

By Drew Pearson

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That British "Revolution"

American political analysts, most of whom were caught with their trends down by the sweep of the British Labor Party, have busy interpreting the election results to fit their own views.

Hardest pressed, perhaps, were the editorialists of the Chicago Tribune-New York News-Washington Times-Herald axis who found it difficult to reject the removal of their ancient whipping boy, Mr. Churchill, without implying a fellow-feeling for the radicals who unseated him.

Sidney Hillman's PAC men plucked a whole handful of straws out of the international wind which, they insist, is propelling them toward revolution.

Most of these assumptions were based upon acceptance of the British "revolution" at the face value given it by Professor Harold J. Laski, currently regarded as policy-maker laureate of the triumphant Labor Party. Mr. Laski said:

"It is a great experiment... this beginning of the building of socialist foundations on the structure of a capitalist society; nowhere has it been attempted before. The Labor Party seeks to initiate what is virtually a revolution by consent."

But the fact is that Mr. Laski, although at the moment an official spokesman for a successful political party, is not a politician. He is a student and author, an abstract political philosopher whose works on American and British governments are regarded by many scholars as highly perceptive.

It is apparent already that the gentlemen who will actually control Britain's Labor Government do not go all the way with the Professor. Clement Attlee, the new Prime Minister, is no record on his lengthy post-election statement of his personal views. He reiterates his party's pledge to work for government ownership of basic industries, but he is careful to emphasize that the process will be gradual and that it will be accomplished with a minimum disruption of Britain's present economy.

Of the acquisition of the coal industry, long the source of Britain's bitterest labor strife, he says: "The Labor Government will organize the industry as a service to the many purposes of supplying the nation with the source of coal, light and power, suitable compensation, of course, being paid to the owners."

Mr. Attlee refers many times to the ideal of efficiency his Government will strive to attain, but hints that it will do so without junking the system he would overhaul. His tone throughout is that of an engineer. Most parts of his statement could have been lifted from a campaign speech by Herbert Hoover who believes existing systems should be improved and modernized, not that of an inventor who is hell-bent on installing a complete set of new equipment designed on a revolutionary principle.

It is significant that the men selected by Mr. Attlee for his Cabinet are old Labor wheel-horses, long familiar to the British people. They are solid politicians, many of whom held responsible posts under the Coalition. It must be assumed that these gentlemen, along with Attlee, concur in the revolutionary ideals of Mr. Laski. But it is also reasonable to assume that certain members of the Cabinet realize that their mandate is not quite so broad as Mr. Laski claims.

Statesmen At Work

(Scintillating and comic excerpts from the Congressional Record)

MR. LUCAS: "I'm sure that there should be full cooperation... I am sure that there should be full cooperation between the Army and the Navy... I would get to that camp... I would get to that camp... I would get to that camp..."

It is, that the British voter, despite his plain desire for a swing to the left, has behind him a conservative tradition and a deeply-ingrained regard for principles which are incompatible with rabbinical socialism.

All this is of the first importance to America, since she has just demonstrated by the expenditure in Europe of a good deal of her life blood, her acceptance of the fact that her destiny is inextricably linked with that of Great Britain.

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Over-Developed In The Wrong Place. The chief trouble with the United States is not that it is too big, but that it is too big in the wrong place.

Poor Cousins. Local governments over North Carolina, such as the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County, must read with some ruefulness each latest report about the fiscal prospects of the State of North Carolina.

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WASHINGTON. ONE of the greatest economy-howlers in Congress is Representative Jed Johnson of Alaska, Okla., who as Democratic chairman of the Sub-Appropriations Committee, insisted on cutting the Interior Department so drastically that it finally had to make a long distance phone call.

Congressman Johnson, however, seems to believe in economy chiefly as applied to others. When it comes to a little trip to Alaska at the taxpayers' expense, he is not so economy-minded.

However, led in no hurry. Not only did he sit out the current session of Congress, but he is taking one last fling at the taxpayers' expense before doing judicial robes. He and his subcommittee on Interior Department appropriations are now in Alaska on a so-called "inspection" trip.

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Inspect beach erosion as members of the Rivers and Harbors Committee. After this, they headed for the cooling breezes of Alaska.

Who Gets What. Watch live-wire newspaper publisher Manchester Boddy of Los Angeles as the next probable Democratic candidate for Senator from California.

Who Saved England. Jim Farley came back to his old haunt last weekend and had lunch with, among others, Tommy Corcoran, head of the older FDR Brain Trust.

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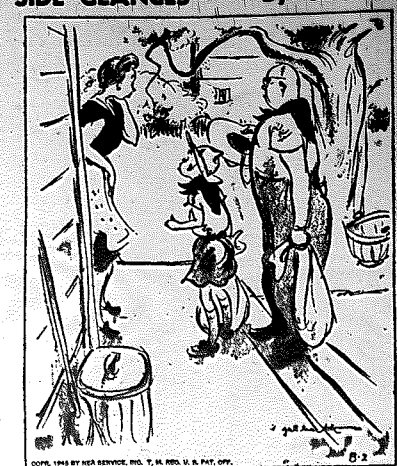
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"This is our Scoutmaster, Mom—I told him maybe you'd help us out on our camping trip with some of that canned stuff we've got hidden in the cellar!"

Magna Charta Jr.

By Dorothy Thompson

AMERICAN editorials since the British elections have emphasized that the reputation of Churchill and the Conservative Party will in no way change by the new policy. Mr. Attlee has promised to honor the Magna Charta.

The forthcoming elections in France and perhaps Italy, and operations from Iceland to Denmark and Spain will be tremendously influenced by Britain's vote.

Meet Prof. Laski. I wrote while the full extent of the Socialist victory is still hardly capable of being realized.

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Britain's Laski

By Marquis Childs

Facial power, Germany and Italy tried out their new weapons and their new tactics. That was obvious to anyone who visited Spain even briefly.

Quote, Unquote. THE main trouble is that most of our members have a vocabulary which is not the vocabulary of a man in the new.

Meet Prof. Laski

By Harold J. Laski

I wrote while the full extent of the Socialist victory is still hardly capable of being realized. None of us at Labor Party headquarters had dared to hope for so massive and unmitigated a victory.

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