

Aneurin Bevan Quotes

Political, Politics, Men, Party, Socialism, Life, Suffering, People, Monkeys, Nhs, Fighting, War, Democracy, Islands, Struggle, Giving, Lying, Should, Swag, Poor

No society can legitimately call itself civilized if a sick person is denied medical aid because of lack of means.

~Aneurin Bevan

The NHS will last as long as there are folk left with faith to fight for it

~Aneurin Bevan

How can wealth persuade poverty to use its political freedom to keep wealth in power? Here lies the whole art of Conservative politics in the twentieth century.

~Aneurin Bevan

No amount of cajolery, and no attempts at ethical or social seduction, can eradicate from my heart a deep burning hatred for the Tory Party. So far as I am concerned they are lower than vermin.

~Aneurin Bevan

Soon, if we are not prudent, millions of people will be watching each other starve to death through expensive television sets

~Aneurin Bevan

The Tories, every election, must have a boggy man. If you haven't got a programme, a boggy man will do.

~Aneurin Bevan

We know what happens to people who stay in the middle of the road. They get run down.

~Aneurin Bevan

The purpose of getting power is to be able to give it away.

~Aneurin Bevan

We could manage to survive without money changers and stockbrokers. We should find it harder to do without miners, steel

workers and those who cultivate the land.

~Aneurin Bevan

I read the newspapers avidly. It is my one form of continuous fiction.

~Aneurin Bevan

Damn it all you can't have the crown of thorns and the thirty pieces of silver.

~Aneurin Bevan

What should be the glory of the profession is that a doctor should be able to meet his patients with no financial anxiety.

~Aneurin Bevan

Politics is a blood sport.

~Aneurin Bevan

This is my truth, tell me yours.

~Aneurin Bevan

If freedom is to be saved and enlarged, poverty must be ended. There is no other solution.

~Aneurin Bevan

This island is made mainly of coal and surrounded by fish. Only an organizing genius could produce a shortage of coal and fish at the same time.

~Aneurin Bevan

There is only one hope for mankind - and that is democratic Socialism.

~Aneurin Bevan

Freedom is the by-product of economic surplus.

~Aneurin Bevan

Fascism is not in itself a new order of society. It is the future refusing to be born.

~Aneurin Bevan

You don't have to gaze into a crystal ball when you can read an open book.

~Aneurin Bevan

Discontent arises from a knowledge of the possible, as contrasted with the actual.

~Aneurin Bevan

Reactionary: a man walking backwards with his face to the future.

~Aneurin Bevan

I have never regarded politics as the arena of morals. It is the arena of interest.

~Aneurin Bevan

The Prime Minister wins debate after debate and loses battle after battle. The country is beginning to say that he fights debates like a war and the war like a debate.

~Aneurin Bevan

I know that the right kind of political leader for the Labour Party is a desiccated calculating machine.

~Aneurin Bevan

It is an axiom, enforced by all the experience of the ages, that they who rule industrially will rule politically.

~Aneurin Bevan

The language of priorities is the religion of socialism.

~Aneurin Bevan

Why should I question the monkey when I can question the organ grinder.

~Aneurin Bevan

Virtue is its own punishment.

~Aneurin Bevan

I welcome this opportunity of pricking the bloated bladder of lies with the poniard of truth

~Aneurin Bevan

It is not possible to create peace in the Middle East by jeopardizing the peace of the world.

~Aneurin Bevan

In Germany democracy died by the headman's axe. In Britain it can be by pernicious anaemia.

~Aneurin Bevan

He brings to the fierce struggle of politics the tepid enthusiasm of a lazy summer afternoon at a cricket match.

~Aneurin Bevan

Stand not too near the rich man lest he destroy thee - and not too far away lest he forget thee.

~Aneurin Bevan

Listening to a speech by [Neville] Chamberlain is like paying a visit to Woolworth's, everything in its place and nothing above sixpence.

~Aneurin Bevan

Advertising is 'an evil service'.

~Aneurin Bevan

A Society in which the people's wants do not exceed their possessions is not a Socialist society.

~Aneurin Bevan

You call that statesmanship. I call it an emotional spasm.

~Aneurin Bevan

Trade unions are islands of anarchy in a sea of chaos.

~Aneurin Bevan

He has the lucidity which is the by-product of a fundamentally sterile mind.

~Aneurin Bevan

Poor fellow, he suffers from files.

~Aneurin Bevan

The Prime Minister has an absolute genius for putting flamboyant labels on empty luggage.

~Aneurin Bevan

I would rather be kept alive in the efficient if cold altruism of a large hospital than expire in a gush of warm sympathy in a small one.

~Aneurin Bevan

There are two ways of getting into the Cabinet - you can crawl in or kick your way in.

~Aneurin Bevan

The worst thing I can say about democracy is that it has tolerated the right hon. Gentleman for four and a half years.

~Aneurin Bevan

[Winston Churchill] never spares himself in conversation. He gives

himself so generously that hardly anyone else is permitted to give anything in his presence.

~Aneurin Bevan

He seems determined to make a trumpet sound like a tin whistle.

~Aneurin Bevan

Reading is not a duty, and has consequently no business to be made disagreeable.

~Aneurin Bevan

The hero's need of the people outlasts their need of him.

~Aneurin Bevan

We should not be pushing out figured when the facts are in the opposite direction.

~Aneurin Bevan

He [Winston Churchill] is a man suffering from petrified adolescence.

~Aneurin Bevan

There can be no immaculate conception of socialism.

~Aneurin Bevan

I am not going to spend any time whatsoever in attacking the Foreign Secretary. If we complain about the tune, there is no reason to attack the monkey when the organ grinder is present.

~Aneurin Bevan

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