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British studies 2008

Preserving Britain's archival heritage through
digital and microfilm publication

BBC written archives collection

BBC handbooks, annual reports & accounts, 1927-2001/2

This collection, covering 1927-2001/2, includes all the handbooks, annual reports & accounts published by the British Broadcasting Corporation since its founding right up to the start of the 21st century.

In addition to financial data relating to the BBC's grant-in-aid and how it was spent, the collection contains a review of each year's public-service broadcasting, with detailed schedules, audience research, performance and objective tables, as well as commentaries and editorials.

The volumes are arranged chronologically within two groups – BBC handbooks and BBC annual reports & accounts. The titles of the volumes vary, for example the handbook is sometimes called yearbook and briefly 'annual', and for the period 1974-1987 the annual reports & accounts were incorporated in the handbooks.



THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT

1927

*Presented to Parliament by
Command of His Majesty*

BROADCASTING – GREAT BRITAIN – PERIODICALS

available online

Drawn from the collections of the BBC Written Archives Centre at Caversham Park near Reading, these important reference works are introduced (www.microform.co.uk/guides/R97602.pdf) by Dr Hugh Chignell of the Media School at Bournemouth University.

Key features of this online resource:

- ❖ Reproduces files in full, totaling over 22,000 images
- ❖ Fully keyword-searchable metadata, including OCR'd text
- ❖ Requires only licence, Internet access & Adobe Reader® 8.1 or above
- ❖ Trial accounts available to libraries



ISBN 978-1-85117-138-5

PRICE OF FIVE-YEAR LICENCE (2008-2013): £3,000/US\$6,000* with unlimited password + IP range access (equivalent to £600/US\$1,200 p.a.)

**See inside back cover for licence by instalments or in perpetuity. (50% discount on microfilm copy bought with licence)*

BBC written archives collection

BBC audience research reports

Part I: Listener Research Department (1937-c.1950)

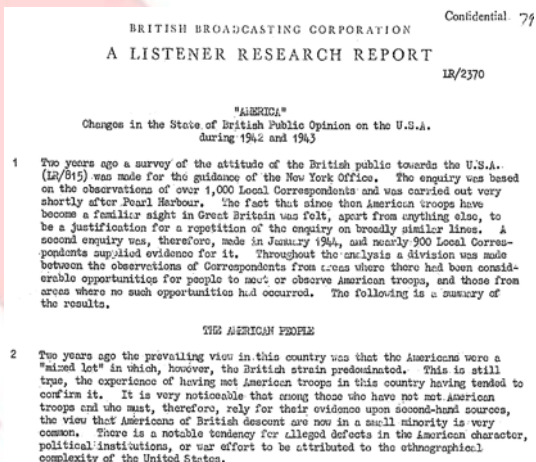
'Audience measurement, properly used, can be a good servant; but it is a bad master... the fate of the battleship *Potemkin* shows what happens when the ratings take over.'
(R. Silvey, head of the BBC's audience research from 1936 to 1960)

This major new online resource from the collections of the BBC Written Archives Centre delves into the BBC's internal research into its audiences from the inter-war years to the present. The first part, covering the period 1937-c.1950, presents the early research of the BBC's pioneering Listener Research Department (LRD) into wireless listening in Britain nationwide and at a regional level.

From the controversial founding of the Department in 1937, this first part takes in the turbulent years of the Second World War through to the early post-war period leading up to the launch of Britain's first national television channel.

This part reproduces the entire available collection of weekly audience summaries, together with the weekly then daily listening barometers. Also included are the audience reaction reports on particular programmes and special reports on specific themes or issues, as well as key policy documents produced by the LRD during these years, tracing the early development of market research within the BBC.

BROADCASTING – GREAT BRITAIN – PUBLIC OPINION – SOURCES



available online now

During the Second World War, listener research took on a new urgency as the BBC became an indispensable part of life on the Home Front. The LRD's wartime audience research, reproduced here for the first time, provides crucial insights into the listening habits and cultural preferences of the British people at this time, as well as detailed listener responses to some of the key radio programmes and personalities of the era, from ITMA and The Brain's Trust to Winston Churchill and William Joyce, the voice of Nazi propaganda better known as Lord Haw-Haw. Through its special reports on topics ranging from news readers' accents and evening listening habits to listeners' views about Russia, this first part provides a unique and revealing window onto the behaviour, attitudes and preoccupations of the British people at a key moment in their history.

This publication, which is introduced by Siân Nicholas of the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, is of particular value to students and researchers in history, in mass observation, and in media and communications studies, and is an indispensable source of information for those with an interest in everyday life in wartime Britain.

Key features of this online resource:

- ❖ Reproduces files in full, totalling over 10,000 images
- ❖ Replicates the arrangement and numeration of the collection within the BBC Written Archives Centre
- ❖ Requires only licence, Internet access & Adobe Reader® 8.1 or above
- ❖ Trial accounts available to libraries

ISBN 978-1-85117-124-8

PRICE OF FIVE-YEAR LICENCE (2008-2013): £1,900/US\$3,800* with unlimited password + IP range access (equivalent to £380/US\$760 p.a.)

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THE
B. B. C.

Twentieth-century British politics

The British Union of Fascists newspapers and secret files

On Thursday the 23rd of May 1940, after a lengthy period of surveillance by the security services, Sir Oswald Mosley leader of the British Union of Fascists (BUF) together with his chief lieutenants was arrested by police under Defence Regulation 18B of the Emergency Powers Act (1939). He was interned, initially in Brixton Prison and thence in Holloway. The reasons for his internment lay in his position as leader of the BUF, a political party which he had founded in 1932 and which he used to incite racial hatred and violence.

Throughout the 1930s the British Union of Fascists became increasingly pro-Nazi in its orientation, supporting the appeasement of Hitler and the Third Reich in blaming the Jews for the rising tension across Europe, and urging his followers and countrymen not to fight in a "Jews' war." The British Union of Fascists continued to function throughout the "phony war" but the invasion of France in May 1940 and the imminent invasion of Britain, which was feared at any moment, led the authorities to act swiftly against Mosley and the British Union, which was seen as a focus for Nazi collaboration.

Although the case against Mosley was never tried in court, there were a number of hearings at which he attempted to overturn the order of arrest and internment.

MOSLEY DETAINED
Truth About Police Raid
BRITISH UNION OFFICIALS HELD

Headline from issue no. 221 (30 May 1940) of the British Union weekly, *Action*

available online autumn 2008

In addition to reproducing the three principal organs of BUF, *Action*, *Fascist week*, and *Blackshirt*, together with a wealth of evidence gathered by the authorities against Mosley and also his second wife, Lady Diana Mosley, who was arrested and interned just over a month later, on the 29th of June, the present collection contains the files relating to the hearings, comprising the key secret papers from:

- the Home Office; the Police; MI5; and the Cabinet Office recently released by the National Archives, Kew, and selected by Dr Graham Macklin, formerly senior TNA archivist, and author of *Very deeply dyed in black: Sir Oswald Mosley and the resurrection of British fascism after 1945*.

Read together, these newspapers and previously classified documents provide detailed insights not only of the threat that home-grown fascism posed to Britain during the early stages of the Second World War, but also of the network of political and financial relationships built up between British fascists, the Nazis in Germany, and Mussolini's fascist party in Italy, as well as elsewhere in Europe.

ISBN 978-1-85117-125-5

PRICE OF FIVE-YEAR LICENCE (2008-2013): £2,500/US\$5,000* with unlimited password + IP range access (equivalent to £500/US\$1,000 p.a.)

*See inside back cover for licence by instalments or in perpetuity. (50% discount on microfilm copy bought with licence.)



Twentieth-century British politics

Parliamentary Labour Party papers, 1968/9-1993/4

The period 1968 to 1994 represents a turbulent one in British politics. It begins with the latter half of a Labour government under Harold Wilson, followed by the Conservative government of Edward Heath, which brought Britain the three-day week and into the EEC. Less than a year after Labour returned to power in 1974, the Conservatives elected a new leader. The Thatcher years appear in their entirety, including the Falklands War and the miners' strike. In the PLP, leadership moved from Jim Callaghan to Michael Foot to Neil Kinnock. Initially policy shifted to the left. However, after the Party's heavy election defeat in 1983, the concept of 'New Realism' began to emerge. In its wake came Tony Blair, whose progress to the top is charted by these papers, which culminate in the caretaker leadership of Margaret Beckett after the death of John Smith.



This collection therefore provides an essential desktop resource for researchers exploring not only British parliamentary politics during the seventies and eighties, but also the transformation of Labour movement in the UK from a leftwing socialist organisation, with mass union-affiliated membership, to its present position as a party of the centre ground.

available online now

Contained in this collection are the weekly agendas and minutes in full, together with copious supporting papers, for each of the:

- ❖ **Party Meetings**, which provides a forum for all Labour MPs to question members of the Labour government or shadow cabinet, and to discuss, and vote on, policy, issues of leadership within the PLP;
- ❖ **Liaison Committee**, which exists only when Labour is in power (1968-1970 & 1974-1979), and comprises party whips and selected ministers, who liaise between the Government and the Parliamentary Labour Party;
- ❖ **Parliamentary Committee** or the Shadow Cabinet, as it is more commonly known, comprising the front bench members of the Parliamentary Labour Party for the periods when it is in opposition (1970-1974 & 1979-1994); and,
- ❖ **Working Group on Standing Orders**, an ad hoc body examining policy issues and the relationship between the Parliamentary and numerous constituency Labour parties.

Key features of this online resource:

- ❖ Almost 11,000 images with browse and keyword search options
- ❖ Replicates the arrangement and numeration of the original documents in the collection held at the Labour History Archive and Study Centre (LHASC), Manchester
- ❖ Requires only licence, Internet access & Adobe Reader® 8.1 or above
- ❖ Trial accounts available to libraries

ISBN 978-1-85117-130-0

PRICE OF FIVE-YEAR LICENCE (2008-2013): £1,700/US\$3,400* with unlimited password + IP range access (equivalent to £340/US\$680 p.a.)

**See inside back cover for licence by instalments or in perpetuity. (50% discount on microfilm copy bought with licence.)*

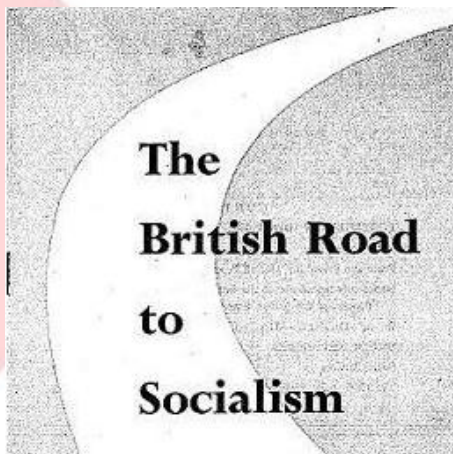
Twentieth-century British politics

The Communist Party of Great Britain archive

Communism was one of the defining movements of the 20th century and one unique in its international scope and political ambitions. Britain was no exception; and, from its formation as a section of the Moscow-based Communist International in 1920, the British communist party provided a pole of attraction for tens of thousands of activists on the British left.

For decades, the party's archives were a closed book to researchers, and the full story of its activities proved impossible to tell. With the dissolution of the party in 1991, however, the decision was taken to deposit the archives alongside those of the Labour Party in Manchester's People's History Museum.

Catalogued in 1993-1994, these turned out to be one of the outstanding national collections for the political history of the British left and have since aroused considerable scholarly interest. For the period from the 1940s, records of the party's central leading bodies have been meticulously preserved and include notes taken at meetings by leading party officials. In addition there are extensive records of central departments like the industrial department, which dealt with the trade union activities which were the most visible and controversial sign of the party's influence, and the international department, which maintained links with communist parties overseas.



COMMUNISM - GREAT BRITAIN - HISTORY - SOURCES

available online and on microfilm

With a very few exceptions (e.g. the Congress series CP/CENT/CONG from 1920), the institutional papers of the CPGB now held at the Labour History Archive and Study Centre, Manchester, date from 1943, when the early archives were transferred to Moscow, to 1991 after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Insofar as copyright and data protection legislation allows, the papers of all the main committees together with those of selected individual members are reproduced, including: agendas, minutes and supporting papers of the two main committees, the Executive Committee and the Political Committee, together with selected regional and sub-committees including the National Cultural Committee with its subsidiary bodies (e.g. the History Group, through which historians of the stature of Eric Hobsbawm and Christopher Hill first made their names); YCL; Women's Dept; London District Committee; Industrial Dept; International Committee; Organisation Dept (excl. personal & disciplinary files); and associated papers, incl. the British Peace Committee.

The archive also comprises a number of priceless personal collections donated by notable former members. These include papers of its best known leader and general secretary, Harry Pollitt; its leading theoretician, R. Palme Dutt; and the organiser of the inter-war unemployed, Wal Hannington. There are also papers relating to the legendary labour agitator Tom Mann / Dona Torr, who in his final years became a leading communist; as well as others such as Ivor Montagu, Ben Bradley, John Gollan, and William Gallacher.

Selected and introduced by Kevin Morgan, University of Manchester.

See overleaf for details of 2008 price.



www.CommunistPartyArchive.org.uk

The Communist Party of Great Britain archive

Full contents of the entire archive, which is being released in phases, are available on www.a2a.org.uk. Select location “*Labour History Archive and Study Centre*” and search for keyword “*CPGB*”.

Microfilm edition (ISBN 978-1-85117-136-1)

Series already available (*16mm reels supplied on 35mm film unless otherwise requested*):

- Executive Committee (24 reels – £1,440/US\$2,880);
- Executive Committee commissions (13 reels – £780/US\$1,560);
- Political Committee (20 reels – £1,200/US\$2,400);
- Party Congresses from 1920 (20 reels – £1,200/US\$2,400);
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- National Cultural Committee, incl. Historians’ Group (20 reels – £1,200/US\$2,400);
- Central secretarial correspondence (9 reels – £540/US\$1,080); and,
- Industrial Department (7 reels – £420/US\$840).

(10% discount on these and subsequent series when setting up a standing order)

Next series to be released on microfilm: International Department

Online edition (ISBN 978-1-85117-135-4)

First three series available together:

- Executive Committee;
- Executive Committee commissions; and,
- Political Committee.

PRICE OF FIVE-YEAR LICENCE (2008-2013): £5,000/US\$10,000* with unlimited password + IP range access to first three series

**See inside back cover for licence by instalments or in perpetuity. (50% discount on microfilm copy bought with licence.)*

www.CommunistPartyArchive.org.uk

Twentieth-century British politics

The Nelson gazette

a historical, labour movement free-sheet from Lancashire's cotton-spinning heartland

A near complete run, from no. 58 (January 3rd, 1928) to no. 3547 (August 28th, 1962), this rare local newspaper charts the political, social and commercial life of a predominantly working-class community during the decline of one of the North West's major industries. This is an early example of the free-sheet genre from the Lancashire textile town of Nelson, and includes articles contributed by often fiercely left-wing trade unionists and Labour party members, including a regular column by Sydney Silverman, the prominent MP for the Nelson and Colne constituency for over 30 years, from 1935 to his death in 1968. In addition to local issues, among the political causes for which Silverman was best known were opposition to capital punishment, pacifism and support for the establishment of a Jewish homeland in Palestine.

From the collections of the Working Class Movement Library, Salford.

2008 price for 13 reel set (ISBN 978-1-85117-146-0): £975/US\$1,950

Other newspapers relating to the Labour movement and the textile industry trade unions from the late 19th and early 20th centuries include:

- *The Yorkshire factory times*, a newspaper with roots particularly in the woollen industry, covering the period from July 1889 to June 1913 (23 reels – £1,311/US\$2,622)
- *The Bradford pioneer*, mouthpiece of the Bradford Socialist Party, covering the years of WWI, from 1913 to 1935, with the rise of the textile trade unions in the West Riding of Yorkshire (8 reels – £456/US\$912)

microfilm resource

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- Records relating to the slave trade at the Liverpool Record Office
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Asian Studies

- The papers of Clive of India, from the National Library of Wales
- The Indian correspondence of Brigadier-General John Carnac (1716-1800) from the National Library of Wales
- The Indian papers of the Rt. Hon. Charles John, Earl Canning : Governor-General (1856-1858) and Viceroy (1858-1862)
- The Indian papers of the 4th Earl of Minto, including his service on the North West Frontier during the Afghan War of 1879 and as Viceroy, 1905-1910
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FORTHCOMING DIGITAL RESOURCES IN 2009/10

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- English Methodist periodicals to 1900
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- The Stuart papers, from the Royal Archives at Windsor Castle

www.microform.co.uk/academic/

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- BBC handbooks, etc.: 1 x £1,200/US\$2,400 + 4 x £600/US\$1,200
- BBC Listener research dept. reports: 1 x £760/US\$1,520 + 4 x £380/US\$760
- BUF newspapers & secret files: 1 x £1,000/US\$2,000 + 4 x £500/US\$1,000
- PLP papers: 1 x £680/US\$1,360 + 4 x £340/US\$680
- CPGB archive (first three series): 1 x £2,000/US\$4,000 + 4 x £1,000/US\$2,000

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- BBC handbooks, etc.: £5,000/US\$10,000
- BBC Listener research dept. reports: £3,200/US\$6,400
- BUF newspapers & files: £4,000/US\$8,000
- PLP papers: £3,000/US\$6,000
- CPGB archive (first three series): £8,000/US\$16,000

www.BritishOnlineArchives.co.uk



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The Nelson gazette

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