

Questions for London Vestrymen.

SIR,

In connection with your Candidature for the Office of Vestryman, I should be obliged if you would be good enough to inform me of your views on the following questions.

I am, yours faithfully,

Name of Elector.....

Address of Elector.....

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

I.—A DEMOCRATIC BOARD.

1.—Are you in favour of the abolition of the Rating qualification for Vestrymen?

2.—Will you vote for evening meetings of the Vestry, so as to afford facilities for the attendance of Vestrymen and Rate-payers whose occupations leave them no spare time during the day?

3.—Are you in favour of abolishing the custom of making the Chairmanship of the Vestry an appanage of the Church, and will you support the free choice of the Chairman by the vote of the members of the Vestry?

4.—Will you support a reform of the system under which the Vestry Elections are carried out, so that they may conform to the method adopted at Parliamentary and other elections, in respect to the exclusive use of official voting papers, proper notice of nominations, and the appointment of competent presiding officers?

II.—PROPER TREATMENT OF WORKERS.

5.—Are you in favour of establishing a minimum wage of 24s. a week for Vestry employees?

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

6.—Will you insist that in all work carried out by the Vestry the Trade Union rate of wages shall be paid, and the hours of work shall be limited to a maximum of eight per day, and 48 in each week?

7.—Will you, in every possible case, prefer the direct employment of labour by the Vestry to the intervention of a contractor?

8.—Whenever it is found necessary to employ a contractor, will you insist upon the insertion, in all contracts for supplies, as well as for works, of clauses stipulating,

(a) against sub-contracting or sweating;

(b) for payment of Trade Union rate of wages, if any is fixed for that trade;

(c) that, whenever possible, the working day shall be eight hours only?

9.—Will you support Vestry employees in securing freedom of combination and the establishment of a union for themselves?

10.—Will you insist upon the Vestry making an earnest endeavour, by co-operating with the Board of Guardians and the County Council, to find, in all periods of depression and distress, temporary useful and honourable employment for those out of work, by the arrangement of the public works in such a way as to increase employment at these periods?

III.—SANITARY REFORM.

11.—Will you support the fullest application of the law against insanitary property, without respect of persons, and the provision of efficient and adequate sanitary inspection?

12.—Will you require the registration of Tenement Houses, with a view to secure more effective sanitary supervision?

13.—Will you vote for the immediate provision of baths and wash-houses in the districts at present unprovided with them?

QUESTIONS.

ANSWERS.

14.—Will you support an effort to reform the collection of dust, particularly in the poorer districts ?

15.—Are you in favour of the provision of open spaces and of tree-planting in the public streets ; of the adoption of noiseless pavement ; of the erection of seats and shelters for the weary ; of public drinking fountains ; and of public lavatory accomodation for both sexes ?

16.—Will you support the exercise of the Vestry's powers for compelling the Water Companies to give a constant water supply ?

IV.—MUNICIPAL AND TAXATION REFORM.

17.—Will you press for the early establishment of District Councils ?

18.—Are you in favour of abolishing such compulsory Church Rates as still exist in London ?

19.—Will you support the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts ?

20.—Are you in favour of placing the water supply under municipal control, either by purchase of the existing companies (not at monopoly price) or by the establishment of an independent supply ?

21.—Do you favour a similar policy in regard to the Gas Supply, the Tramways, and other practical monopolies ?

22.—Will you seek to put into operation any powers the Vestry may possess for rating unoccupied land and houses ?

23.—Are you in favour of the taxation of Ground Values for the relief of the occupiers ?

24.—Will you endeavour to pledge the Vestry to support the rating of Ground Values ?

Signature of Candidate.....

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