

YELLOW PAGES

Annual Conference 2015 WEDNESDAY 30.09.15

CLPD
**Campaign for
Labour Party
Democracy**

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delegates at 2015
Annual Conference.
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With Labour's new politics... we will win!

Conference ends today confident that our Party can set out an agenda to deliver for the people of Britain and secure electoral victory.

Following our defeat in May, it is inevitable the Party has to change its policies. The majority of Labour members and supporters voted for Jeremy Corbyn as Leader, backing his agenda to step up opposition to the Tories, challenge austerity and set out a clear alternative. Austerity is not popular with the voters, so Jeremy's and John's policies can reverse the decline in Labour support.

This week Conference has reinforced this agenda – agreeing among other things to challenge austerity, vote against welfare cuts, oppose housing benefit cuts, renationalise rail, campaign for more council housing and consider rent controls. Labour will also challenge the Government's callous approach to refugees.

Jeremy's speech reached out to voters proposing protection for self-employed workers including maternity pay, action on climate change, and a foreign policy promoting political solutions instead of bombing.

Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell's economic policies offer hope for the majority and will win votes. Instead of austerity, the priority will be growth. The Government's current deficit will be tackled, but not at the expense of the middle and low earners and unwaged. There will be state investment to restore economic growth.

This conference has been more inclusive. For the first time in 17 years, CLPs and unions were allowed to discuss most of the subjects that were submitted – nearly double the number debated in most of the years since 1998, when the current system was introduced. Also the composite motions themselves more accurately reflected the key concerns

that the CLPs and unions had raised.

Unfortunately, while the mood of Conference has been positive and comradely, reflecting the party at large, yesterday's Times suggested that a section of the Party is already plotting. If the report is correct, a section of the Labour right want to provoke a leadership contest and then insist Jeremy secured the nominations of 15% of the PLP & EPLP before he could stand. If he could not reach that threshold, they would argue that his name could not be on the ballot paper. The current rules (Rule 2Bii) by talking of "potential challengers" makes clear the intention is that the incumbent leader will be on the ballot. The implication is that the malcontents will seek a legal ruling in their favour, confirming that the incumbent leader would not be on the ballot without obtaining 38 nominations.

Conference would want the NEC to ensure the rules are clarified so there can be no undemocratic coup. It should be unambiguously stated by the NEC and written into the rules that an incumbent Leader is automatically included in the ballot, should they seek re-election.

Conference has set out an effective programme in a spirit of unity. We all now need to pull together behind Jeremy as he leads our campaign to maximise success in next year's elections in Scotland, Wales and London. The Party will not forgive those who undermine this objective.

● **Stop Cameron's rush to war**

Support Emergency motion on Syria

● **Britain should back the peace process in Colombia**

Support Emergency motion on Colombia

● **Britain should provide sanctuary to a substantial number of refugees**

Support Composite 8 on refugee crisis

● **Ensure mental health is a priority and has adequate provision**

Support Contemporary motion on Mental Health

● **Defend the health service from the Tories' cuts**

Support Composite 9 on NHS

A free press?

Yellow Pages is produced by volunteers - who are out today with our collecting bags. Please be generous. *Yellow Pages* has a cover price of £3 for the week.

Safe in their hands?

At a time when Jeremy Hunt adds the world-famous Addenbrooke's Hospital to the growing list of those which he puts into "special measures", we should ask ourselves just what the Tories are up to. Their strategy for running down our NHS appears to be as follows:

- allow NHS Trusts much less money than they need to run a good service;
- simultaneously slash the money given to Local Authorities to provide proper social care;
- impose extra duties (e.g. 24/7 working, paying a Living Wage) without extra funding;
- demand "savings"... and blame patients and staff for failing to conform to expectations;
- send in the Care Quality Commission to discover that services are over-stretched;
- deplore the resulting CQC revelation that some services are understaffed or reliant on agency staff;
- consign numerous Trusts to "special measures" and continue to starve them of resources;
- raise the spectre of making individual patients pay directly for treatment;
- encourage the expansion of private healthcare and the growth of a 2-tier system.

Labour's alternative demands, in the face of privatisation and charges, should now be very clear:

- an NHS that is publicly owned and publicly (and adequately) funded;
- reduced waiting-times for patients;
- sufficient numbers of properly remunerated and directly employed staff;
- exclusion of healthcare from TTIP and other free trade agreements.

Conference also needs to commit Labour to campaign – alongside patients, healthworkers and other supporters of the NHS – against service closures (or "reconfigurations") which don't have proper local consultation and consent.

Nye Bevan said that our NHS would last as long as there are people to defend it. It's now up to us.

● *Support Composite 9 on the NHS!*

Education & Children

Although there will be front bench speakers on education and childcare this morning, there are no composites – because no organisations sent in resolutions. At least, no resolutions were submitted that were deemed to be in order – and once resolutions are ruled out they don't get printed, so no one knows about them.

Given the Tory attacks on education, with their stated aim of making all schools convert to academies, and the cuts to Sure Start and Child Tax Credit, it is certainly something we should be campaigning vociferously about from now on.

Investment in education and childcare is the most effective use of resources possible. Unfortunately they are in the front line of Tory attacks on state provision.

CLPD AGM 2016
 11.30am, Sat. 27th February
 Conway Hall, Red Lion Square,
 London WC1 4RL
 For more information, go to:
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CAMPAIGN FOR
TRADE UNION FREEDOM
THE INSTITUTE OF EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS

@ Tory Party Conference demo

Protect the Right to Strike

12 noon, Sunday 4th October
 The Oxford pub,
 421/423 Oxford Road,
 Manchester M13 9WG

Speakers include:
Mark Serwotka, GS PCS;
Sally Hunt, GS UCU; Prof
Keith Ewing, CTUF;
John Hendy QC, IER;
Kevin Courtney, DGS NUT
and many more

End Austerity Now
TUC National
Demonstration
 at Tory Party Conference

Sunday, 4th October

Assemble 12 noon,
 Oxford Road, Manchester

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