

# John Wheatley: Catholic Socialism and Irish Labour in the West of Scotland, 1906



John Wheatley, Catholic Socialism, and Irish Labour in the West of Scotland, 1906-1924 (Routledge Library Editions: The Labour Movement) by Gerry C. Gunning

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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X-Ray for textbooks : Enabled  
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John Wheatley was a leading figure in the British Labour movement and the first Catholic to serve as a Cabinet Minister. He was born in Dublin in 1869 and moved to Scotland as a young man. He became involved in politics in the West of Scotland, where he was a leading figure in the Catholic Socialist movement. Wheatley was elected to Parliament in 1922 and served as Minister of Health from 1924 to 1929. He was a strong

advocate for social justice and played a key role in the development of the welfare state in Britain.

## **Early Life and Career**

John Wheatley was born in Dublin on 19 April 1869. His father was a tailor and his mother was a dressmaker. Wheatley left school at the age of 14 and began working as a message boy. He later worked as a clerk and a journalist. In 1891, he moved to Scotland and settled in the West of Scotland. He became involved in politics and was elected to the Glasgow City Council in 1906.

## **Catholic Socialism**

Wheatley was a devout Catholic and a committed socialist. He believed that socialism was the best way to achieve social justice. He was a leading figure in the Catholic Socialist movement, which sought to combine the principles of Catholicism with socialism.

## **Irish Labour**

Wheatley was also a strong supporter of Irish labour. He believed that the Irish working class had been exploited by the British ruling class. He was a supporter of Irish Home Rule and was involved in the Irish labour movement. He was a member of the Irish Labour Party and served as its chairman from 1922 to 1924.

## **Political Career**

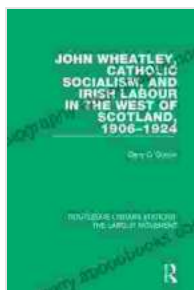
Wheatley was elected to Parliament in 1922. He served as Minister of Health from 1924 to 1929. During his time as Minister of Health, he

introduced a number of important social reforms, including the Wheatley Housing Act, which provided for the construction of new council houses.

## Later Life and Legacy

Wheatley died in London on 12 May 1930. He was 61 years old. He left behind a legacy of social justice and reform. He was a pioneer of the Catholic Socialist movement and a strong supporter of Irish labour. He played a key role in the development of the welfare state in Britain.

John Wheatley was a remarkable man who made a significant contribution to British politics and society. He was a devout Catholic, a committed socialist, and a strong supporter of Irish labour. He played a key role in the development of the welfare state in Britain and left behind a legacy of social justice and reform.



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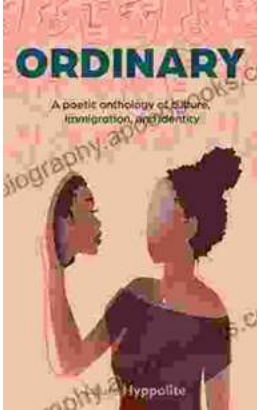
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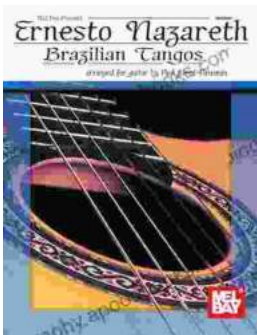
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