

# Liberal Party In England Doomed To Disintegration

## Process May be Rapid or Slow, But Regarded as Sure in Any Events, With Labor and Tories Like to Constitute England's Political Parties in Future

By FRANK H. SIMONDS

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London, March 1.—"What will Labor do?" and "How long will Labor last?" These are questions which must have immediate interest, not only in Europe, but in America.

To answer them to complete satisfaction, moreover, is neither easy nor, in a sense, possible; because the present situation is not only novel and practically unprecedented in British history, but it is also palpably unstable. All British observers agree that anything may happen, that nothing is assured.

Accepting these limitations, however, always bearing in mind the essential detail that Labor counts less than a third in the House of Commons, it is still possible to record the following expectation as representing public opinion in England at the present hour.

First, Labor will do nothing very striking or particularly original; it cannot and does not expect to attempt anything radical for a considerable period of time, at least. In the second place the MacDonald ministry will last anywhere from six months to a year. Its expectation of life, as the actuaries say, seems to be increasing rather than diminishing. Finally, when Labor is forced to resign, it is most likely to go down because of internal differences and pressure from the extreme radicals within the movement, compelling the cabinet to champion radical measures, like the capital levy or nationalization of mines.

There are many questions, both foreign and domestic, on which there is a surprising amount of agreement between all three parties. Thus, Labor can wrestle with unemployment, with housing at home, with pacification abroad and have the blessing, even the active assistance, of its political opponents.

The nation is dead against any new election, there is no pressing attraction for either Tories or Liberals to struggle with heavy burdens with no promise of speedy or brilliant results at present. It is true, also, that while the oppositions have no present temptation to seize office, the general public, the man in the street, the masses of the country, seem deliberately resolved that Labor shall have a fair sporting chance to prove its abilities or its futilities. Any attempt to turn Labor out on a frivolous or merely parliamentary pretext might have very disastrous consequences in an undesired election which would certainly follow very quickly.

Thus, oddly enough, although in a decisive minority in the House of Commons, the MacDonald ministry for the moment has a majority of public opinion insisting that it have its day in office. The more closely you come in contact with the present British situation, the more astutely you feel that while the results of the last election seem superficially in a muddle and the electorate appears to have voted blindly and unintelligently, in point of fact they did accomplish just about what they set out to do. "Muddling through" seems at close range to disclose an extraordinary amount of common sense, at least this time.

For example, it is perfectly clear that the Tory party itself has recognized, in the catastrophic defeat which it has undergone, the necessity of reorganizing itself, of readjusting itself to contemporary conditions, of winning back a fair share of the youth of the country, of appreciating more accurately the mind of the nation itself.

Further than this, it is a matter of common agreement that the present anomalous situation, with three parties having only a two-party system to function with, cannot endure. It is, moreover, equally agreed that the Liberal party is doomed to disappear, that it will open to right and left, that the right group will join the Tories, perhaps be absorbed, perhaps insist on some kind of fusion, while the left-hand group will go over to Labor unconditionally. Thus the old two-party system will be restored. Only very extreme partisan Liberals would dissent from this forecast.

If by any chance there were a new election before this Liberal disintegration took place, while three parties made the race as happened last time, almost everybody holds the view that Labor might come back with a clear majority. On the other hand if the Liberal party broke up, there is the same conviction that while Labor might come back in a minority, it would still gain anything from 50 to 90 seats and would be finally established as the opposition; this would mean that ultimately Labor would come back to power on its own.

Labor's most valuable asset at the present hour is unmistakably its leader, the actual Prime Minister. He is vastly stronger than his party, while still the strongest of party leaders. He has patiently the respect and confidence, even in a degree the affection, of a surprising number of people outside of his own party. His health, however, has become a matter of public anxiety. He has taken burdens which no other Prime Minister has shouldered for at least a century and a quarter. If his health should break, Labor would hardly survive in power even briefly.

Considering that the present governmental party is on the whole the least homogeneous of the three, the task of leadership, the necessity of keeping together extremists, moderates, socialists and real conservatives—for there are many in the Labor party—must be never ending toil.

Personally I had a very interesting indication of the strangely inharmonious character of the Labor group when I attended a debate in the House of Commons over the question of air defense. The front bench, that is to say the responsible ministers of the Labor party, were accepting without real qualification the program of the outgoing ministry. Between the official spokesman and those of the opposition there was no discoverable difference of declared policy—although there was of spirit. Criticism of the opposition was thus directed at the tone, not the content of the government's statement, but suddenly there arose from the Labor seats back of the ministers a storm of disapproval. The essential pacifism of the rank and file of the party suddenly flew to arms against the apparent militarism of party leadership. After a furious debate the house rocked with laughter over the not inexact characterization of the Tory critic who called attention to the "reactionary front bench leading the Radical party."

What the United States Senate did to Borah when it made him chairman of the committee to investigate the Russian question and thus deprived him of the position of critic of Hughes on Russian nonrecognition policy, the British nation has somehow done to the Labor party. At all events the motive in one case, the instinct in the other, were the same; the results may not be dissimilar. The Tory contention is that Labor means to be conservative now while it lacks a real majority, thus inspiring confidence; later when it obtains real power it will disclose the cloven hoof of extreme radicalism. This may be so, but other Tories assure me that the mass of Labor, particularly the trade union factions, are solidly conservative in

all important issues. At all events, the country remains extremely calm over Labor's arrival. One duke's son not to be sure, a Laborite, has assured me of his pride in the character of the Labor ministry. I met at least one earl and half a dozen lords at Labor's first reception. The real chance consequent upon the Labor government may not be any profound modification in form, but rather something to insure that all future cabinets will be considerably more representative of all elements in the British population, on the whole less dominated by old names; that is, by relatively few families. The change, moreover, will certainly be marked in the Tory as in the Labor ranks, for just as Labor is now out to annex the lords, the Tories are seeking to conscript the proletariat.

For the moment, the pendulum has swung over very far in the direction of the masses, of the industrial masses, so far as cabinet offices are concerned. It is sure to swing back again, but hardly all the way. Thus, so far from indulging in any destructive revolution, it may turn out that the British people have only broadened the base of British democracy, which was of course really much broader than it seemed to a foreign eye.

The arrival of a new class, moreover, instead of smashing the democratic machine, at least promises, together with new men, and women, to bring new energies, fresh vitality; in fact, a real renaissance. I have tried to emphasize, before, that all that will be done, must be done within the fixed limits of British tradition. Tomorrow will still be able to recognize yesterday without difficulty, although yesterday is definitely gone, which, I take it, is the British way.

San Francisco, Mar. 1.—Precedents of more than a half a century's standing in the friendly relations between Chinese and white citizens of the Far West have finally gone by the boards. For the first time in the history of San Francisco's Chinatown, a white man has been marked for death and a price set upon his head by Chinese tong.

Today somewhere in the vicinity of Tia Juana, Mexico, just across California border, Jack Whalen, an Irish-American soldier of fortune and until recently Chinatown guide here, has been going about heavily armed and in momentary expectation of an attack upon his life.

Meanwhile six Chinese highlanders from San Francisco, despatched three days ago to wreak vengeance upon Whalen, are somewhere in the same vicinity seeking opportunity to earn a five thousand dollar reward which, according to police information here has been offered for his murder. Six other professional tong killers are lurking in the dark shadows of Monterey in expectation that Whalen may slip across the Mexican border and return to that place.

The offense which Whalen is alleged to have committed is the "stealing" a week ago at Monterey of Mabel Quock, a young and pretty American-born Chinese girl. She was the affianced bride of Ah Tye, a wealthy Chinese business man of Monterey.

Pledged to wed Ah Tye, the girl, educated in American public schools and inculcated with the American idea of a woman's right to love and

# Chinese Tongs Have Marked Young White Man For Death

## And Friendly Relations Between Whites and Chinese in California of Half Century's Standing Have Finally Gone by the Board

By L. C. OWEN

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# CHURCH NEWS

**EPISCOPAL Christ Church**  
Rev. Geo. F. Hill, rector. Quinquagesima Sunday. Sunday school and adult Bible classes 9:45 a. m. Holy communion and sermon 11 a. m. Service and sermon at Camden 3:30 p. m. Evening prayer and sermon 7:30 p. m. Ash Wednesday service March 5, 11 a. m. Lenten service with junior choir Thursday and Friday, 5 p. m. You are invited to worship here.

**METHODIST First Methodist**  
Rev. N. H. D. Wilson, D. D., pastor. Sunday school, Mr. J. A. Hooper, superintendent, 9:30 a. m. Epworth League, 6:45 p. m. Worship with sermon by the pastor, 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Sacrament of the Lord's supper. Morning subject: "What Christ Thinks of the Church." Evening subject: "Saul of Tarsus." This is the first of a series of sermons on the Apostle to the Gentiles. The public is cordially invited and members of the congregation earnestly urged to attend all services. The musical program for the day is as follows:  
Morning.  
Evening.  
Prelude (organ) Song Without Word (Teller).  
Anthem, All Thy Marvelous Works (Ashford).  
Offertory (organ) Goodbye (Toselli).  
Anthem, Oh That I Had Wings (Gordon Williams).  
Prelude (organ) Under The Leaves (Thome).  
Anthem, Let The Earth Rejoice (Schnecker).  
Offertory (organ) Album Leaf (Kirchner).  
Anthem, O Lord of Hosts (Heyser).  
Postlude.

**City Road Methodist Episcopal**  
Sunday's order of services. Sunday school, 9:30. G. F. Seyfert, superintendent. Worship with observance of the sacrament of the Lord's supper. Pastor's subject, "Render Unto God the Things That Are God's." Junior Epworth League at 6:30 p. m. Miss Bernice Dozier, president. Senior Epworth League at 6:45 p. m. Miss Beatrice Cantrell, president. 7:30 worship and sermon. Pastor's subject, "Show Me a Denarius." All members are urged to attend and the public is cordially invited to all services.  
Mt. Hermon, Halls Creek  
Rev. W. T. Phipps will preach at Mt. Hermon Methodist Church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock and at Halls Creek Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. The public is cordially invited to all services.

**BAPTIST First Baptist**  
S. H. Templeman, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m. C. H. Twiddy, superintendent. Morning sermon at 11. "Unanswered Prayer." Evening service 7:30. "Conversion of a Good Man." Wednesday evening, 7:30. "A Child of Promise and a Carnal Christian."  
Blackwell Memorial  
Dr. J. H. Thayer, pastor. Sunday school at 9:30 a. m.; E. F. Aydtlett, superintendent. Morning sermon at 11. Evening service 7:30. Junior and Senior B. Y. P. U.'s at 6:30 p. m. Sunday. Wednesday night prayer meeting at 7:30.

**Calvary Baptist**  
Rev. R. F. Hall, pastor. Sunday School at 3 p. m. S. S. Davis, superintendent. B. Y. P. U. 7:30 p. m. Monday. Preaching at 7:30 by the pastor. Prayer meeting Wednesday night at 7:30. The public is cordially invited.  
**Riverside Baptist**  
The pastor, Rev. W. J. Banks, will preach at 3:30 Sunday afternoon. The public is cordially invited.  
**Corinth Baptist**  
Rev. R. F. Hall, pastor. Sunday school each Sunday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. W. F. Pritchard, Sr., superintendent. Preaching at 3:15 by the pastor. Senior and Junior B. Y. P. U. each Sunday night at 7:30. The public is cordially invited.  
**Berea Baptist**  
Rev. R. F. Hall, pastor. Sunday school Sunday morning at 10:00 o'clock. Ben Frank Pritchard, superintendent. Preaching at 11 o'clock by the pastor. The public is cordially invited.

**PRESBYTERIAN Cann Memorial**  
Rev. Frank H. Scattergood, minister. Sabbath school, 9:45 a. m. Lesson, "The Tabernacle." Divine worship, 11 o'clock. Theme: "Assurances of Comfort and Hope." Evening service, 7:30 o'clock. Theme: "Proof of God's Love." Mid-week service and Bible Study, Wednesday 7:30 p. m. Studies in Epistle to Romans. To these services all are cordially invited.  
**CATHOLIC St. Elizabeth's**  
Services will be held in the Catholic Chapel, Hinton Building, at 10:30 Sunday morning by Father Doherty. Visitors are always welcome.  
**Free Will Baptist**  
East Parsonage street. Rev. H. LeRoy Harris, Pastor. Sunday School each Sunday morning 9:30; S. M. Meekins, superintendent. Mid-week prayer service Wednesday evening at 7:30. Regular preaching services on each third Sunday morning at 11:00 o'clock and evening at 7:30.

**FUNERAL WM. N. PARKER**  
The funeral of William N. Parker of Southern Avenue who died Thursday morning was conducted by Rev. R. F. Hall at three o'clock Friday afternoon at Corinth Baptist Church. The pallbearers were his grandsons, James Miller, Billedt Albertson, Clyde Overman, William Parker, Marvin Parker and Dennis Jackson. Interment was made at Hollywood Cemetery.

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SOUTH CAROLINA, PASQUOTANK COUNTY, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
In re: MARY LENA NIXON, et al. vs. ER PERRY.  
TO THE COURT:  
Be it remembered that an order of the Superior Court made in the above entitled cause, I shall sell to the highest bidder for cash at the Court House door of Pasquotank County, N. C., on Monday, March 21, 1924, at 12 o'clock M., the following described house and lot, to-wit:  
Being one house and lot situated on the West side of Cypress Street in Elizabeth City, N. C., and known and designated as Lot No. 76 in the plat of M. S. Sawyer, which said plat is recorded in Book 15, page 487, Register of Deeds' office of Pasquotank County, N. C., said lot measuring 50 feet on Cypress Street and extending back between parallel lines 100 feet.  
This Feb. 20th, 1924.  
GEO. J. SPENCE, Commissioner of the Court.