

British Laborites Win Small Election, Set For Larger One

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British socialism, having just won another parliamentary by-election to the discomfort of the hopeful conservatives, is just about set for the forthcoming general election which may eventuate by February.

This general election will determine whether the voters want to continue the experiment in socialism or to revert to conservatism under the leadership of Winston Churchill. Thus it bids fair to be one of the most momentous in British history.

If the socialists are returned to power it likely will mean, as I see it, that they will govern the country not only for the normal five year term but will remain in the saddle indefinitely. Why? Well, because in that five years they will have completed their program of nationalization and other socialization.

Changeover Hard
It wouldn't be easy to revert to the capitalist system of private enterprise once the country had been socialized.

The current by-election, which was held at South Bradford, wasn't in itself a matter of vast import. However, it was being watched intently by both leftists and rightists as the straw which would indicate which way the political wind was blowing across the country.

The socialists, having won their 35th straight by-election in South Bradford, figure the wind is set fair for their ship of state.

The conservatives had taken considerable hope from the recent general election in New Zealand where a Labor (socialist) government was kicked out. However, I fail to see that the two situations are analogous. Britain is a heavily overpopulated industrial nation without many natural resources, while the dominion is largely a farming country, and a rich one at that. It's easier to see red when you are getting jostled about in crowded conditions.

Glowing Picture Given
British socialism is giving the voters a glowing picture of achievements claimed. For example: The number of unemployed in September, 1939, was 1,407,950 and in September, 1949, was 267,866; unemployment benefits, retirement pensions and health services have been inaugurated; the average weekly wage rate has increased by about 80



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Government Rests 2nd Perjury Trial Of Alger Hiss

NEW YORK, Dec. 13.—(AP)—The government rested its case in the second Alger Hiss perjury trial yesterday.

The prosecution's 35th and final witness was Mrs. Hede Massing, former wife of Communist fugitive Gerhart Eisler, who stood by her story that Hiss was a Communist underground worker when he held high state department office before the war.

Mrs. Massing, formerly a Viennese actress, said under cross-examination that she believed Hiss had broken with the Communist party since that time.

Hiss' second trial began Nov. 17 and the government rested its case during the 15th court day.

Federal Judge Henry W. Goddard denied a defense motion to dismiss the indictment and another motion for a judgment of acquittal.

Hiss is accused of lying when he denied to a federal grand jury that he ever gave state department papers to ex-Communist Whittaker Chambers for transmittal to a Soviet spy ring.

His first trial ended last July 8 with the jury deadlocked eight to four in favor of conviction.

If convicted Hiss faces up to 10 years in jail and \$4,000 in fines.

Mrs. Massing was the first government witness in either trial to offer direct corroboration of Chambers' story that Hiss was a leader in a pro-war Communist underground in Washington.

Under cross-examination she testified that Noel Field, another ex-state department official, "was very much under the influence of Mr. Hiss."

Field went to eastern Europe earlier this year and disappeared under circumstances that have never been explained.

And there you have it. As the feller says, "You pays your money and you takes your choice."



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percent since 1939 and the cost of living has increased about the same, but counting overtime pay the increase in earnings has been 103 percent.

There's a lot more to the story. However, socialist officialdom doesn't claim all the credit for these things. During virtually the whole war period the government was a coalition, with the conservatives in the majority. Furthermore the conservatives also aimed at the public benefits which have been carried out by the socialists.

Two Sides To Argument
Of course there are two sides to every argument, and opposition to the socialist program was presented by Cecil Palmer, British book publisher, in a speech before the National Association of Manufacturers in New York City. He declared the British government's nationalization of industry is the short cut to ruin that may lead his country into communism.

Mr. Palmer told his audience of 3,000 that social security is socialism's greatest racket, adding that "it seduces the people into allowing the state to do for them the very things they should do for themselves." He called the national health service in Britain an "integral part of the socialist frame-up."

The Briton spoke in glowing terms of the financial aid given by America and Canada, asserting that without it "Britain surely would meet with unthinkable disaster." He pointed out that this aid is "borrowed from hated capitalistic systems which the horrorvics are so energetically trying to destroy."

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