurer.

SOLICITORS:
MESSRS. CORBJN, GREENER & COOK.

GENERAL SECRETARY:
JAS. MACPHERSON.
FINANCIAL SECRETARY:
F.M. MATHER.

Dear Hausbury

I called at St. Stephen Road while in Bow recently to see Dr. McRae. I wanted to congratulate you upon your return as member for Bow and Bromley. No man in the H.C. deserves the honour more than you. I hope you may have the satisfaction ^{of feeling} when you get to work, that you are able



M449

to help the bottom dog. After
all it is good, and clothing and
house room that count as
the basis upon which life is
built. Please remember me to
Mr Hansbury. I intended to have a
word at the Albert Hall, but
you had so many to see that
I did not get over to your side.
I have been prevented - on account
of my head, from taking any active
part in politics - and this ban has
not been removed, by medical orders.
With very best wishes yours
J. Macpherson

H. RONNEBECK.

Raman Road
Linthorpe
Middlesbrough.
Decr 15/10

Charles Coates
of Middlesbrough

My dear Lansbury

Mother was pleased to get your letter this morning & is very proud of having a member of Parliament for one of her personal friends. She was very anxious & excited at the time of your contest & asked me every day what were your chances. She was delighted at

your success & I need scarcely say that I myself was in the seventh heaven. I had arranged with one of our office staff to ring me up at 11.30 & tell me the result. At 10.30 or a little earlier I began to get telephone messages

& it is that you Coates & Lansbury's in" & before our office man rang up I had half a dozen messages & had been hauled out

B
of bed tricks, after
which in desperation I
refused to move &
simply let the bell
ring. The next day
I took a malicious
delight in chapping
our Liberal friends.

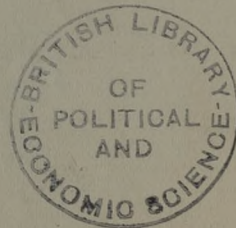
Well, you have a
big job on now &
I wish you every
success, & health to
sustain you.

Give mothers best
regards to your wife,
take them for yourself.

& also accept for yourself
& wife those of my wife
& myself.

Yours very sincerely
Chas Cookes

There was no victory
that pleased us more
down here.



M449

Tom Donald

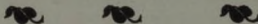
(157)

**CONISTON,
HORNCHURCH,
ESSEX.**

[say 24 Dec. 1910]

WITH EVERY GOOD WISH
FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE NEW YEAR.

T. D.



"Insist on yourself; never imitate. Your own gift you can present every moment with the cumulative force of a whole life's cultivation; but of the adopted talent of another, you have only an extemporaneous, half possession. That which each can do best, none but his Maker can teach him."

Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Christmas, 1910.

POOR RICHARD.

"Pray, father Abraham, what think you of the times? Will not these heavy taxes quite ruin the country? How shall we be ever able to pay them? What would you advise us to?"

Father Abraham stood up and replied, "If you would have my advice, I will give it you in short; 'for a word to the wise is enough,' as poor Richard says.

* * * * *

"Friends," says he, "the taxes are indeed very heavy; and, if those laid on by the Government were the only ones we had to pay, we might more easily discharge them; but we have many others, and much more grievous to some of us. We are taxed twice as much by our idleness, three times as much by our pride, and four times as much by our folly; and from these taxes the commissioners cannot ease or deliver us by allowing an abatement. However, let us hearken to good advice, and something may be done for us; 'God helps them that help themselves,' as poor Richard says.

"It would be thought a hard Government that should tax its people one-tenth part of their time to be employed in its service; but idleness taxes many of us much more: sloth, by bringing on diseases, absolutely shortens life. 'Sloth, like rust, consumes faster than labour wears, while the used key is always bright,' as poor Richard says. 'But dost thou love life, then do not squander time, for that is the stuff life is made of,' as poor Richard says. How much more than is necessary do we spend in sleep; forgetting that 'The sleeping fox catches no poultry,' as poor Richard says.

"If time be of all things the most precious, wasting time 'must be,' as poor Richard says, 'the greatest prodigality;' since, as he elsewhere tells us 'Lost time is never found again; and what we call time enough, always proves little enough.'" * * * * * "So what signifies wishing and hoping for better times? We can make these times better if we bestir ourselves."

T.D.

Christmas 1910

G.L.

159

24 Dec. 1910

103, ST. STEPHEN'S ROAD,

Bow, E.

To my Comrades and Helpers in the Fight for Bow and Bromley.

DEAR COMRADE,

On the eve of Christmas and just during the pause in our campaign, I want to send you this little personal note, and to thank both you and your good wife for the very splendid manner in which you have rallied to our cause during the past 10 days. I am sure that in coming out as you have done your object has been not to add glory to my name, but to help the Labour and Socialist cause. All the same however, my wife and I wish in this way to recognise and to tell you how deeply we appreciate the kindly manner in which you have personally supported me. I am, of course, your standard-bearer in the fight, and without doubt by your aid, I am going to carry the flag to a triumphant victory. Christmas time is to all of us whatever our religious beliefs may be, a time when there is a softening in strife and when men and women's feelings towards one another are kindlier than at any other time of the year. And I want to just take this opportunity of saying to you that it is this peace and brotherliness which you and I want all men and women to enjoy all the days of all the years all the time. We feel the good of it at Christmas time. We know the peace and the harmony that cessation from strife, both commercial and political brings to us, and you and I believe that this might always be so, and that is the object of our struggle here in Bow and Bromley. At the same time, we shall be remembering that outside our own family circles there are multitudes of men, women and children, destitute of the means of satisfying this world's needs. We know that in thousands of homes the gaunt spectre of poverty and misery will stalk. We know also that many a business man will all through this festive season be harassed and worried by the cares and troubles of his business, and I at least believe that the song of Bethlehem whatever else it meant, really did mean a message of peace and goodwill from all this kind of strife and misery. And it is because I believe this that I ask you at this Christmas time, when we are shaking hands and wishing each other a happy time, I ask you just to spare a thought for those others to whom Christmas will bring no happiness at all, and to whom no day in the year brings happiness, and in our joy of peace and happiness at our own fireside, let us each remember that we have to consecrate our lives anew to the great fight before us, of which a Parliamentary Election is only a mere incident, that fight which embodies the true emancipation of the race.

I would therefore like you to keep in mind during the whole of the campaign those lines of Gerald Massey's, which were written during the time of the great Chartist movement, and during the period of that movement when things looked rather black for its success. You and I know that the blackest day for the Chartist movement was only like the dark night which precedes the glorious dawn, and that in our own day we are reaping the result of the work of our fathers. It is for you and I, my comrades, to be quite certain that by our work and by our effort we hand on the torch to the hands of our children, that they too may have a better and a more glorious time than that which it has been our lot to secure.

Here are the lines :—

'Tis weary watching wave by wave
 And yet the tide heaves onward,
 We climb like corals, grave by grave,
 To reach a pathway sunward.
 We're beaten back in many a fray,
 But newer strength we borrow,
 And where the vanguard camps to-day
 The rear will rest to-morrow.

Builds up heroic lives and all
 Be like a sheathen sabre,
 Ready to flash at duty's call
 Oh! chivalry of labour,
 Triumph and toil are twins, though they
 Be singly born to sorrow,
 And 'tis the martyrdom to-day
 Brings victory to-morrow,

This world is full of beauty
 Like other worlds above,
 And if we did our duty
 It might be full of love :
 The few shall not for ever sway
 The many who toil in sorrow,
 The gates of hell are strong to-day,
 But Christ will rise to-morrow.

With all good wishes from my wife and myself to you and yours for Christmas, New Year, and always,

I remain,

Yours truly,

GEORGE LANSBURY.

Thomas Tilbrook Temuka Canterbury N.Z. 161
Dec 26th 1910

Mr George Lansbury Esq M.P

Dear Sir

My note of Congratulation may be late in reaching you but when you see the distance it has travelled you will forgive I'm sure; I have only just seen the account of your great victory for it is a great victory for you to go in on the Socialist Labour ticket, good luck to you, stick close to the poor they need your help, you deserve to be a member of parliament, from your boyhoods days you sought to help your fellows, I knew you when you first came to London, I was born in Bucks Row myself and am about your own age I was fifty last birthday, our house was pulled down to make room for G. E. R coal depot and soon after that you and your Father and mother Brothers and sisters came on the scene, we went to live in Court Street and you and yours were familiar figures in that street, you and I nearly had a fight on one occasion but your sister Kate prevented it, you went the right road I went the wrong, you sought anything that would improve your character and mind, I sought

Thomas Tilbrook

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the company of the little Irish boys at the top of Queen Ann Street, you went to St Marys Sunday School, I played rounders with the said boys instead, you went to the lads institute I went to the Pavilion Theatre almost nightly I learned to drink Beer you escaped, thank God, otherwise you would not be in the proud position you are to night, I have not seen you for over twenty seven years I have been out here that long the last time I saw you was when you had charge of a small coffee palace opp the old East London I saw no more of you until I saw your photo in the Graphic some time ago when you were at the Leeds Congress I knew you at once and have often seen your name mentioned since in other periodicals, I missed Mr W. Crooks M.P. when he was out here, I happened to be away in the mountains, I was sadly dissapointed I am pleased to tell you the he created a good impression here the general impression was they would rather hear will Crooks than many Foster Frasers any day, I hope I am

B

Thomas Tillbrook

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26 Dec. 1910

not wearing you but I would like to say that many of our labor laws and land laws could be applied to Britain it would pay you to read them up they are ^{the} most liberal of any in the world you could get much information from Sir W. Hall Jones who I knew well a few years ago as an ordinary Carpenter in Timaru. I am coming Home for the Coronation and I hope to see you and gain from you a permit to enter the Strangers Gallery and hear a debate. I am in business here and have done very well, but not until I turned over a new leaf and gave up the drink which I did twenty years ago.

good Bye I hope you will forgive my scrawl I learned to write at the Bucks Row Ragged School. My Father was killed at Charringtons Brewery in 1883 Please do not reply as I shall be home in June wishing you every success in the House I remain yours truly

Thomas Tillbrook

Temuka N.Z.

P.S My London address will be 5 Carlton Rd

mile End

London

141. East D. St. Road

Poplar E.

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[publ. 1/2 Say 31 Dec. 1910]

x in the Court News

x DAILY TELEGRAPH

MORNING LEADER

WORKHOUSE PANTOMIME.

Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., arranged two performances of a pantomime for the inmates of Poplar Borough Workhouse, and was present in the afternoon. At the matinée some 300 cripple inmates, men, women, and children, including children from the receiving home, were wheeled or carried in chairs to the dining-hall, where the fête was held, this being the first time an attempt has been made to bring the disabled inmates from their own quarters to enjoy their share in the general amusement. Christmas decorations are still in the dining-hall, and the scene was most gratifying, for everybody heartily enjoyed the pantomime, with its pretty scenes and its good singing. In the evening 1,200 inmates were made happy by a similar entertainment.

MR. LANSBURY'S ENTERTAINMENT

Supplementing his usual Christmas entertainment to the inmates of Poplar Workhouse, Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., arranged for two performances yesterday of the pantomime "Aladdin" in the large dining-hall. The first performance, in the afternoon, was witnessed by an audience of some 350, composed of cripples from the infirm wards and children from the receiving home. At the evening entertainment there were between 1,200 and 1,300 adult inmates present.

Both performances, for which Mr. Piering's company was responsible, were much appreciated. Mr. Lansbury is arranging another treat shortly in the form of a variety entertainment.

East End News

Enjoyable Workhouse Entertainment.

The inmates of Poplar Workhouse had a pleasant time on Friday afternoon and evening, when they were afforded the opportunity of witnessing a performance of the pantomime, "Aladdin," by Piering's company of professional artists, on the invitation of Mr. G. Lansbury, M.P., and Mr. K. G. Hobday. The audience in the afternoon consisted of all the cripples in the house, who were carried down to the spacious dining hall in invalid chairs, and also the children from Langley House. Mr. Lansbury was present, and spoke, while Mr. F. T. Munnings (the chairman of the Board of Guardians), in a few well-chosen words, thanked him and Mr. Hobday for their kindness. In addition to those named, there were also present in the afternoon the Rev. H. Mosley, Mr. G. Crosse, Mrs. Scurr, Mrs. J. H. Banks, the Rev. O. Lawrie (Rector of All Saints), and others.

In the evening, the Mayor and Mrs. Sedgwick were present, and addressed a few words to the assembled 1,200 inmates. In addition, there were present in the evening Mrs. and Miss Munnings, Mr. H. Heath, Mr. J. Milligan, Mrs. Symonds, Mr. and Mrs. J. Faulconbridge, Mr. J. Hunt, Mrs. Cadman, Mr. H. Moreton, Mr. J. Peckham, Miss Logan, and many other visitors. Mr. and Mrs. Ball (master and matron) and staff lent willing aid towards assisting the inmates to enjoy the evening proceedings.

Say 30 Dec.
1910

Do try + stay on Friday all the time + please

do not say I did it all.

I have asked Mr + Mrs Darby to come see

enclosed letter. Yours ever

K. G. Hobday

place at end Dec. 1910 (165)

(On 7 Dec. 1910 G.L. first elected
to Parliament)

To George Lansbury, Esq., M.P., from Dr.
T. J. Macnamara, M.P. [? 1910-1912]

DEAR GEORGE,—

You are right, of course. An M.P. is only "an ordinary man," like everyone else. But you shouldn't give it away.

We older hands find it pays to give the impression that an M.P. is a sort of a little tin god on wheels.

But you'll catch the idea later.

Yours with encouragement,
T. J. MACNAMARA.

Punch's 'Comrade Lansbury.

Seeing that a French journal has established a column in which all kinds of grievances are given an airing, "Mr. Punch" follows that example with the following, which purports to come from Mr. Lansbury, M.P. :—

"There is no scandal to compare with the waste of time and energy in the House of Commons. I recently made a careful analysis of a day's proceedings, and I found that, of the seven hours occupied in speeches, two hours, twenty-five minutes, were given to idle forms of courtesy. Such a phrase as 'Honourable Member for So-and-so' makes me mad. None of us think other members honourable, and the sooner we cease to pretend that we do the better for England. The way to refer to another member is by his surname only. I am plain Lansbury, and I expect others to be the same. Again, there is the absurd tradition of catching the Speaker's eye. Every man should have as much right to speak as another, and should not have to wait to be called. In short, the House is not a place of legislation at all, but a museum of mediævalism. Coming now to the third, and, perhaps, worst scandal, I refer to the President of the Local Government Board—" [Not here.—Editor, "Punch."?] [? 1910-1912]

Walker Murray Guthrie

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(1869 - 24 Apr. 1911)

Dear Sir

I of Inuit

[say, 1910 or 1911]

Dear Mr. Sansbury

I have delayed answer-
ing your letter till the eve
of my departure to the above
address in the hopes of being
able to tell you that I had
received a favourable reply
from Sir E. Flower, but
so far I have had no

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answer to my letter written the
day I received yours which I
appreciated very much, I think
I appreciated it more than
any other of the many letters
I received on the same subject;
as you say we hold different
views but I can honestly say
that I would like to see you
in the House & were you
to stand where I had a vote
I think it would be cast
for you. I feel my position
very much, I cannot get rid

of the pain in my eye & still I can do that I
can do very little, even reading brings on the
neuralgia after a short time - I shall not
forget Bow & hope you will not forget
me; Mr. Guthrie asks me to say the same to
you on his behalf

Yrs Sincerely

Wm. W. Guthrie

MR LANSBURY AT MIDDLESBROUGH.

SPEECH ON SOCIALISM AND EVERY-
DAY LIFE. 168
1910-1912

Mr George Lansbury, M.P. for Bow and Bromley, and a former candidate in the Socialist interest for the Middlesbrough Division was the chief speaker at a meeting at All Saints' Church Schoolroom, Middlesbrough, last evening, under the auspices of the Church Socialist League.

The Rev. J. S. L. Burn, vicar of All Saints, presided, and commented upon the hopeless position in to which the industrial population of England was gradually falling. There were already ten millions living in great despair. A more pathetic sight than a holiday in Middlesbrough he did not know—the men seemed to have lost all power and walked aimlessly about. He thought the hope of the nation lay in Socialism as practised by Mr Lansbury.

The Rev. T. C. Gobat, vicar of St. James's, Darlington, gave a short address, and emphasised the fact that while one-eighth of the inhabitants were living in comfort, seven-eighths were in poverty, and the minority were living upon the fruits of the labour of the majority.

Turning to the consumption scourge, he said this could be extirpated if they did not think too much of their pockets. They should settle the land question and go in for housing reform. Then they would get to the root of the evil.

The Rev. C. Stuart Smith, organising secretary of the C.S.L., mentioned that the real business of the meeting was to form a branch of the League for Middlesbrough.

A cordial reception was given Mr Lansbury, who expressed his pleasure that the Socialist movement in Middlesbrough still continued to go along. He was more glad that the movement for the political emancipation of woman had also a decent hold in the town, and regarded it as a sign of the times that the Church of England seemed to be waking up. He would like them to force the attention of the Congress next week to things that really matter.

Middlesbrough was a modern town, grown up under modern conditions, and they should see how the poor have to live. He would like to take some of the well-to-do women to spend a week in Middlesbrough in those districts near the furnaces, living on the same money as the poor did, and he would then be able to guarantee a great accession of strength to the women's movement before the end of next week. He would like to do the same with some of the bishops.

The bishops, went on Mr Lansbury, mean to do the right thing, but they do not know what the right thing is. The Archbishop of York, too, when he was down in the East End, used to be regarded as rather favouring their cause. The trouble was, the Bishops did not realise the conditions under which the poor existed, and they would not realise until they experienced them.

When he had said that if he had to live in Middlesbrough "he would either drown himself in beer or in the Tees," he meant it. Man was not meant to live under such conditions, and he wanted the Church to go down to the poor and tell them that it was a religious duty, a sacred duty, to revolt against such conditions.

If it were possible for anybody who lived here 200 years ago to come back, he would be entitled to ask, "What are you getting for it? What is society getting for it?" His answer was that they were getting life destitute of the finer things of humanity.

Many men and women never knew what true life was. The sacrifice was not worth it if men and women should be condemned so that a few people might enjoy luxury and all that luxury meant. The longer the Church tolerated that sort of condition the longer would the common people have nothing to do with religion.

Self-interest was the dominating force in politics and everyday life. The question, "What am I going to make out of it?" was continually arising. The real solution of the troubles seemed to lie, concluded Mr Lansbury, for them all to rise together. Men and women who would save their lives must lose their life and find it in the life of the community. But before the Socialistic movement made much progress they must have fervour. The movement needed the inspiration of a great ideal, and it was up to the Church and all professed Christians to be right in the forefront of the revolt.

The people must save themselves, they (the Socialists) could not save them. There was no other road to Socialism, no short cut to revolution.

G.L.
M.P.'S. SERVE CHRISTMAS DINNER IN THE WORKHOUSE 7 9/10



Mr. Lansbury, M.P., cutting the Christmas pudding and Mr. Will Crooks, M.P., handing it to the inmates at the Poplar Workhouse on Boxing Day. Mr. Crooks afterwards sang "The Rocky Road to Dublin" and danced with the inmates.