The Welsh Outlook Since the end of WWI, one party has held the momentum of political and social change in South Wales: the Labour Party. Its triumph was never fully guaranteed. It came quickly amidst a torrent of ideas, actions, and war. But the result was a vibrant, effective and long-lasting democracy. The result was Labour Country. In this bold, controversial book, Daryl Leeworthy takes a fresh and provocative look at the struggle through radical political action for social democracy in Wales. The reasons for Labour’s triumph, he argues, lay in radical pragmatism and an ability to harness lofty ideals with meaningful practicality. This was a place of dreamers as well as doers. The world of Arthur Horner and Aneurin Bevan. And yet, as the author shows, this history is now over. Although a trajectory leads from the end of the Miners’ Strike both to the advent of devolution and the circumstances that led to the Brexit vote in 2016, these are exits from Labour Country, not a continuation. Sustained by a powerful synthesis of scholarship and original research, passionate and committed, this book brings the cubist epic of South Wales and its politics to life.

Report of the Annual Conference of the Labour Party Labour’s Crisis is a study of political change in modern Wales, concentrating on the sustained challenge to the Labour Party’s dominance in Wales by the emerging political voice of Plaid Cymru from the mid 1960s onwards. -- Welsh Books Council

Huw T Edwards Huw T. Edwards was a prominent Welsh- (and English-) speaking public figure in twentieth-century Welsh society. In the 1950s he was known as ‘the unofficial Prime Minister of Wales’ because of his chairmanship of the Council of Wales. In 1958 Edwards resigned from the Council of Wales because the Conservative government refused to create the post of Secretary of State for Wales. In 1959 he also resigned from the Labour Party, after 50 years membership. Again, his reasons reflected a growing sense of Welsh nationalism. He had become increasingly interested in Welsh cultural and political issues and had encouraged his union to support of Coleg Harlech and the National Eisteddfod. On leaving Labour, Edwards joined Plaid Cymru. Edwards’s political life, therefore, seems to reinforce the notion of fragmentation of United Kingdom identities and their replacement by distinct and politically ambitious national identities in Wales. This book suggests that close examination of Edwards political life reveals a more complex situation. Edwards’s resignation from Labour was about his political desires for Wales but equally entailed a rejection of the rightward shift in British Labour politics being led by Hugh Gaitskell. Edwards’s protest can therefore be viewed from the perspective of the British left as well as Welsh nationalism. Hence in 1965 Edwards rejoined Labour, because the accession of Harold Wilson to the Labour leadership and government resulted in a radicalisation of the party alongside recognition of Welsh nationhood with the establishment of a Welsh Secretary of State and a Welsh Office.
The last general election saw the Conservatives win their highest vote share in forty years, while Labour slumped to their lowest seat total since 1935. At the heart of this electoral earthquake was the so-called ‘Red Wall’, some sixty seats stretching from the Midlands up to the north of England. Who are the Red Wall voters and why did they forgo their long-standing party loyalties? Did they simply lend their votes to Johnson to get Brexit done – or will he be able to win them over more permanently? And as the Labour Party licks its wounds, how were those votes thrown away and what, if anything, can be done to win them back? And how will the pandemic and the government’s reaction to it change the voter’s outlook on party politics in the future? Will everything be the same after it has passed? This book sets out to answer those questions by putting them to the people who will decide the next election.

Wales Information covers England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Labour and Devolution in Wales 1983-98

The First Labour Party 1906-1914 A richly illustrated account of the history of Wales from prehistoric times to the present day, comprising studies by 11 distinguished historians which throw light on various aspects of the archaeological, administrative, agricultural, industrial, cultural, educational, religious and social history of the country. 28 colour and over 130 black-and-white illustrations, with 4 maps.

Thatcherism and Territorial Politics

James Griffiths and His Times

Why Wales Never Was A timely reference guide to the Labour Party which brings together the essential facts and figures about the Party since its foundation through to the ‘New Labour’ of the 1990’s. It is the essential reference book for anyone wanting reliable information on the Labour Party.

The Labour Party Wales 49th Annual Conference 1986 This is a study of the Labour Party’s attitude to devolution in Wales from 1983 to 1998. To place the work in context, there is an introductory chapter on Welsh demands for a Secretary of State and a Parliament of their own during the period 1886 to 1979. Seeks to answer the question as to why the Labour Party considered and eventually supported devolution in Wales so soon after the debacle of the 1979 referendum.

Constitution-Making and the Labour Party This study is the first thorough analysis of the extent of the opposition to the Great War in Wales, and is the most extensive study of the anti-war movement in any part of Britain. It is, therefore, a significant contribution to our understanding of people’s responses to the conflict, and the difficulty of mobilising the population for total war. The anti-war movement in Wales and beyond developed quickly from the initial shock of the declaration of war, to the civil disobedience of anti-war activists and the industrial discontent excited by the Russian Revolution and experienced in areas such as the south Wales coalfield in 1917. The differing responses to the war within Wales are explored in this book, which charts how the pacifist tradition of nineteenth-century Welsh Nonconformity was quickly overturned. The two main elements of the anti-war movement are analysed in depth: the pacifist religious opposition, the Fellowship of Reconciliation, and the Nonconformist dissidents who were particularly influential in north and west Wales; and the political opposition concentrated in the Independent Labour Party and among the radical left within the South Wales Miners’ Federation.

The Australian Federal Labour Party, 1901-1951

Report of the Annual Conference - Labour Party (Great Britain)
Wales - The First and Final Colony

Beyond the Red Wall Since coming to power in 1997 the Labour government’s programme of constitutional reform represents an historic challenge to both British constitutional doctrine and Labour Party orthodoxy. Mark Evans examines the nature and extent of this challenge and argues that the New Constitutionalism is a key element of a policy agenda that in its most crucial aspects reflects the continuing transformation of the British industrial-welfare state into a competition state. Constitution-Making and the Labour Party analyzes key areas of reform under the Blair government from the perspective of Labour Party history and contemporary policy analysis.

Labour Party General Election Manifestos, 1900-1997

Report of the Annual Conference of the Labour Party The book traces Lord Morris of Aberavon's life from his deep roots and formative years in mid-Wales to his appointment as Attorney General and beyond, providing a fascinating insight into the personalities and dramas encountered along the way in politics and law.

The Tempus History of Wales, 25,000 B.C.--A.D. 2000 Collected writings by Adam Price, leader of Plaid Cymru and one of the great thinkers in current Welsh politics. It explores the viability of Welsh independence and includes some of his most famous speeches to Parliament, offering a great assessment of the current Welsh situation as well as ideas for securing a brighter future for Wales.

The Labour Party in Crisis In 2000, the Labour party, which has dominated Welsh political life for much of the past 100 years, celebrates its centenary. This collection of essays highlights ideas on its development and operation within Wales and its impact on Welsh society.

The Opposition to the Great War in Wales 1914-1918

The Welsh Question In Thatcherism and Territorial Politics - A Welsh Case Study the author outlines the key features of local economic and urban regeneration policies in the era of Thatcherism. The implementation of these policies in a region that is often regarded as hostile to the assumptions and logic of Thatcherism reveals much about the nature of policy-making and the distribution of power in British policy in the early 1990s. This book focuses the debate on Government in a distinctive part of the United Kingdom from a territorial politics perspective and will be of interest to all sides in the evolving devolution debate in the United Kingdom.

Recount Examines the Labour Party's approach to constitutional reforms in historical context, and how these have been pursued more to 'modernize' political institutions, rather than radically transform them. Explains the reasons for this constitutional conservatism, and the debates which specific reform proposals have prompted in the Party.

The Longman Companion to the Labour Party, 1900-1998 This volume collects the Labour Party's general election manifestos, dating back to 1900, and including the manifesto of 1997. It offers a useful source of data about the Conservative Party's political ideologies and policy positions.

The Oxford Companion to the Literature of Wales Written as an act of protest in a Welsh-speaking community in north-west Wales, Why Wales Never Was combines a devastating analysis of the historical failure of Welsh nationalism with an apocalyptic vision of a non-Welsh future. It is the 'progressive' nature of Welsh politics and the 'empire of the civic', which rejects both language and culture, that prevents the colonised from rising up against his colonial master. Wales
will always be a subjugated nation until modes of thought, dominant since the nineteenth century, are overturned. Originally a comment on Welsh acquiescence to Britishness at the time of the 2014 Scottish independence referendum, the book’s emphasis on the importance of European culture is a parable for Brexit times. Both deeply rooted in Welsh culture and European in scope, Why Wales Never Was brings together history, philosophy and politics in a way never tried before in Wales. First published in Welsh in 2015, Why Wales Never Was affirms the author’s reputation as one of the most radical writers in Wales today.

The Welsh Nationalist Party, 1925-1945 Offers a study of the formative years of Plaid Cymru.

A History of British Socialism

Labour Country

Fifty Years in Politics and the Law First published in 1983. This study draws upon empirical findings on party activists, members and voters. It examines the origins and nature of Labour’s crisis in the 1980s, showing how the split leading to the formation of the SDP was merely a manifestation of deeply rooted problems which went back many years. It argues that this crisis had three distinct but interrelated aspects: first, the ideological schism within the party, which had grown in intensity over time; second, the electoral crisis, which produced the worst electoral performance at the 1983 general election since 1918; and, third, the membership crisis arising from the fact that the party had been losing more than 11,000 individual members per year on average since 1945. Using elite and mass surveys the book demonstrates the link between these crises and Labour’s policy performance in office set against a background of rapid economic decline.

The Territorial Dimension in United Kingdom Politics First published in 1985. The essays in this book pull together the diverse strands of research to give a comprehensive picture of the Labour Party, which strived to carve out for itself a niche within an existing political framework. The first part of the book examines the composition, the national, local and regional organisation of the party, and its relations with the working classes, the TUC and the Liberals. In the second part the contributors discuss the party’s stand on the main political issues of the day: education, the suffragettes, Ireland and other major areas of concern in the political arena at the beginning of the century.

The Communist Party of Great Britain and the National Question in Wales, 1920-1991 For decades, otherwise highly respected figures in Welsh life have repeatedly claimed that Welsh nationalists sympathised with Fascism during the dark days of the 1930s and the Second World War. In this path-breaking book, Wales’s leading political commentator assesses the truth of these charges. In addition to shedding new light on the attitudes of Plaid Cymru and its leadership during the period in question, this book offers an insightful and challenging interpretation of the nature Welsh political culture.

Politico’s Guide to the General Election Identifies Welsh historians, publishers, novelists, playwrights, poets, translators, educators, and important movements, institutions, and works

The Labour Party and Constitutional Reform

Plaid Cymru

Cylchgrawn Hanes Cymru
Labour Party in Wales 1900-2000 History and analysis of Plaid Cymru between 1945 and 1999, the period in which it moved from pressure group politics to fully functioning political party with MEPs, MPs, Assembly Members and control of several councils in Wales. In addition to a chronological history, McAllister offers approaches from the electoral, ideological, constitutional and women's perspectives. Ideal book for school and university level students studying devolution as part of a politics course. In the first full-length study of its kind, Laura McAllister portrays the emergence of Plaid Cymru in the post-war world from its origins as a disparate association of campaigners and activists to its current status of fully-functioning political machine. Skillfully interweaving rigorous historical analysis and interviews with key protagonists, McAllister takes us through the issues and events of a turbulent half century for both Plaid and Wales. Much more than a simple retelling of events, this book focuses on the debates and divisions which still mark the party. It shows how Plaid struggles to balance the concerns of its rural, bilingual, traditional heartlands with campaigns for social and economic reforms in the post-industrial valleys of south Wales. McAllister also examines the role of women in the party; looks at its relationship with Westminster and with Brussels; and considers what must be done if Plaid is really to overtake New labour and become truly The Party of Wales.

Labour's Crisis While electorally weak, the Communist Party of Great Britain and its Welsh Committee was a constant feature of twentieth century Welsh politics, in particular through its influence in the trade union movement. Based on original archival research, the present volume offers the first in-depth study of the Communist Party's attitude to devolution in Wales, to Welsh nationhood and Welsh identity, as well as examining the party's relationship with the Labour Party, Plaid Cymru and the labour and nationalist movements in relation to these issues. Placing the party's engagement of these issues within the context of the rapid changes in twentieth century Welsh society, debates on devolution and identity on the British left, the role of nationalism within the communist movement, and the interplay of international and domestic factors, the volume provides new insight into the development of ideas by the political left on devolution and identity in Wales during the twentieth century. It also offers a broad outline of the party's policy in relation to Wales during the twentieth century, and an assessment of the role played by leading figures in the Welsh party in developing its policy on Wales and devolution.

Wales This is volume 2 of the set A History of British Socialism. These volumes study the political thought experienced as a result of the massive transition of the British countryside to capitalist agriculture and capitalist industry.

Devolution in the United Kingdom This introduction to the major changes caused by devolution looks at both the historical background and contemporary political events. It assesses the operation, strengths and weaknesses of the devolved state, using highly relevant case studies to illustrate.

The Creation of the Welsh Office

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