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“Back on to our Socialism.”

—J. RAMSAY MACDONALD.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE RIGHT HON. J.
RAMSAY MACDONALD.

By THE EDITOR.



MY DEAR MACDONALD,—I note with gladness that, in *Forward* this week, you say we must “get back on to our Socialism. In the end, it alone matters.”

Taken in conjunction with recent events and pronouncements, is this the preliminary and informal announcement of a change of policy? Perhaps you will read what follows as from an old friend and a propagandist of over forty years.

The Past.

The Government of which you were the head denationalised the town and works of Gretna, getting very poor prices for what was a sacrifice both of principle and of property. Your Government increased the expenditure on aircraft, and built unnecessary cruisers in fulfilment of the Admiralty's programme. The English sailors who broke the sea-power of Spain and of France did it with the odds always against them; but the British admirals of to-day appear to feel uneasy if they do not outnumber the enemy in ships, guns, and men alike.

Your Government did *not* nationalise the railways, although that was the policy of the Coalition as far back as 1918. Your Government did *not* nationalise the mines, though there was a promise solemnly made on behalf of the Coalition