

QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES:

# Metropolitan Borough Councils

JUNE 1900.

SIR,

In connection with your candidature for the office of Councillor, I should be obliged if you would be good enough to answer the following questions, and return the paper to me.

I am, yours faithfully,

Name of Elector .....

Address of Elector .....

**QUESTIONS.**

**ANSWERS.**

**I.—PUBLIC HEALTH.**

Will you insist on :—

1. An immediate increase in the number of Sanitary Inspectors, at least up to a minimum of one for every 2,500 houses?
2. The employment of Women Sanitary Inspectors?
3. A systematic house-to-house inspection to ensure that every house is in a sanitary condition?
4. The thorough application of the law against insanitary or overcrowded property, without respect of persons?
5. The registration of tenement houses in order to secure effective sanitary supervision?
6. The complete registration and thorough inspection of all workshops—especially domestic workshops—bakehouses, dairies, laundries and slaughterhouses, and the regular visitation of all outworkers?
7. The enforcement of the law against the smoke nuisance and against offensive trades?
8. The rigid enforcement of the law against unsound food, and the frequent taking of samples under the Food and Drugs Acts?

## QUESTIONS.

9. In cases of infectious disease, the supply of free disinfectants, and the free distribution of information?

10. The enforcement of the law to prevent the spread of infectious disease from dairies supplying the borough, whether situate therein or not, and the closing of infected dairies?

11. The efficient paving, lighting, watering, and cleansing of all streets—back streets and courts as well as thoroughfares?

12. The regular, frequent, and strictly gratuitous collection of dust, particularly in the poorer districts?

## II.—HOUSING.

To increase the house accommodation, will you support:—

13. The clearing of small slum areas under Part II. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, and effective co-operation with the County Council in larger schemes?

14. The provision of house room for all persons compulsorily dishoused by the Council at, as nearly as possible, the rents previously paid?

15. The building of workmen's cottages under Part III. of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, wherever possible?

16. The buying or leasing of suitable houses for workmen's dwellings?

17. The provision of municipal lodging houses for both sexes where required?

## III.—MUNICIPAL WORK.

Are you in favor of:—

18. The immediate provision of baths and washhouses in any part of the borough not already supplied?

19. The adoption of the Public Libraries Acts, and the establishment of branch libraries in suitable parts of the borough?

20. The supply of electricity by the Borough Council itself, where still possible, and the supervision of private companies in the public interest?

21. The provision of a general hospital for the use of the borough under the Public Health (London) Act, 1891, Sec. 75?

## ANSWERS.



## QUESTIONS.

22. The provision of open spaces ; of concerts in public buildings ; the planting of trees in the streets ; the erection of seats and shelters ; of drinking fountains ; and of free lavatory accommodation for each sex ?

### IV.—LABOR.

Will you insist on :—

23. Council employees being paid at Trade Union rates, and, where no such rates exist, at a minimum wage of 26s. per week ; a 48-hours working week ; a week's holiday on full pay ; reasonable sick pay when ill or disabled ; full freedom of combination ; and the right of appeal by aggrieved employees to the Committee employing them ?

24. Direct employment of labor by the Council wherever possible ?

25. The insertion, in all contracts for supplies as well as for works, of clauses stipulating, under adequate penalties, which shall be rigidly enforced :

(a) against sub-contracting or sweating ?

(b) for payment of Trade Union rate of wages and observance of Trade Union hours and conditions, for each trade, as specified in a schedule to the contract ?

(c) that, wherever possible, the working week shall be 48 hours only ?

(d) that in all boot and clothing contracts the whole work shall be done in the contractor's factory, and none given out ?

26. Co-operation with the Board of Guardians and the County Council, to find, in slack seasons, temporary useful and honorable employment for those out of work, by the arrangement of the public works in such a way as to increase employment at these periods ?

27. The grant of accommodation in the Town Hall or other public building for the weekly meetings of Friendly Societies and Trade Unions, at cost of service ?

### V.—A DEMOCRATIC COUNCIL.

Will you vote for :—

28. Evening meetings of the Council ?

29. Admission of the press and the public to all Council meetings ?

## ANSWERS.

QUESTIONS.

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30. Publication of detailed sanitary reports for every part of the borough, shewing the separate death-rates for separate districts, and of complete-returns of all local charities?

31. A systematic canvass of the whole borough each year to ensure a complete register of electors?

32. Granting the town hall, at a nominal charge, for any public meeting convened by twenty ratepayers?

VI.—MUNICIPAL AND TAXATION REFORMS.

Will you :—

33. Resist any attempt to weaken the County Council?

34. Urge the Borough Council to co-operate with the County Council in taking over the water and other monopolies?

35. Consent to the County Council laying new electric tramways within the borough wherever required?

36. Co-operate with the County Council for a better service of workmen's trains?

37. Oppose the grant of an Electric Lighting Order to a private company for any area already provided with a municipal supply?

38. Put into operation any powers the Borough Council may possess for rating unoccupied land and houses?

39. Urge the Borough Council to support the municipal taxation of ground values, a further equalization of rates, and a uniform system of assessment for London?

40. Press for more drastic Parliamentary powers for dealing with slum areas and the housing of the people?

41. Support the qualification of women to act on Borough Councils?

*Signature of Candidate* .....

See TRACT 100, Metropolitan Borough Councils: their Powers and Duties. With Statistical Table. One Penny, or Ninepence per dozen.

For this and list of other Tracts apply to the Fabian Society: address below.

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