

Lebendige Sprache

Experimentalphonetische Untersuchungen

herausgegeben von *Wilhelm Horn* und *Kurt Ketterer* / Heft 8

Intonation und Lautgebung

in der Aussprache von Ramsay Macdonald

Von

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Mit 83 Tafeln



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Vorwort

Das vorliegende Heft bildet eine Einheit zusammen mit Heft 9 dieser Reihe, insofern als beide Abhandlungen sich mit Macdonald als Redner beschäftigen. Das Ziel der Untersuchung besteht darin, festzustellen, wie weit die inhaltliche Verschiedenheit der gesprochenen Texte phonetisch zum Ausdruck kommt.

Die der vorliegenden Arbeit zugrunde gelegte doppelseitig bespielte Schallplatte: Columbia 5341, Labour Party 1929 Election behandelt die Themata: 1. Unemployment, 2. World Peace. Die in Heft 9 durchgeführte Untersuchung von Lisa Harder beschäftigt sich mit der Platte: Columbia 9779: Robert Burns — A Man amongst Men. Diese enthält eine Gedächtnisrede auf Robert Burns, bei welcher Gelegenheit Macdonald auch noch einige lyrische Gedichte rezitiert. Das behandelte Material zeigt den Redner also von den verschiedensten Seiten und gibt Gelegenheit zu lehrreichen Vergleichen.

Ramsay Macdonald wurde am 12. Oktober 1866 in Lossiemouth (Morayshire) im schottischen Hochland geboren und scheint sich bis zu seinem achtzehnten Lebensjahr dort aufgehalten zu haben. Im Verlaufe der damals eingeschlagenen sozialreformerischen und politischen Tätigkeit hat er von diesem Zeitpunkt ab überwiegend in London gelebt. Die verhältnismäßig späte Trennung von der Heimatprovinz sowie das Fehlen von höherer Schule und Universität in seinem Ausbildungsgang zeigen sich in einer starken schottischen Färbung seiner Aussprache, die im einzelnen belegt werden wird. Als Redner verfügt er über eine außerordentlich große Variationsmöglichkeit seiner klanglichen Mittel. Seine Vortragsweise ist überwiegend gefühlsbetont, stellenweise pastoral, entsprechend der starken ethischen und religiösen Einstellung, die ihn zum wirkungsvollsten Prediger des Sozialismus und des Weltfriedens in England werden ließ.

Benutzte Literatur, Abkürzungen und phonetische Umschrift stimmen mit Heft 1 dieser Reihe überein. An Literaturnachweisen wäre nur hinzuzufügen:

E. Dieth: A Grammar of the Buchan Dialect, Cambridge 1932.

W. Grant: The Pronunciation of English in Scotland, Cambridge 1913.

Die am häufigsten verwendeten Abkürzungen sind:

cs = Hundertstel-Sekunde,

φ = Frequenz in Vierteltönen,

n. = Numerus, Anzahl der Fälle, wenn sie nicht in % umgerechnet sind,

W. = Wortnummer,

Hz = Hertz, Schwingung pro Sekunde.

Text der untersuchten Schallplatten ¹⁾

I.

Ladies and gentlemen,

I speak to you of the Labour Party, its ideals and its immediate objects. But first of all let me welcome the goodly company of new electors, whom we have long striven to get on the register, and to whom we are now glad to appeal. May they govern their country well!

The party was born from the hearts and the needs of the people. Its programme is based on the problems of the home. Consider what it is that worries the lives of our people. First and foremost that is the dread of an ever-overhanging poverty. The nation is rich. Millions of pounds are squandered every year in deteriorating luxury, which blesses and benefits nobody. Many who have, have not earned their possessions. Multitudes who have not, have toiled all their days and at the end are no better off than when they began. This is a political and moral as well as an economic issue: it is the greatest problem of our civilization.

The Labour Party is not interested in dispossessing, but it is interested in creating a society in which the wealth-producers and service-givers may enjoy the reward of their labours. This necessitates a rural as well as a town programme, and the party's programme to build up the countryside is willing to support the farmers and labourers alike. The Labour Party does not forget that agriculture is still our greatest industry, or that the condition of the farm-labourer is one of the most pressing of our national problems.

The way by which most of our dreaded poverty comes is unemployment. For nearly ten years now this has been a menacing disgrace in our midst. The leaders of both the other parties have neglected it, have been baffled by it. When Mr. Lloyd George was Prime Minister with a huge majority behind him and nearly two million unemployed in the country, he promised much and did little. Since Mr. Baldwin has been in office, he has neglected to face the facts and

¹⁾ Columbia 5341: Labour Party 1929 Election. Part I: Unemployment, Part II: World Peace (Sprecher: J. Ramsay Macdonald).

has fallen back upon charity. His great cure is to spread the unemployed over the land and knock them off insurance benefits.

The Labour Party will face what baffled the other two parties. Our claim that the unemployed should have work or maintenance still holds good. National resources, now neglected, will be used, great highways built, transport organized as a national service, a bold policy of housing restored and slum clearances on an adequate scale begun, electrical power developed, national credit used to assist trade and recondition industrial plant, children kept at school, and old workers pensioned, so that they can retire. Whilst these schemes are enlivening trade and absorbing the unemployed, those who are still out of work will be honourably maintained by adequate payments from insurance funds. They will not be driven on to the Poor Law.

This is accepted by the Labour Party as its first task in government. To solve it successfully and in the quickest possible time the party will commandeer its best brains, the ripest experience of the country, and what money is required. By our treatment of the unemployed problem we shall stand or fall.

II.

The lives of our people are darkened by another possibility, the constant fear of war, and here I appeal especially to the women electors. What a disgrace it is to all our Christian professions that even to this day nations are spending more in paying for past wars and preparing for future ones than in training the young generation in virtue, in protecting our mothers and fathers from poverty, and in smoothing and soothing the last years of our aged.

The present government had a chance given to none of its predecessors to establish peace. It trembled at its opportunities. As Mr. Winston Churchill says in his last book, the Labour Government paved the way for the memorable event — these are his own words — the memorable event of the Locarno Treaty. That done, the government pursued a monotonous path of failure: failure at the League of Nations, at the International Labour Office, at Disarmament Conferences, failure to come to terms with America. It did come to an agreement with France, however, which, so far from advancing disarmament, would have increased arms.

Arbitration is the only substitute for war. If nations are not prepared to bring their causes into court, they must kill, starve, and destroy

each other. Will the women who nurture life with so much pain and anxiety, mingled with love, consent to have that life made targets to be maimed and killed by bomb, shell, and bullet?

And what is the purpose of it all? Has any nation ever been made secure by its arms? Every chapter of history says "No". Has any nation ever been victorious in war? They have won battles, but victors and vanquished alike have suffered defeat. The next war of which people are already talking so lightly, and for which governments are so blindly preparing, will leave civilization a smoking ruin and a putrefying charnel-house. No man, woman, or child will be immune. Destruction will rise from the sea and fall from the air, and people will drop mysteriously where they stand touched by the invisible breath of poison.

There must be no next war! By using the League of Nations, by entering a bond of mutual security, by disarmament and arbitration, Labour can herald the endless reign of peace. This is no idle dream or empty boast: the record of the Labour Government proves it right up to the hilt.

Our ideal is a nation which is a community of hard-working, happy men. Hard-working, because it is only by the sweat of the brow and brain that mankind can live. Happy, because it will be a community, where men are dealt with fairly. Hence it is that our movement appeals to the mind as well as to the body, and enlisted in its ranks are men and women who care for what is good and true and beautiful more than they care for possessions and vulgar show.

The Labour movement has been nurtured in the womb of history for many generations. Now that it is born, let us give it a joyous welcome and a loyal support.

Die gesperrt gedruckten Teile des Textes liegen in ihrem wesentlichen Melodieverlauf unterhalb der Mitte des Stimmbereichs.