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**20
Questions
And
Answers**

20 questions & answers

Q.1. What is Plaid Cymru ?

Plaid Cymru is the National Party of Wales—the only political party to represent Wales in parliament.

Plaid Cymru has three aims : -

- (i) we seek self government for Wales within the Commonwealth so that the people of Wales shall have freedom to control their own affairs;
- (ii) our policies are designed to strengthen the social and economic life of Wales and its language;
- (iii) we believe that Wales should take a full part in world affairs as a member of the United Nations Organisation.

Plaid Cymru was founded in 1925. Today it has over 40,000 members throughout Wales, and more and more people share our aims.

In the historic by-election at Carmarthen in 1966, Gwynfor Evans was elected as Plaid Cymru M.P. to speak for the whole of Wales. The tremendous swing to Plaid Cymru was confirmed at Rhondda and Caerffili where mammoth Labour majorities were destroyed. The swing in these elections was larger than in any elections in Britain since the war.

The most exciting part of these elections were the questions people asked at packed meetings : intelligent, penetrating questions about the problems and possibilities of a self-governing Wales.

Those questions are the basis of this pamphlet.

Q.2. Isn't Wales too small for self-government ?

The twentieth century is the age of the small nation. There are now 39 nations in the world, smaller than Wales in population, but with complete self-government and full membership of the United Nations Organisation. These include such advanced nations as Iceland, Luxembourg and New Zealand.

At the same time, almost every large country in the world is divided into smaller regions with a substantial measure of self-government, each with its own government, its own parliament, its own laws.

The U.S.A. is a nation of 50 states, more than half of these being smaller in population than Wales. Yet each state has its own constitution and its own laws.

Germany is divided into 11 Lander—5 smaller than Wales.

Above all, Switzerland is a confederation of 22 cantons: the largest is less than half the size of Wales; the smallest has a population of only 12,000 (about the size of Caernarfon or Carmarthen or Bargoed). Yet each canton is independent with its own Government and with almost all the powers we seek for Wales.

In the modern world, Britain is the odd-man-out. With a constitution devised to meet the conditions of 1707, it is today the largest Western country governed by a single Parliament. The House of Commons is totally unable to cope with the pressure of business. Many laws are rushed through Parliament without proper debate. Ministers are out of touch with the problems that ordinary people face.

Wales is an ideal size for efficient government. Britain is far too large.

Q.3. But can small nations succeed economically?

In general small nations have the greatest economic success. In Europe the four countries with far-and-away the highest standard of living are small. They are Sweden (population 7.8 million); Switzerland (6.0 million); Denmark (4.8 million) and Norway (3.7 million).

Indeed, of the ten most prosperous countries in Europe, seven have populations less than 10 million while two of them—Luxembourg and Iceland—are smaller than Monmouthshire. These countries also have the lowest unemployment levels and almost complete freedom from industrial strikes.

Poor Britain has dropped out of the top-ten altogether—but what else could we expect in a state so large, where so much power is centralised in one Parliament, and where so many of our scarce resources are squandered on military expenditure.

Table 1. : Europe's Top-Ten.

Nation	Population	Average income per head (1967)
Sweden	7.8 million	£1,270
Switzerland	6.0 million	£1,080
Denmark	4.8 million	£970
Norway	3.7 million	£920
France	49.9 million	£920
Luxembourg	0.3 million	£910
Germany	57.7 million	£870
Iceland	0.2 million	£870

Belgium	9.6 million	£860
Netherlands	12.6 million	£760
Compare :— U.K.	55.1 million	£710

Q.4. Could Wales hope to have a voice in world affairs?

President Kennedy in his famous speech to the Irish Parliament said: "The peace-keeping machinery of the United Nations cannot work without the help of the smaller nations, nations whose forces threaten no-one and whose forces can thus help create a world in which no nation is threatened." This is the role we want Wales to take in world affairs.

For let us compare Wales with Ireland. Ireland is a small country—yet her contribution to world peace has been out of all proportion to her size. She is recognized as a leader of the neutral countries. Irish troops have provided peace-keeping forces in Lebanon, in Suez, in the Congo and in Cyprus. Above all the initiative of Ireland led to the ratification of the nuclear non-proliferation pact—the most important advance in international agreement since the war. This is the proud record of Ireland.

But we in Wales can do nothing as a nation.

We are cut-off from the world, separated from the mainstream of international affairs. Our voice is the voice of Britain whether we like it or not.

We cannot work for disarmament, because we are ruled by a government committed to nuclear and biological warfare!

We cannot oppose the terrible war in Vietnam—because the British government has given the Americans unconditional support.

And who could believe that a free Wales would remain in military alliance with a Fascist dictatorship—as Britain has with Greece.

Until we face our own responsibility as a full member of the world community we share the guilt for these policies.

We in Plaid Cymru are inspired by the small nations of Europe—Ireland, Switzerland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden and Finland—countries that have made a tremendous contribution towards world affairs.

Among these nations Wales will take her place.

Q.5. Would self-government mean passports and a customs barrier between Wales and England?

Certainly not. You can forget all the bad jokes about frontier posts at Chepstow.

Plaid Cymru has never believed in economic separatism. In the modern world no country—not even Britain—can be economically independent. We depend on each other and self-government will not disturb the economic union which exists between the countries of Britain. People, goods and capital will move as freely between Wales and England as they do today.

In detail, Plaid Cymru's policy (adopted in 1956 and re-affirmed in 1960 and 1968) calls for:—

- (i) an absence of customs barriers between Wales and England;
- (ii) harmonisation of taxes and tariffs;
- (iii) a common currency;
- (iv) joint economic planning.

In other words, Wales and England would continue to co-operate closely on economic matters—but as full partners.

Q.6. Could Wales afford self-government?

Of course. All the evidence shows that taxes paid in Wales already exceed total Government spending. The details are given in a book published by Professor Nevin: "The Structure of the Welsh Economy."

He added up all taxes and insurance contributions collected in Wales between 1948 and 1962 and compared the total with Government spending in Wales over the same period. The results show that revenue collected in Wales exceeded expenditure on the current account by about £140 million. In other words we pay enough to cover all current spending by the Government—and to provide a transfer of £10 million a year to the capital account.

If we include central and local government, the revenue includes income tax, company tax, purchase tax, taxes on alcohol, tobacco and petrol, national insurance contributions and rates: these give a total revenue of £3,830 million over the whole period.

The list of Government spending includes all Government spending on education and the health service; all spending on roads and all incentives to industry; all unemployment and sickness benefits; all pensions; all agricultural subsidies; all local services; we pay for them all.

Professor Nevin also included all interest and repayment of the National Debt in Wales.

Finally he included all Government spending on armaments in Wales—running today at about £60 to £70 million a year. Without this heavy burden our surplus would have been about £700 million.

Of course, in recent years the total Government spending has increased—but nobody needs to be reminded that taxation has increased even more, and Wales is still paying her way.

Wales can certainly afford self-government: we cannot afford to wait!

Table 2.: Revenue accounts of Central and Local Government (1948-1962).

Revenue.		Current expenditure.	
Income tax	.... £706m.	Goods and services	
Company tax	.... £473m.	(central)	£1,117m.
Expenditure tax:		Grants to persons	
alcohol	.... £254m.	(central)	.... £964m.
tobacco	.... £515m.	Subsidies	.... £322m.
oil	.... £205m.	National debt interest	£237m.
purchase	.... £291m.	Goods and services	
other	.... £271m.	(local)	.... £850m.
National insurance	£480m.	Grants to persons (local)	£59m.
Trading income, rents	£109m.	Housing subsidies	.... £14m.
Local rates	.... £331m.	Local debt interest	£126m.
Local trading income	£199m.		
Total revenue:		Total expenditure	£3,690
Surplus (for transfer to capital account)			.... £145m.

Q.7. What would a Welsh Government spend on defence?

A Welsh Government would budget about £25 million a year for defence purposes.

A defence budget of £25 million would represent about £30 a year for each household in Wales. This would bring Wales into line with other small countries like Austria, Finland, Ireland, Luxembourg or New Zealand that spend similar amounts.

With this budget, Wales would be able to equip and maintain a small professional army as a nucleus, supported by a much larger territorial volunteer force. The role of this integrated force would include internal security and coping with emergencies

such as civil disasters. Welsh forces would also be available for use by the UNO in peace-keeping operations throughout the world.

A small navy would function as a maritime police force for fishery protection, customs enforcement and for rescue operations. A fleet of helicopters would also be maintained to aid air-sea rescue and to provide emergency helicopter services on land.

Using the defence budget and the special budget for economic development, a Welsh Government would guarantee all civilian employment in existing military establishments such as Aberporth. But it would take immediate steps to re-direct the work of these establishments so that it could contribute directly to the economy of Wales. The Radar Research Establishment at Malvern is now making a major contribution to non-military industrial research in England: a Welsh Government would ensure that Aberporth did the same in Wales while Brawdy and Valley would be re-developed as civilian air ports.

The rationalisation of military spending would be the most immediate economic benefit a Welsh Government could provide the people of Wales. It would allow the economic expansion we have waited for so long.

Q.8. What would be the first priority of a Welsh Government?

Full employment for the people of Wales: the first target for a Welsh Government.

To achieve full employment by 1976, about 100,000 new manufacturing jobs must be established.

At least 25,000 jobs are needed immediately to reduce direct unemployment. For over fifty years, unemployment in Wales has always been double the level in England; this is still the case. Under the Labour Government the dole-queues in Wales have lengthened to a post-war record of over 40,000.

Yet direct unemployment is only the tip of the iceberg. The true prosperity of a community is measured by the number of people bringing home a wage-packet every week. In England, of every 100 people of working age, 58 are in regular employment; in Wales only 48. The difference corresponds to a "hidden" or "unrecorded" unemployment of at least 110,000. The forgotten unemployed include miners forced to retire at the age of 55; the partially handicapped living on a disablement pension; married women with no opportunities for part-time work. No Welsh Government would be satisfied until everyone in Wales had a chance to work.

Finally, a Welsh Government would never allow a major industry to decline without planning in advance for alternative employment. Under the Labour Government, this has happened with the coal industry where over 30,000 jobs have disappeared in areas with no other work in sight. To allow for the further run-down of the coal and steel industries over 40,000 jobs must be established by 1976.

So the target is clear: 175,000 jobs by 1976, including 100,000 in manufacturing industry. And only under a Welsh Government can we ever hope to meet this target.

Q.9. What has Wales to offer industry?

Wales can provide almost all the basic materials needed by modern manufacturing industries.

Coal; oil products, plastics and other petrochemicals; iron, steel and tinplate; a wide range of non-ferrous metals, including fabricated aluminium, zinc and nickel; quarried minerals; forestry products; synthetic fibres such as rayon and nylon... the list is a long one.

An industrialist in Wales can usually find his raw materials close at hand.

Wales can guarantee abundant water supplies. More and more industries require large quantities of water and depend on areas where water is cheap and plentiful. Wales is an ideal centre for such industries.

Finally, Wales has an excess capacity for generating electricity. This is no accident; with a large coalfield, a major oil-port and widespread hydro-electricity resources Wales can guarantee an expanding supply of power.

In almost every category of raw material, Wales produces more per head than the rest of Britain. What is true today has been true for over a century: few nations have been so well endowed with material resources; we would expect such a nation to be among the most prosperous.

Table 3.: Industrial Materials.

Wales has only 4.9% of the population of the United Kingdom. Yet in 1967, of total production in the U.K., Wales contributed:

Coal	....	12.0%	Finished steel	....	39.4%
Refined oil	....	24.9%	Tinplate	....	100%

Electricity	....	7.3%	Fabricated aluminium	32.5%
Gas	....	6.2%	Quarried minerals	7.2%
Water	....	10.7%	Wool	....
Steel	....	33.3%		13.4%

Note: The Government refuses to release the figures for several other products produced in Wales.

Q.10. How would Plaid Cymru develop the water resources of Wales?

Water is the white-gold of mid-Wales. A plentiful supply of cheap water is essential in a modern economy, and the water resources of Wales should be our most valuable asset. Yet today these resources are exploited without any benefit at all coming to Wales. (Even rates paid on reservoirs are automatically deducted from the Government's rate support grant and rates are not paid on reservoirs built by river authorities).

To develop these resources, Plaid Cymru propose a Welsh Water Board, owning every reservoir in Wales. This Board will first ensure that the domestic and industrial needs of Wales are met before any water is sold to other authorities. When the surplus is distributed to authorities in England, a nominal surcharge of 1/- per 1,000 gallons could be levied and the revenue (about £5 million each year) used for social and economic improvements in mid-Wales. Or lump sums could be paid for water impounding schemes in Wales together with annual royalty payments for maximum permitted extraction from Welsh rivers.

In planning for the future, a Welsh Water Board will not repeat the tragic mistakes of the past few years. Tryweryn and Clywedog were commissioned by water authorities unwilling to look beyond the next rate demand.

Under a Welsh Water Board, the building of reservoirs will be forbidden where agricultural land would be flooded or a local community disrupted. Instead the long-term demand for water will be met by developing alternative sources such as estuary reservoirs at Dyfi, Mawddach and Conwy.

Q.11. But isn't Wales too remote for economic development?

Wales is strategically situated for economic prosperity in the 70's. To the west, Wales is served by deep-water ports—and the ability to handle ships of up to 200,000 tons provides us with a golden opportunity. In the past oil has been the main cargo to exploit deep-water ports and already Milford Haven has become

the largest oil-port in Britain. In the next ten years it is certain that more-and-more cargoes will be carried in big ships. It is vital that the deep-water facilities at Holyhead, Milford and Port Talbot should be developed to handle a wide range of imports and exports. In this way Wales could become an important distribution centre for trade entering Europe from America and the Far East.

To the east, Wales is offered the markets of the Midlands and South-East of England—a population of over 40 million lying within 150 miles of the main centres of Welsh industry. This gives Wales a powerful advantage over Ireland, Scotland and the North-East of England.

Yet Wales is often regarded as remote and inaccessible: this is entirely the result of inadequate communications. With our ports fully developed and served by a modern road system Wales would lie in the mainstream of European trade.

Q.12. How would a Welsh Government attract new industries?

By providing the conditions that modern industries need to operate efficiently. We can already supply the raw materials for industry. We have a large and well-educated labour force. But our road and rail network is inadequate and in many parts of Wales the full range of industrial services are not available.

Our first step will be to improve the road system.

Our next step will be to select a number of growth centres. At each of these we will develop an industrial park, offering a complete range of services to new industries. Finally we would change the emphasis of education. At the moment we train far too many teachers. In the future we must concentrate on training the technologists and highly-skilled workers needed by industry.

In other words we will attract industry by offering positive incentives, by creating the conditions for efficient operation. Properly developed, Wales is a natural centre for economic growth. We in Wales must realise that potential.

Q.13. What roads would a Welsh Government build?

Modern roads are needed to supply a factory with raw materials—whether produced in Wales or imported through Welsh ports; modern roads are needed to distribute the finished products to the markets; modern roads are needed to carry people to and from work quickly and conveniently, and from one part of Wales to another.

In Wales today almost every voice is united in saying that the main handicap to Welsh economic expansion is the poor state of the roads. Several County authorities say so; the Welsh Council of the C.B.I., Plaid Cymru, the Welsh Liberal Party, the Conservative Party; and many individual business men and economists agree.

Yet over the past 4 years spending by Central Government on roads in Wales has been cut every year—while spending on roads in England, quite properly continues to rise:

	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70 (estimated)
England	£185m.	£203m.	£229m.	£251m.	£266m.
Wales	£18.4m.	£19.5m.	£16.1m.	£15.6m.	£15.0m.

In the budget for a Welsh Government, as published in Plaid Cymru's Economic Plan, an extra £12m. a year is allocated for building new roads. With this budget we will build or improve 650 miles of road by the early 1980's. These will include dual carriageways along the south coast (from Milford Haven to Carmarthen, Swansea, Bridgend and Cardiff), along the north coast (from Holyhead to Bangor, Llandudno Junction, Mold and Wrexham). In South Wales the basic network of industrial roads will be completed by a Cardiff-Merthyr dual carriageway and the dualling of the Heads-of-the-Valleys road from Neath to Merthyr, Brynmawr, Abergavenny and Raglan. In North Wales, dual carriageways are also proposed to link Wrexham with Chirk and Wrexham with Corwen.

In other parts of Wales, fast roads for relatively light traffic are needed and Plaid Cymru proposes single-carriageway roads with 24 ft. minimum width and distant visibility. For example, north-south communications would be improved by linking Merthyr to Brecon, Newtown and Chirk, but perhaps the most important road for developing rural Wales would be a Cardigan coast road from Milford Haven to Cardigan, Aberystwyth, Penrhyndeudraeth and Caernarfon.

With these, and other roads, Plaid Cymru have proposed a complete road network for Wales; the roads have been costed, and a three-stage plan published for completing the network by the early 1980's.

If the government has failed to plan for the economic growth for Wales, Plaid Cymru must take the lead.

Q.14. In Plaid Cymru's economic plan, economic growth is based on a network of industrial parks. What is an industrial park?

We deliberately use the term 'industrial park' rather than 'industrial estate.' With the single exception of the Treforest estate, none

of the existing industrial estates offer any special attraction to an industrialist. Some of the estates claimed by small local authorities are industrial slums. It is undeniable, for example, that the first sight of Merthyr's industrial estate goes a long way to deterring any potential industrialist from the area.

An industrial park is a community of industries planned as a whole to make full use of those specialised services which could not be provided separately at a large number of different centres. We assume that all the basic services—such as electricity, gas, water, drainage—are available and that the site is linked by a dual-carriageway to the nearest trunk road and to a freightliner terminus. The layout of the site itself must be planned to allow a free flow of heavy traffic, with proper facilities for loading and unloading, parking and full servicing. A weighbridge would also be available.

On site, a Welsh Development Authority will be responsible for providing a wide range of amenities, including the following:

Post Office and banking facilities, special warehouses, canteens, an industrial health centre, a full computer service, an export-advice and design bureau with translation facilities, shared office, security and maintenance personnel.

By providing all these services at 9 proposed major growth centres, throughout Wales, the Development Authority would offer positive incentives to new industry, by creating the conditions for efficient operation. At the 15 proposed secondary centres, it might prove too expensive to provide the whole range of amenities, but the availability of a Freightliner terminus, of computing time, of warehouses, and of specialist secretarial facilities at the nearest major centre less than twenty miles away will still add to the attraction of an industrial site in the area.

One final advantage of providing a large number of jobs at one centre serving a wide area around is that public transport can be organised efficiently along all radial routes so that the people who work at the industrial park will be able to travel to-and-from work cheaply and quickly. This is impossible when people travel to dozens of sites scattered at random over the whole area.

Q.15. What is Plaid Cymru's attitude to the Welsh language?

Two languages—Welsh and English—are in everyday use in different parts of Wales, and we believe that both should have equal status so that everyone will be free to use the language he prefers. There will be no second-class citizens in Wales—neither will there be a second-class language. This does not mean that everyone in public life will have to speak Welsh. It means instead that in public life there should be adequate translation facilities for people to use

the language they choose. This already works in Plaid Cymru. The majority of our members—and many of our officials and candidates—do not in fact speak Welsh. So in our party conferences we provide a simultaneous translation of all business. Our forms and questionnaires are in both languages so that anyone can fill them in English or Welsh. Our pamphlets are published in both languages.

In Plaid Cymru no one is at a disadvantage because of language—Plaid Cymru is in fact setting an example for Wales.

We look forward to a time when all our children will have a real chance to learn to speak Welsh and English fluently. The tremendous success of the bilingual schools in Flintshire, Glamorgan and Monmouth, show how this can be done when the children are young and pick up languages most easily.

Of course conditions vary from one part of Wales to another and Plaid Cymru recommends that each Local Education Authority should be responsible for giving all children a full opportunity to learn both languages.

Q.16. Does Plaid Cymru support entry into the European Common Market ?

All discussion over entry into the European Common Market will be unsatisfactory unless Wales is able to participate directly in them. The holding of discussions on Welsh membership of the Common Market should be a matter for a government elected by the Welsh people.

We support the strengthening of connections between Wales and the E.F.F.A. countries and we would oppose any agreement by which the countries of Britain entered the E.E.C., unless at the same time all the E.F.T.A. countries and the Irish Republic were given opportunity to enter.

We believe that there is need to strengthen Europe economically and accept the political implications of that, but we oppose the creation of a federal European state for we see grave dangers to the balance of power in such a development.

Q.17. How will self government come about ?

In such a highly industrialised country as ours, the process of throwing off the domination of Welsh life by Whitehall and Westminster must be by peaceful, democratic means.

We are completely opposed to the use of violence and have made this clear in our national conferences.

When Plaid Cymru wins a majority of votes and members in Wales, the transfer of powers and functions to the Welsh state will be by Act of Parliament at Westminster. This transfer will be phased over a period of between twelve and eighteen months, between the passing of the Government of Wales Act and the inauguration of the new Welsh state.

During this time the Secretary of State for Wales will set up a Preparatory Commission. This commission will lay the foundations of an efficient Welsh government and act as 'shadow' departments of state; it will acquire the office space and staff necessary to carry out the functions of the appropriate ministry in Wales.

The transfer of powers to the Welsh government will thus be a gradual and peaceful process so that the new state will be able to begin its work smoothly and efficiently.

Q.18. What sort of parliament will Wales have ?

The Welsh parliament will have powers and authority as full and complete in relation to Wales as the United Kingdom parliament has over the affairs of the United Kingdom today.

The parliament will consist of a First Citizen appointed by the Queen, as Queen of Wales, upon the recommendation of the Prime Minister of Wales, and two Houses of Parliament.

The First House will be elected by all persons residing in Wales of eighteen and over, and the Second House by the County Councils of Wales.

Members of the First House will be elected by the electors in a constituency on the principle of the alternative or preferential vote, such a system securing the benefits of the Second Ballot system at a single election. The constituencies will be based on population of 25,000 inhabitants, the boundaries to coincide with local government divisions so far as possible. The First House will consist of about 100 members elected for five years unless sooner dissolved.

The Second House will consist of representatives of the counties or county boroughs (or regions) of Wales and will consist of an equal number of members from each county or county borough (or region) with a statutory provision for the proportional representation of all political groups represented on the local authorities concerned in the members elected by them to the Second House. It will consist of about 70 members and will be elected for three years.

The power of the Second House to delay legislation will be extremely limited, but the House shall have power to initiate and amend legislation subject to the over-riding powers of the First House.

Q.19. What can a few Plaid Cymru M.P.s achieve in Parliament?

Well, drive along the west coast of Wales from Caernarfon to Carmarthen. You will pass through four constituencies. In 1966, Caernarfon, Merioneth and Cardigan returned Labour M.P.s. Carmarthen voted for Gwynfor Evans, President of Plaid Cymru. Which M.P. has proved the most effective? We ask you to judge:

- (a) In the whole of West Wales unemployment is high—except in Carmarthen. *Carmarthenshire has the lowest unemployment level in the whole of Wales*—lower than the average for Britain. It pays to vote Plaid Cymru.

Average unemployment over period Nov. 1969—April 1970.

Caernarfonshire	7.1%	Cardigan	5.1%
Merioneth	7.1%	Carmarthenshire	2.2%

- (b) When Gwynfor Evans entered Parliament, again and again he stressed the importance of good roads. "Evans the Dual-carriageway" his opponents sneered. But as a result of his constant pressure, there are now 6 major schemes costing £4.0 million, in progress or in preparation for improving the trunk and principal roads in the Carmarthen constituency. More than in the other three constituencies added together! : *In Cardiganshire there is no major scheme of any kind in progress.* One Plaid Cymru M.P. has achieved more than three Labour yes-men, and two of them are Government ministers!

Roads 1967-1970.

Roads 1967-1970.			
Completed or in firm programme	In preparation	Total	
Caernarvon	£0.4m.	£1.0m.	£1.4m.
Merioneth	£0.2m.	£1.5m.	£1.7m.
Cardigan	£—	£—	£—
Carmarthen	£1.0m.	£3.0m.	£4.0m.

In addition, Gwynfor Evans led the opposition to the closing of the Central Wales railway, and proposed that the services should be improved with a link to Swansea. And the result? The line is reprieved and the link is now established. Another victory for a Plaid Cymru M.P., with the power of the people of Wales behind him.

- (c) When the original hospital plan for Wales was published, modern District General Hospitals were proposed for Carmarthen, Aberystwyth and Bangor. What progress has been made?

In Carmarthen, with a Plaid Cymru M.P., the fourth and final stage has now been completed, and Glangwili hospital is one of the finest in Wales.

In Aberystwyth, after the first stages were completed, progress came to a halt and the local M.P. did nothing. Now,

as more and more specialist services are concentrated in Carmarthen, the people of Cardigan realise that the Bron-glais project will never be completed. In Bangor we find a depressing story of delay after delay.

For new hospitals it clearly pays to vote Plaid Cymru.

Many other examples show what effect Gwynfor Evans has had. When the Rural Development Board was proposed with powers of compulsory purchase over medium and small farms, there was overwhelming opposition throughout Mid-Wales. But only Carmarthenshire was taken out of the Board's area. Cardiganshire and Breconshire (Labour-held) are still threatened—so is Montgomeryshire with a Liberal M.P.

The lesson is the same for all parts of Wales.

Within a year of the historic Carmarthen election, Rhondda was rocked by a massive 27 per cent swing to Plaid. Immediately the Government decided to move the Royal Mint to Llantrisant—rather than to the North-East of England. The Director of the N.E. Development Council said "It's a pity we did not have some Welsh nationalists operating here."

Then in 1968 there was an even more sensational result with a 29 per cent swing to Plaid in Caerffili. Once again the Government jumped into action. The railway line was given a grant; Penallt colliery was reprieved; an industrial retraining centre was promised. But in Rhondda and Caerffili there was no Plaid Cymru M.P. to keep up the pressure and the Government went back to sleep.

The lesson is clear.

It pays to vote Plaid Cymru. It pays best of all to have a Plaid M.P.

Q.20. And how do I join Plaid Cymru?

Please contact the membership secretary of your nearest branch, or write to

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