

**Papers of Hugh Dalton:**  
**Original Manuscript Diary**

**Volume 45:**

**1953**

**(Folder of Loose Manuscripts)**

**Reduction Ratio:**

**12 x**

DIARY.

(1)

9/1/53.

Back in London, after 3 weeks in Israel & Cyprus. This trip is recorded in another book. It was fun & some Israel very exciting. Cyprus very comfortable, - and food fresh and mountain stations and antiquities and wine. Israel has a harder more dangerous, more

complicated life.

Firstly selling a C.B.Y. two colour photos. Then a week in Constantinople. Quietly useful. T.A. is very hard working, but rather weak. WIND is coming back into the party" & is taking a lead at St Helens & a member of the G.C. this year. His Norton

appointment may or may not be renewed in June. I'm writing

dislike to Malcolm about the Azelle Corporation. 29/1/53  
A.B. is going to India for a month. But news are breaking out again! This time, because Tribunal has attacked

St. Linden Evans' pamphlet - was a pretty bad, as to just me in course of denationalising his industry, though he knows

doesn't mind that - & has some or naming Deakin & Lawton & Williamson, - & G.C. makes to N.E.C. & N.E.C.

passed a resolution rejecting Tribunal's claims, & taking on obligation to stop calling anyone else names; & then decided, by a

majority, nearly all having gone away to Lord on his feet with Tribunal's brains & hands. All personal hatreds! Is Lady Little

posting. 1 March to 10, conference of their Govt & Brazil 1953 - summer, & some personal & local & 17th June 1953

+RY

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27/2/53

To W.L. (Friday morning) by early train, to prepare for  
planting spinney. Working party arrive at 9.30 am.  
to begin fencing during, (to finish next day, p.v.)

Some political reflections.

One Labour Party is making no progress in the country.  
We don't look or sound like an ~~at~~ effective alternative  
Government. We are still squabbling. For the

moment A.P. is out of the country, on a 3 weeks  
trip to India. He has made a silly speech to the  
Indian Parliament, criticizing U.S. & S.U. and saying  
that we need a Third Force <sup>to other nations</sup> in which India would  
play a leading part. But this is so stale and  
stupid ("Force" in India!) that Nehru

repudiates it, though politely, in a speech next day.

There is, however, a near to-do on N.E.C. (how often  
glad I am I'm not there!) They sit from 10 to 2.30  
with a break on 25<sup>th</sup>) about Tribune Boarding  
Trusts, & about increase of Lawther & D.H. & Bernstein. O  
Hell! just loving taking call over! "knu", says

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27/2/53(2)

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some detached M.P. to me "thinks anything of a family, where  
husband & wife are always rowing in public?"

Now is Tony such so bad, or Stuart like so bad, as he had  
prophesied. Unemployment, prices, wages, social services,  
foreign affairs, all better than we expected. And <sup>(especially)</sup> <sup>nothing</sup>  
no war! The Tony press help his Tories less  
by attacking us than by keeping quiet about Govt's  
difficulties & mistakes. Write us that or write all this  
up.

C.K.A.'s seventieth birthday celebration, with presentation of  
an illuminated address, a medallion - and a silver 25/-  
to Vi was a very mosaic affair. M.P.'s, G.C., N.E.C.  
& Swann & Corporation - all <sup>calm</sup> alike, small, stent, spectacled  
and insignificant! I am amazed at my tolerance, being  
so many decades, of so many dullards. Near, sitting above  
the clouds of political ambition, I can afford to turn a loosey  
in my company & less forthcoming to all the Sunday.

C.K.A. makes a good, short speech. The rest were dull &  
too long - Greenwood, with inaccusate reminiscence of 1940, Tom  
O'Brien, Fred Blane & Herbert Morrison, now taller in  
length he & C.K.A. had always been bosom pals - first Labour  
Mayor & Stephen & Anthony in successive years, etc.

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27/2/53(3)

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Vi, I hear, after wanting to pull them out of Parliament and hide him all the time at Cherry Cottage, is now faced with C.G., & wants to pull cord of it, & go back to No. 10 Downing Street. But I doubt if he can win next time and if he lose by a majority large enough to make a further 4 or 5 years of Tory rule likely, I guess they will retire. And so should Herbert, & a few more

of us. The succession is a frightful problem - even when even. H.M. is aging and slow, & will never have a new idea, or a new plan (unless someone supplies) again.

Jim Milligan made some nice Party Political Broadcast this Friday (28<sup>th</sup>). All about his collecting, & their marketing, & coming out to them. But totally vague & lacking anything except patent sincerity, monotonous sing-song voice, and Local Preacher's moral tone.

But maybe as leader he'd be better than Lees. Maybe. But maybe better than Herbert or Nye. Ugh, still.

I've been reading Winston's Great ~~Confessions~~ Confessions published in 1937, written, as with other journalism, in his previous 5 years. How good he is, - in style, breadth, drive! (I've had some pieces taken out for "talking"). But here I note

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28/2/53.

Planted a Spinney in S.W. Corner.

200 Beech

100 Austrian Pine

800 Hybrid Larch

2 all wires & fences in, L wire fence on western boundary renewed - after some 20 years.

Working party under G. Hutchison for English Forestry Association - Reading. Very competent and agreeable. They will repair wire fence on

eastern boundary after Easter.

If the Spinney does well - delaying  
breeding rabbits & fire in the coming year -

I shall have done a good deed today.

It will be good timber in 50 years, says Hutchison. A perfect way to spend part of my post-war credits <sup>from last November</sup>. Still waiting, rather impatiently, for CBY to come out - advance & review copies promised for mid-March & publication early April.

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pp 2-3 of entry - 3/3/53 removed.

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3/3/53

Dominic Donnelly, rather depressed, has a long talk with me. He is busy in India & Burma, & will talk till nearly ten and of his month. "Paddy making" on N.E. is going badly. H. Wilson on aircraft manufacturing

said many technicians were in favour of nationalization. When asked to name some, he mentioned (I think) was also working. He came to speak of D.D. in Penabokshire, & had had a talk-out & had 2 stop & sit down in middle of a speech. Had I even

had to do that? D.D. asked, in any of the work periods period of strain. I had found that Mr. (said.)

Bombay with Egan & someone had been & Sub. Utee on nationalization of Textile Machinery, but had blown up in March sheet; they wouldn't find out the reason of the leaf from. I said there were well known. I was then via I was P.B.T.

He said the B-17s were falling & rising from N.E., when the <sup>policy</sup> Report came out, & issuing them own. I said that they would make the point finally lose patience with them. I exhibited more incompetence in Utee men. D said he agreed, & had told Bombay Gov. Mikando & Duitay wanted to advise. DD said he had warned them that if

DIARY

5/3/53

Defence Debate. Goes pretty well. Staff a dozen  
 Plaintiffs absent, the Dwarves, Yates, Ferryhouse,  
 Silberman & J. Hudson, - with E. Hayes now in better  
 Myself - sitting on their little bottles, in the House,  
 ostentatiously, as if we were of some trust, - occupying  
 need of adequate defence, & national sovereignty, & being  
 sure of U.S., & proposing that European service should be  
 subject to annual affirmative vote. C.K. opens all  
 night, Phil winds up, very nervously, very earnestly,  
 with last plaintive note in his voice now has become  
 habitual, with many how many notes. He has long  
 gone past his times. Rather pathetic, remembering  
 his form of decades back. Winters not at all  
 provocative, but never mentions NATO. Good funny  
 on jets etc to M. East. With a plea to carrying  
 service appreciably shifts volume against Israel & in  
 favour of Arab states. Hq. L1 loudly applauds this,  
 but no one else on either side makes much noise.  
 Shivers, though not appointed to speak, but in open to  
 box, repeats his old innuendo - saying about a "recession of manpower",  
 say can suit needs for as far as he is like, but he will  
 vote for it, that he may be being troublesome in the country but  
 that he will never leave the Labour Party & join any



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5/3/53 (4)

Ok! now a frank! H.G., Wiley Hall & I speak  
afterward about this. It is a shocking precedent. Nye,  
- now in Burma - & his friends will push it whenever  
or wants to differ publicly in the House.

H.G., W.H. & I decide that it can't be left here, but must  
be raised at Paul's tree. Also that I shall write to Clark  
about it. I do next day. (Copy on separate sheet.)

After the vote at 10 pm, our people very well disciplined  
last time & no one challenges a second vote on main  
question. I am walking in the passage with Barbara  
Cottle. Winston, pretty tight and physically supported  
by his son-in-law and p.p.s. Christian Loomer, approaches  
from the other direction. He stops & says to me "Thank  
you very much for your support. I won't allow the  
balance to be tilted against Israel. I've always been a  
Zionist, and I've often had a very heavy time. I say  
I've <sup>just</sup> seen them & Israel & they're doing jolly well. I  
mention General Yadin. He isn't listening much, but,  
catching the words "General" & "Commander of their forces", says  
"You're coming to dine with Tito aren't you?" I said "Yes.  
Thank you very much for asking me." (This was at 11.10 on 6/5/53)

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5/3/53(3)

I had already accepted the title "Titu" Winston went on, "Like uniforms & medals & decorations. So we must all do our best, & <sup>can</sup> put on his best he ~~has~~ <sup>has!</sup> The sooner paid him away. I think, though his speech was not quite clear, that he had used my Christian name, a thing which he has hardly ever done before, even when he was allied to British Regiments before the war, or when I was one of his Ministers during it.

6/3/53.

Anyhow, next day, to please Winston & Titu (I put up myself), I walked about in Mayfair till I found a shop where supplied such things (spikes in King Street) & ordered ribbons & miniatures of the three medals I'm entitled to, to be set on a brooch for wear with evening dress. One young woman in charge <sup>of the shop</sup> showed me the ribbon & miniature of my <sup>Irish</sup> Bronze medal, & said they had it in stock. She didn't recognize it at first, but when I wrote it down & Italian, she said "O of course, I military valour. A plain blue ribbon is it?" And I said "Yes". Thus I break a habit of 24 1/2 years of not wearing decorations at appropriate dinner parties & other social gatherings.

Winston is 79 & still a very great personality. I have been reading his <sup>more appreciation</sup> ~~book~~ <sup>book</sup> lately. His Great Conference

DIARY.

11/3/53

Paget has put in a memorandum on Sturdevant. This is discussed at the Paul's Uree (attack). The discussion is not violent. C.R.T. says that he must take responsibility. He asks me to make a short statement in support of the Party and. So, he admits, did indeed make a longer speech than he expected. But maybe he talks the same. (Silly of him to expect anything!) I propose, saying I don't want to personalize the matter, that we should put it on record for the future that "no member of the Paul's Uree should take part in a debate in the town unless appointed to the Uree." C.R.T. doesn't want to. But I am well supported by H.G. & Billy Hall (it's at this meeting, it's given as hesitant support. So it's decided that C.R.T. shall take the initiative in reporting to the Party tomorrow. So, though self-satisfied, involved, is comparatively quiet. Maybe C.R.T. has to carry the can! Paget is asked to a talk tomorrow. He is not interested in participating, & says he won't move his position. (I said this afternoon that we'd found he was speaking at the Young Union! I had cited in the discussion Paul's Uree my own article in Sturdevant. I had

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11/3/53(2)

felt very strongly on this, but had only one  
spoken out in the House, — ~~with~~ at request  
Paul & Dee and having got majority in PZ mtg  
in favour of my point of view. I thought I would  
either have resigned from Paul's Office, or kept  
silent in the House, saying to myself "well,  
my boy, shut your gob, and keep it shut!"

12/3/53

All very flat at PZ mtg. C.R.A. takes initiative  
on Shinnell case; says he agreed to S speaking;  
though Winston might make an attack on S,  
but he didn't; S, in any case, spoke rather  
louder than C.R.A. had expected; anyway <sup>C.R.A. says</sup> takes  
full responsibility, but this was a very  
exceptional case, & C.R.A. says he thought  
in future w'd better stick to the rule that  
members of Front Bench (not Paul & Dee) should  
speak one appointment by Paul & Dee.  
Disappointing outcome.

## DIARY.

18/3/53

Dine at No 10 to meet Tito. Party of about 30, on  
side represented by C.R.A., HM, & myself (Henry's decoration  
with evening dress for the first time in my life!). TV.  
Leahy - Tom O'Brien, Vincent Dawson, & Tom  
Williamson - very pleased with life. Winston plays up  
to them wonderfully. Have a word with Eden &  
Butler; both say their visit to Washington was very  
useful. The new U.S. Adm<sup>r</sup> is very green, & will take  
some time to learn, decide a policy, & free itself  
from embarrassing election slogans.

Sit between a Yugoslav doctor, with very little English,  
& Hasell. Speak with latter of Wilson's foreign  
very forthcoming work, & Wheeler-Bennett as  
biographer of George VI. Work was recommended by  
Nicolson. I say I think, from his previous writing,  
that he might dull. L says that compared with  
George V, it was a relatively straightforward reign.  
George V had to take a series of most difficult  
decisions, beginning at his accession. George VI had  
only one difficult problem, which only lasted half-  
an hour, to choose between Halifax & Acheson as  
N.C.'s spokesman in May 1940. L says George V had

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18/3/53 (2)

a most awkward double-headed knot in the  
 Secretariat Knolly & Stamford, with-driving  
 line never clear cut. I said it was lucky he  
 had K. S. I thought was sometimes a very rough  
 Counselor (C.S. on his journey to Argente to make  
 peace. L on Baldwin's report of a disturbance in 1923.)  
 I spoke with him, his successor, but L dismissed him  
 completely. "He was no good at all" he said. I said  
 thought I.V. had written an admirable book, but I  
 disagreed with much of his emphasis & detail on 1931, &  
 should say so in my book. L said "I think he  
 got quite a lot from that discussion." "Yes," I said,  
 "I'm going to balance it from those who were on the  
 other side in the Labour Cabinet."

Tidy, with whom I only spoke formally, is an  
 impressive, stocky little man, - good to have on our  
 side in a scrap. I thought (obviously very pleased  
 with his reception.

22/3/53 (Sunday)

with R to the pictures (quite a rare event!)  
 Don Camillo, <sup>but</sup> amusing & moving, as best Italian film  
 thing me. Preceded by One Big Trip, a Russian  
 circus, amusing with riding, trapezing, performing acrobatics, etc.  
 And constant shots of the audience - so happy such a great  
 night. If only one could break the barrier, I think  
 he can now.

DIARY

23/3/53 (Monday)

W. Wyatt & Shawcross.

Dined at the Horse Knight at same table as W. Wyatt, H.G. & A. Blankinship. Talk turned to Shawcross. W.W. has undertaken to write 4 articles on him for Sunday Express. H.G. praises him highly, thinks he has not only a very remarkable legal brain, easily the best at the Bar, but that he is a national figure and in such a great value to the Party. I criticise him. His neglect of his Parliamentary duties has become an open scandal. He showed not to be rejected by the L.S. & M.P. when Attorney General. A socialist judge with intelligence might have ~~been~~ <sup>done</sup> better things for the interpretation of our law. He & F.S. sat right for 6 years, as A.G. & S.G., and blocked all promotion on legal side of Party. S admittedly wants F.S. - I do not like the P.M. after that - but we don't want anyone else. Remember Simon. I don't at all accept that he would be a good Minister, or a good influence, in a Lib. Cab. A.B. is against him, and thinks feeling in the Party, all over the country, has gone very much against him in last month or two. W.W. in this conversation is defending S, and I say that those articles are clearly aimed at a build-up.

He sends 1 for to strike news, by myself. W.W. comes & sits near me, obviously wanting to continue conversation so we do. He shows me a letter which S has sent him

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23/3/53 (2)

By how today, but not marked personal or confidential. S writes that he has only heard in the last few days about these articles (W.W. says he saw S & told him & talked to him about them on March 4<sup>th</sup>, nearly 3 weeks ago, & S made no objection & gave him much information about his life & career); that he would have to resign (from both if they were published, & that he would "intentionally" W.W. for his fear, if he didn't publish.

W.W. says that Sunday Express published yesterday, a story & then following articles, headed "Man or Superman?" with a very handsome photograph, the story of H.S.'s life, "frank, intimate & authoritative" (I said I would read 3 epithets were important, & clearly implied that S had been "advertising" himself in a broad sense, to W.W. W.W. said that this book was composed not by him, but by the newspaper.) This morning, W.W. hears, S talked with W.W. Mowbray & Heald (H.S.), who both said the article should not be published, & S had also written to my (Mox) father, the proprietor of the paper, a letter very similar to what he had written to W.W., also containing the offer to "intentionally" W.W. Mowbray was approaching Kingston, via his telephone to Beaverbrook in the West Indies, to get the articles stopped. W.W. said he felt he should go ahead. At this moment he received a telephone message bringing



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23/3/53 (3)

Winton <sup>saying he would return.</sup> <sup>He went out,</sup> <sup>soon after</sup>  
Heald came in. So I went out, not wanting to compromise  
w.w. or myself by talking in front of H. Later I met w.w.  
in the corridor, & he went to the Hants Court Room, at his  
suggestion, for a further talk. He was very full of it all. He  
had had a very long telephone conversation. M. Titken had  
been under very heavy pressure. Winton had personally asked  
him not to publish. So had A.G. So had S, who had  
called personally and said that at Aiden. He had been ill  
with bowel trouble & his doctor had said that if he had  
any nervous strain, he might die. On this point also  
he asked M.A. not to publish. S, as w.w. says, has pulled  
out every stop." In S's letter to w.w. he says he had  
understood that the articles would be published till  
after Easter. w.w. thinks this means after Annual  
Meeting of Bar Council.

I advise w.w. to sleep on it & not worry. He is concerned as  
to his own reputation as a journalist, if his articles, so  
sensationally announced, don't now appear. I told him  
that I called H.S. "Sir Peacock." This is self-esteem  
& hysteria.

w.w. told me of a talk with Dick Gorman in the train. w.w.  
had said Dick was "irresponsible." Dick replied "That is  
Aileen's fault. It's mine, irresponsible by denying me  
responsibility." Dick said the fight in the Party would go on

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2 on. They would never let it die. There would be new  
leaders of the Trade Union who would be Bertram, &  
new M.P.'s the same, & many existing M.P.'s talked  
Bertramism when they got to their constituencies, though  
at Westminster they talked and voted anti-Bertramism.

Mean while, with A.B. away in India, Pakistan  
& Burma, all has been quiet. More of the same  
really learnt in the House. They are only  
band-waggoners. There was no trouble this year  
on Defence.

Jim Callaghan, just back from U.S., liked Harrop.  
College very much. He also had a few days in N.Y.,  
Washington, where he saw McCarty's Committee & enjoyed  
it very much. A very good experience  
for him. I told him he was in last week's  
Economist. "Mr Callaghan, the Chairman of the Foreign  
Relations made in State to President Eisenhower to take  
over some symbols of American aid in 1965. He was  
D.M. & British leader of opposition. No one else  
mentioned."

DIARY

19

25/3/53

Rey feasting & dine (Parliament adjourned, owing to Queen  
Mary's death, & XYZ cancelled). He thinks the  
outlook is gloomy. Only the challenge of A.B. could  
make him vote for H.A., if C.H. retired. Jim  
Griffiths, he thinks, is too weak, & not a sufficient  
big public figure. He asks if I wouldn't like to be  
in next Govt, perhaps as Lord President. I say  
definitely no. No one over 65, except P.M., would  
be in. Should be in next Cab.

26/3/53

Position as at a low ebb. More & more talk  
of a probable election in the autumn, when Tories  
would hope to make, at the least, a slight  
improvement, & hold it for 5 years. If they won  
only 10 seats, not their majority would go up  
from 30 to 50.

A.B. back from his tour in India, Pakistan & Burma,  
is in a slightly more peaceful mood, but still his  
temperament & his lack of judgment unfit him for  
leadership. When he was young, and his followers were  
fairly quiet & quite unimpaired. Berenson is in the  
Inner Board. Weston's health has & appears to

DIARY.

27/3/53

To B.A. for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Civic Dinner, called Union  
the Coronation Dinner, of the U.D.C. Middlewood, as  
always in their. Chief Gantlett (Muir) & chief party  
sit between Middlewood & George Waine, - a neat  
for a mine. Tributes to my work for me by  
Chairman, Waine & Rutherford (of Doggart's), the  
Chairman of the Chamber of Trade. Very satisfying. I  
make quite a good speech on behalf of the visitors.  
Conditions in constituency pretty satisfactory for the  
moment, - T.A. is hard working, I think personally  
legal, but weak in handling difficult characters.  
But Jack Rice in their, & still there will be just  
in vice-chair, are an improvement on some recent  
experience. But still Davis is now "back in the  
front", but on G.C. & E.C., though still playing a  
too vocal part. My next visit will be to  
Monday week end, when the new Shillon 20th Home,  
with my picture on it, will be unveiled. I carried  
in success.

28/3/53.

From Dorking to Cambridge by rail, changing at Frinton,  
Peterborough & Ely. Stay with Walston to week end &

DIARY.

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28/3/53

Go with Harriet to a 21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary gathering at  
Lodge Lakes Club, 8 miles from Cambridge. About  
500 in the hall. A very good party, nearly 200,  
including the local brewer & many of my old  
veterans from Cambridge.

Pleasant week-end at Overton Hall. Make much  
fun of, as usual. Breakfast in bed, & good lunch  
party, including Myrdal (with sticks from a motor  
accident) & Ricky. Catherine gives me a Canary  
yellow, high in the collar, pulled over to conceal the  
face as the one worn one of her Jesuits  
was off-white. Brian Abel-Smith, on my

suggestion, arrived in night on Sunday, 2 days  
me back to London on Monday afternoon. He  
has a job now with National Institute of  
Economic Research (in London) & is working  
Rehabilitation & Social Services. He has been  
long enough in Cambridge & ~~not~~ should do this  
work well, before I make a reputation as an  
university before coming into Parliament.

DIARY.

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31/3/53

To Windsor in morning by special train for Q. Mary's funeral. Privy Council, Diplomatic Committee, Military & SW retainers. H. Morrison, alone of the eminent, in a soft black hat, not a top hat.

At St George's I am conscious of being in the Park, with a hundred ~~feet~~ yards of my parents' ashes in the South aisle. One building & the service is very beautiful.

Stokes sits beside me, & shares his R. H. M. talking audibly about his Sunday Express case. Eternal egoism!

Arrive in way of Greyfriars, looking ill, in morning coat, but elastic sided boots!

Back in same carriage with H. V. Alexander & his wife, P. Gordon Walker & his wife, & H. Morrison. He mentions 1931. HE! says the members voted for their country, & not for their sectional interest. They were PATRIOTIC. I say they were BRIGHTER. I say I had written an

DIARY.

3/13/55 (2)

account of Uzi would write out very shortly. He  
warns me, rather heavily & severely, not to visit  
my P.C.'s notes. I said I would in the case of a  
P.C. then. I only want to know what has been written,  
& what people had told me. (He talked a lot  
of nice car stuff to H. W. Wilson, but I didn't say  
Uzi. I suppose he thinks my version may damage  
him.)

That evening, in the smoke room, I invited  
Uzi, David & Bob Beatty - with a drinker -  
to go into the House & put out your job's  
idea of forcing through Lord's and to transfer  
Bill <sup>in the same way</sup> to Lord's talk in an all  
night sitting. <sup>They</sup> go Uzi, Bob with great  
vehemently, hardly uttered from some, just  
before the agreement on Kenya at 7. But at  
10, he got most unexpectedly, but definitely, surprised.  
Rathen Heptan said, going away, that he'd heard  
I was resigning.

DIARY.

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31/3/53 (3)

Shawcross, Wyatt & Sunday Express.

S.E. Di'ant public. Winston intervened Friday  
write Max Hittler. And Heald, A.G., saw W.W.  
And issued a statement on behalf of C- Ben commit,  
attached. Heald said, in same room to me and  
Hector McNeil, who is an enemy of friendship with  
H.S., last 20.2. had said he didn't see why he  
shouldn't public. I said I feared that H.S.  
had not told you he objected, "was the matter  
was first broached at beginning of March. Heald  
was inclined to disbelieve this. H.M.N. said  
H.S. was on edge of a breakdown. He worked  
too hard. Received too much, & had too many  
doctors looking after him. I said he ought to  
to enjoy on medical advice, of several months,  
on a sea voyage. Heald said H.S. was afraid that  
if he did, he would lose his practice. H.S. has  
also written, in the Times of yesterday, a long  
letter in favour of paying judges more. Why read he  
write this, just now?



31/3/53. (4)

Removed.

DIARY.

13/4/53.

Back to London after 9 days at W.L., after Fabian Easton school at Dorking with Tony.

Here, <sup>at W.L.</sup> we have finished the referencing & revising of our boundaries. A very good job by English Freshly Association; a nice working party, under some foreman, called "Mac" but whose home is in Devonshire, on for wiring & planting my spinning in February. The old fences & hedges were more than 20 years old; to the new ones should see us out. The spinning has had a much, drought & I ~~was~~ <sup>in</sup> afraid we may have heavy casualties. But there's been a little rain, though not very much, this last week. Many of the cows are showing signs, but bees & Hantsian pine are slow. Lots of good firewood from sawing off new stakes & from old stakes too.

Read Virginia's Winter. First class. Not too condoning, but brings out all this, war is con, history. Hope Talbot's Prime Minister. <sup>Ben Barwell & West</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>any</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>considering</sup> <sup>a</sup> <sup>week</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>more</sup>.

DIARY.

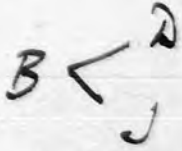
15/4/53

Budget Debate. First impression K.A.B.'s Budget is that it will be popular. I had to fight that it's out very well on the second day. I'm not sure.

Tony winds up for me on second day. Not much to hear. But good, on bond. I hope not with at his best. He says rather wisely, "we may have to put a tax on coal."

Ellis Smith says to me afterwards that, listening to Tony today, he felt he was listening to me. I think I should say "Tell him that!"

Mark Hewitt on 5th last, in the last fortnight, has heard a petition & counter-petition for divorce but will view of his divorce movement



2 Duff working overtime to shift!

2 T. Cook - Michael's feet

1 say war I want to see H.G., L.J.C. come with O.E. He will show.

He says H.G. is responsible for 57% of the shipping

~~1/2~~  
1/2

DIARY.

(Repeats on continuing)

21/4/53.

Open last day on Budget debate. I make a very successful speech; witty & reasoned. V-popular with comrades. "Back to 1945 form" is a common complaint.

Then dine with Laddess, Jack & Pioneer women.

Then back in time to hear Mr. ... not very successful. Wind up <sup>before</sup> & better reply.

22/4/53

Not Sunday (unavailable) me on my speech. Winkler says "All my revisions seem to be backing up. I miss them all very much." of F.E. Smith "He did for me, he thought he would drink halfpenny milk on (S.D.) in 1941. "I'll never let any military man know so long but I can't get rid of him."

DIARY.

30/4/53. (Tues)

J.C. said that tomorrow my book from him, which  
was in the library (obviously just time to look up  
reference to himself, & said, handing it back, "I didn't know  
the bugger kept a diary like that")

C.B.Y. is out on Thursday. It will be fun to see the reviews.

Mr. Edelman, now is doing it for the Times Lit Sup, is most  
enthusiastic. I have got some review copies for smaller  
papers, including T.V. journals. Distributed my some of  
my Parliamentary form - Jim Callaghan, Roy Jenkins, George  
Hemry, Ralph Morder, Kenneth Robinson, Arthur Ma.  
I don't know how his intellectual weather will  
shape. John Freeman is doing it in L.N.S., & Michael  
Foot - in the T.

They all say that. But there will be a lot of  
bitter comment later on in, with some warm  
marks. I evoke strong emotions. Get very  
C.B.Y. to read, work with. I got a copy. Copy

~~Yesterday~~  
it - say more. Read it at one sitting. Couldn't  
put it down.

Yesterday Jim Callaghan, & Woodrow, & Tony (he has  
first copy of my new book) were in smoke room. C.B.Y.  
came in & joined in. I'm not sure if he finishes Tony.  
Now played up well & asked about R. & S.

Recently I've made a very good & amusing budget speech  
(April 20<sup>th</sup>), covering attacking Winston & old school party  
in a second television "in the news".

DIARY.

28

17/6/53

Party programme over. "Challenge to Kiritani". So long & so dull! I say less to Nye. He says "H.G. still has too much influence, by remote control, and 'Sunday' is no good."

More & more boring in the Parliamentary ctee. K.B. fratching at great length, hostility to everyone outside his circle. I'm dead tired with it all. And we're doing no good in the country.

Evening. Walk home part of way with Bob Beatty & Julian Amey. B.B. - very pleasant with K.B. - says Winston's going ahead; wants to spend next 3 months at F.O. If he pulls it off, he shall be with 20 years, & he'll get the Nobel Peace Prize.

F.O. late it. Never connected. Twice asked to check figures he was going to use in a speech. Can't remember 2.3.53 on foreign affairs. Can't remember just any well meet without him, & 2.3.53 on foreign affairs.

And so on, very gaily.

Had then, 10 days later, Winston crooked & Bermuda was postponed! C.K. said to me, referring to Soames' statement to press, "I should like"

DIARY.

17/6/53 (2)

Don't mind my p.p.s. if he send of me 'He's all right physically; it's only mental.'

25/6/53.

Hg. 2- lunch at sea in flat. Hadn't had a real talk with him for quite a while. Very easy and friendly today. I say I want to run him (J.C. of N.E.C. I don't think there's much chance of putting some <sup>any</sup> B's off, but we must keep on trying. With Hg., 2 me, 2 Robert not standing, there'll be a few few votes at large. He doesn't think there'll be a change. He likes J.C. & he has a very good Parliamentary style, but his judgment is often weak, e.g. in discussion on method of electing Paul & Cee. First he stood up to me very well, & then, without seeing the point, he almost gave away the anti-plumping rule at several ballots. I said Nge was getting more & more ego-soaked and impossible. He said Cht. was weaker & weaker. Clearly he wants Hg. to succeed him. I was staying about 10/3. Long 1 Jan Hg. credit of the post, but now on Thom Facat he'd lost his friends' credit.

DIARY.

31

25/6/53 (2)

FO he had been pitiful, & didn't know. Gap on  
press affairs. Paul Baker was a step up. I said  
I didn't want to shake & scumble for it.

H.G. said C.R.T. was afraid of working me -  
E.B. must look at H.G. now too, & even Skinner.  
I guess that now H.G. would like would be for  
C.R.T. to retire to H.M. & become leader &  
himself as No 2. He said he'd like to retire  
his mind coming in to reaction, if H.G. wasn't in  
it. He'd me & No 2, even against Jim Phillips.

I said I'd thought of J.G. as the man, as a  
third man & leader, but I'd been losing  
heart for this alternative. He was a very real.

H.G. agreed, but thought, on the whole, he'd done  
well as Chairman & Party Sec.

I sense that H.G.'s stock stands very high  
in Parliamentary Party, which is good for him,  
in other words.





DIARY

23/6/53(2)

there too. I begin by being in favour of support meeting  
 arrangements, but Myle is getting some support for view  
 that jumping should be allowed in these ballots. In  
 following that line. I bring round again my favour  
 ballots. This is finally carried against a minority of  
 4<sup>5</sup> - C.A.A., H.S., Phil N.B. & I. L. 2, with Hall,  
 & Jim Callaghan  
 Atmosphere shocking! Jim Callaghan stands up to  
 Myle badly.

I dine with John Freeman, whom I still like &  
 lot. Later he are joined by Dick Kussner, whom I  
 like less. Both very excited, on Myle's side,  
 about our decision tonight. J.P. says he'll remain at  
 his voting table; denied "free election"; I wish if  
 he could find 12 people out of 260 whom he can vote for.  
 He says that want to be free to give weighted vote.

Dick is much more vehement. They will campaign against  
 it. "Two weeklies & regarded with ~~some~~ have a key by  
 influence" mentioning. But admits that Myle is always at  
 his work in Party office. In N.Y. City, or even in N. Essex. I say his  
 feels inferiority complex, beaten before he starts. I say his  
 Party is better before it starts at next general elect - I think next  
 year making it sure. Both seem to agree!

DIARY.

(3)

8/7/53

Nye is getting worse & worse. Today at the mtg we had up recommendations for election of Paul's Ctee. Two main proposals (1) single vote, with no second ballot, & (2) all must vote for 12, i.e. no plumping. C.S. de proposed. ~~but~~ no one advocated second ballot. But Lipton moved & Bing ~~seconded~~ seconded that we allow plumping. Brief debate. Not much excitement. It was wound up. Then Nye broke in. He had been sitting in back row of platform, having arrived too late to get a seat in front. Most unsuccessful speech. Angry frowning face. He had been a part of it in Paul's Ctee. It was a matter of procedure, so not governed by collective responsibility. It was, he said, his first time meeting was this discussed. Minorities as well as majority should be represented on Paul's Ctee. We had had very bad Paul's Ctee in post-war Parliament, because minorities not represented. (I doubt that there was an anti-plumping rule then.) This was like saying 'you must take all hands' usually in Green Bill in Ctee. We had rejected the Lib. Home Tories opposed it. (This argument was so far-fetched & unconvincing that there was interruption & some laughter in the meeting.) Finally recommendation carried by 75 to 16. Mostly all well known Bevanites. But some of best known weren't there.

In the afternoon, at weekly mtg of Paul's Ctee, another scene. First, long speech from Nye about our having kept Tories out initiative in Foreign Affairs, & now wanting to change it to get better Ctee. Initiated by Lib. says were all agreed about this. Last must be properly fixed. After a bit more, I say rather

DIARY.

35

8/7/53 (2)

impatiently to say "Can't we stop grizzling about the past & decide what to do next week?" Decided to take a Ptz Mtg on Tuesday or Friday Morn. & a meeting of Paul & Uree on Monday night to discuss line. I say, (quite sincerely, but so much has moved so far in Europe ~~but~~ lately that I myself am not quite sure what immediate line should be.

Then a letter from G. Weiss is read, proposing that in vote against merger of War Pensioners & National Health, a number, with some members of Paul & Uree, abstain. One vote, it seems, to M. E. He is very rude & vindictive. He had made a public decl<sup>n</sup> in favour of merger. Therefore he couldn't be expected to vote against it. (He had also made a speech at a (stating alternate) Ptz Mtg, saying after vote, but had been withdrawn.) Several then say that if this is a precedent, there will just be confusion. Now that this is only a matter of administrative detail, not a case of conscience. N. then says "I refuse to discuss it." C.A.T. rather nettled, "But we are going to discuss it." N. then says "Then I shall leave the Uree, in his own hands, pick up his papers & sweep from the room." I say "He is getting sillier & sillier every day." He decides that C.A.T. shall tell Ptz Mtg that we regard his action. He is a state of increasing irritated conceit. Losing power just in Paul & Uree, & not, I think, making any advance in the country.

9/7/53.

Then, invited by N.M.U. & T.G.W.U., will be their nominee for A.G. of the Provisional Party. Will talk to N.E.C. He will win, but there will be great bitterness. Not only among themselves, but among friends of A.G. Parsons & Hunter. L. Hunter thinks this may help. L. Hunter is final & Deputy Chairman.

DIARY.

6/7/53(31)

Next October. Memorization of Conference, L.A.G.'s work a low key still the strong. L.H. heard that Jimmy (Manville, Billy Blythe & others are already saying they'll never vote L.H. again.

1. L.H. but don't say that this strength is very much to be feared. Remembering Jim (Pittman) if he'll stand, so can be drawn off from M.J. the anti-Hatred vote (- and from Herbert because of the anti-M.J. vote.)

There still remain 2 possibilities (1) H.M. not to connect to run this year, so as to let A.G. have his complete triumph forward, undisturbed. - (2) A.G. not to stand again.

Now I am inclined to rule out (2) certainly, (1) probably. H.M. can let it pretty easily if he runs. And he seldom lets such chances slip.

On merits of course, A.G. should have retired long ago. He is quite gay.

11/7/53

At W.L. I hear on the air that poor little Marymount Mission is dead. I remember her coming here with him in 1933 or thereabouts, when I told him I thought he ought to be leader of the Party. But he'd mentioned some sort of a show she'd make, poor little stammering creature, in P.M.'s wife. I rather she's been ill a long time. Probably cancer or some such beastliness.

If Tom's wasn't all ill, they would ~~be~~ <sup>beat</sup> us easily in the autumn. We are in a bad way!

DIARY.

2/5/53 (Sat)

My great day! New Shildon Lodge Banner unveiled at Shildon Hippodrome at 11.30 by Joe Slater. My portrait on one side - not at all bad. from a D.H. photo I sent them. plus a few minute sketch in flat. Old folks' home on the other side. A great honour - they don't generally put you on a bill you're dead - and an instalment of immortality.

Young Lodge Officers - <sup>Tom HELEN.</sup> George Francis Chairman; Tom Francis Secretary; Jack Herring (Helen) Treasurer. Sam Watson also at unveiling.

I give them lunch at King's Cafe. S.W., J.S. Arthur Beatty, 3 Lodge Officers, Jack Race, Bill Leighton, Jimmy Wood. Then procession with banner to first cutting.

2 bands; 5 or 6 banners; falcons. Procession in Cockton Hill & Newgate Street. Meeting in Krishna's Park. Tony Hill. Notice of "L-Let" Party in candidate. L me in a bad way. Take J.S. & Beatty & tea at Will's. High Tea & entertainment 6 to 10.30 at N. Shildon Club. Promise to march with banner to Durham on Saturday.

6/5/53. Talk to J.F. & them, on his initiative, to be a "Panda" world. Trying to play down "L" & "Lett". Making D.D. "independent" group. L committee sh.

DIARY.

15/7/53

H.M.'s little wife Margaret was <sup>announced</sup> ~~announced~~ this morning at  
Horn Oak. C.H. & wife, H.G. & wife, F. Sothice & wife, and  
others went. I had written him a letter.

This afternoon at usual meeting of Paul & Uree discussed  
speakers for next week's Foreign Affairs Debate, two days.  
C.H. says H.M. (of course, about) would like to wind  
up on second day. Nye, & C.H. to open on first  
day, & K.Y. to open on second. No one else from  
Front Bench. (This leaves out Phil, & Nye, who had  
been trying at last meeting to work himself in.)

Shirwell then says he thinks it a mistake of Uree  
to choose speakers. When 2 names are mentioned, long  
one probably accepted. People don't like to object. He  
thinks it would be better to leave it all to Leader.

I say no to this. It's our collective responsibility  
& can't be put on one man. But he can still be  
frank. No reason why he shouldn't put up other  
names. S says that I often suggest names; he  
doesn't; he only waits for his own name to be selected,  
without objection. I say I take a broader view  
than he. Nye then says he thinks, since H.M.  
has been away for last 2 meetings of Paul & Uree

DIARY.

39

15/7/53(2)

2 from last Ptz Mtg that he is a most magnificent speaker for next week. He has H.G. & Sumnerhill episode with indignation. H.S. says "he has been bringing his wife this morning." & says he goes on to next business. We do.

Mice Bacon tells me that Arthur Vincent, - again now, it will be remembered. He is running for the Treasurer ship, & is likely to beat him on 2nd day of Conf - can't make himself heard in the Chair. He talks like a man with a cleft palate. He has been having further medical treatment. He just can't, physically, preside at the Conf.

Why the Hell can't he resign, & finish with it? This awful hanging on & on.

What a selection of choice incidents for one day! We are now 2 more down and out on a Party every day. Surely the Tories won't let slip the chance to vote in favour of election in the autumn - just before when they go to Australia.



DIARY.

18/7/53

(20)

Durham Big Day.

Arrived yesterday at St Helen's, & drove up Weardale to  
Jub at Wear Head with Bill, Florie & Blackie the  
dog.

This morning called at 6 am. Breakfast at 6.30. Leave  
for Shildon at 7. Arrive at Hippodrome corner, & back of  
Suttons Annex where they unfurl, & refurl, the  
Banner, (New Shildon Lodge with my portrait),  
& I take a nap.

Then march round Shildon, up Ryedale Road,  
& Work Gate - big crowd waiting to go in to work  
Wark & then, - then to the left, through many  
side streets & up Bonnie Gardens, back to their  
street. People at doors & windows all the  
way. This is work more than 100 meetings.

Then in two buses with Shildon Tessen Band,  
while Len played in row, to Durham. Get off  
by hospital. Then, about 9 am, march through  
city, across bridge & past County Hotel, and  
onto Big Field. We are early arrivals. Only  
about 10 banners before us. Parked between

DIARY.

18/7/53(2)

Antam Cook, La Rio of Durham notable, including Jimmy  
Rosen. A very good occasion. March with 3  
Lodge officials, Tom Francis & his brother Mike, &  
I had a middle aged straggler, immediately behind  
the band, & immediately in front of the band.  
Quite a good run with marching behind. Cheers  
& comments as he goes.

Then snacks & drinks in the County. Then to  
big field of speeches - never very good; Tom  
H. Morrison & Barbara Castle, the one dull  
lecturing, & the latter shrilling. Presumably  
to County of Lund. But I don't get down till  
2.30 (8 hours since breakfast!) Don't finish  
till 3.40. Then pick up Leasington one mile

Street, & march out with the New Inn.  
More drinks here. Then first Kew Gardens, & then  
Roundabout arrive. New Guilden Lane (some 1/2  
from Broomer farm (constituting today. Will drive  
me back to  
St Helens).

Shall write to Tom Francis, &  
express thanks. I saw £1 donation to Lodge Fund  
to cover expenses. Back about 10.30, a bit tired & sleepy, but very happy.

DIARY.

(42)

21/7/53.

A.B. in smoke room, says "I don't believe in all that talk about apathy. I never address a meeting with less than a thousand people." I wonder about this point by - elect. This man is full of conceit - but he'll burst soon!

22/7/53

XYZ Ladies night. Full turn out. I take the chair, but have to leave at 10 pm. To host of the Historic Buildings & Ancient Monuments Bill. In my absence H.G. Calder, & being let out of control. Jack Diamond sings my praises. I may start speaking one more.

23/7/53

Evening Dinner. (Before 11.21 to road to Brian Hotel - Smile. Plot warning party at 18 Vincent St. Many names of excellent young men from Cambridge. Tony & Hilary. I Jim Calcegan appear in his party. T & H stay till end. I go with Brian & Mistral. <sup>SAMPSON</sup> (I told him his name to 2 night club. I had word to ask T & H. Evening described by Hilary, Hilary & Jeffrey. Hilary said ~~was~~ his first feeling, when they got up, was "hell in Mad have found it." His first word, to Love, was "No. Z.C., when they met coming down, was "well, well

DIARY

23/7/53 (2)

Knocked the bastard off." His head soon began to  
work. 2 of backing-up by other members of the party,  
most of all when he was coming down, very exhausted  
& short of oxygen, & saw them coming up to meet  
them.

At the top he took photos all round to prove that they had  
got up. on the way up. he & Tensing were like two  
drunks. They were short of oxygen anyhow. "One bot  
tles both" wouldnt work; Love had gone down with a  
adapter in his pockets. It said to T "How do you  
feel?" T shrugged. It said "shall we go on?" T said  
"No you like." & they went on. It said "But why the

one decision i've ever taken in my life was such a damn  
was quite unjustified." Clearly it was just that  
they weren't lost. Hillary is a N.2. bee-keeper,  
rather <sup>very</sup> strong. bushy eyebrows, seen a human &  
piece of casual understatement. Said of Hunt, after!  
"I think there may be something in the thing after all."  
Q. work was first class. They couldnt have done it  
without.

DIARY.

9/8/53

R went on Friday (7<sup>th</sup>) to look after Barbara Hummer  
for the week end. I have been having all sort of  
inoculations. - revaccination, anti-Yellow Fever,

& T.A.D.T. (which against Typhoid, Paratyphoid & Tetanus.  
only the last is disconcerting. It lays one out for  
the next day with sore arm, fever & dizziness.

Spent today in the D.O. house to lunch - they  
had muddled the date (I am by telephone, she had forgotten)  
but I was there at 12.50 & they come, high speed, in  
35 minutes.

We came to play in the sun - it is a perfect day - &  
drove to W. Uxbridge (Observatory) in a cottage near Wembley.  
Drinking Mead, etc. Mead is too highly priced - after  
tea at Little's - & then dine at Dorchesters. Then  
drove back here, & read the news about. Good day.  
Tomorrow I go back to London, & two days later to  
Brazil.

I am at Trinity - Economics? Section. Dinner last  
night very good. I am in part 6's. Reservations,  
very slowly. I may have some more, & eventually  
everything. Has met the building one. Not out of the  
house.

Tommy has given him a brief for the building one, & says it is  
the Parliamentarianism of the century. However.

DIARY.

49

5/10/53.

Back from Brazil, after a wonderful six weeks (see separate diary, photos, etc.) R still in France, also enjoying herself. In following week receive many contacts - very fresh & fit & relaxed & stimulated by visit most successful (except holiday - Tony & Hilary, Olga, Mike (now comes to West on week-end, Oct 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> & W.L.) Bob Fraser <sup>from Mel Smith's</sup> etc. etc. speak at C.U. Lab Club (not very exciting) on Oct 9<sup>th</sup> - a middle-aged, married, solemn Chairman! ~~from Mel Smith's~~ Major at Cambridge.

In Union Debate, driven up by Brian Mel Smith, who is doing very well at his job & becoming an authority on Finance & Social Services. Drove back at night with P. Thursday with, now spoke against me. Union enjoyable on even, but Tony majority.

To Constituency from Oct 14<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. All very peaceful & easy & friendly. Visit Clubs & Pubs & Housing & Estates. One public meeting to P. Still no Tony candidate. Party is financial for water. (A month later I shall have £50. T.H.'s salary being 2 months in arrears!)

Oct 20<sup>th</sup> H.C. resumes. I had been at Party at Conference, but in Brazil. Churchill & Eden back after illness. Neither seems quite recovered. W.G. has resigned in Chamber not being an election 1953 Summer or early autumn. They would have increased their majority then. Now the tide will

DIARY

46

20/10/53

From a just seen, unpopular legislation. (Reals, etc).

21/10/53

Summer film (first night). Magnificent! Not so cold  
like Susan still photo of Tensing on the top. L-ed in  
with Hilary talking.

23/10/53

TV Oapad. Lunch with Frank Parkman. Meet his son  
Tom. & Rafe Trevor Kupa, & Blake. (Suva Cemetery  
with lunch) new Wilson & Beavercreek & edited Hills  
Division. Oapad does not move in the swim! Picked up  
by Fuvani, Rhodes, Seward. Secretary of Oapad Political  
Discussion Society, where we discuss Germany & etc.  
I am pretty absolute. (anti-~~total~~ German. For  
talk & drink with Balogh afterwards.

28/10/53

Speak in Debate on Trieste, winding up. Not badly. Not  
like my speech & I collect some votes. I think I  
Parliamentary Committee election next week.

29/10/53

Hq. to lunch. Conscious, or sometimes before, by a veil  
of reserve. Group most now overhead would love to  
conversational v. friendly. I tell him last. Laying of assembly  
abstained last year on H.M. v. H.S. In default leader, I have

DIARY

29/10/53

This time voted placidity for H.M., because A.B. has been so impossible in past 4 days & in particular, so rude to H.G. I saw to H.G. half rapping, "don't let interfering with H.M. for him to push out C.K.K. Let things run on for a bit." He says he will. It is planned if A. planned retiring next year, to H.G., with leading T.V. backing, to become Treasurer of Party, not seat on N.E.C.

Announced yesterday. Deputy leader.

H.M. 181  
A.B. 76

[ Last year  
194  
82 ]

257 papers returned out of 292 issued.

So both have votes, & relative position remains much the same. R. A.B. gets 29.6% of votes this time, against 29.7 last time. Some voted for A.B. because they were anti-H.M. & some were anti-W.G. & abstract. If either Jim Hillier or H.G. Fairhall had stood, A.B. would have polled less.

Israeli Arab has canvassed me, among many others, about <sup>Israeli</sup> change from Egyptian Treaty for League.

30/10/53 - 2/11/53

Mr. L. L. with R. (Came back to P.P. & firm raising)

2/11/53

Had dinner with Jim Callaghan & family & F. O'Hara at their home. (Name of house - Dublin 1942/1943 5/1/53)



DIARY

48

2/11/53.

for children & in v. popular. V. nice evening.

4/11/53.

Had 1 lunch at Brazilia Embassy (54 Mount St.) H-  
last the old bank has broken up to his social status. Lunch  
good. Our wife in Brazilia.

5/11/53.

Remedy voting 2 Paul & Tree announced. No change.  
he just said by 3 votes to shift Shinnell & by 1 vote  
Reef off it. Wilson. I would have preferred Wilson-

Shinnell (Country)

Griffiths	180	(194)
Gairdner	176	(179)
Soskice	168	(111)
Calloffe	160	(137)
Dalton	159	(140)
Ede	134	(189)
Robens	133	(148)
Summershill	129	(130)
Berran	126	(108)
Noel-Baker	118	(121)
Shinnell	108	(124)
Hall	106.	(113)

Rest List

Wilson	105	Foster 47
		Jan 46
Tungpanwood	89	Lee 42
Stewart	85	Caddock
		40
Skanss	85	
Herbison	71	Henderson 36
Skachan	71	Huffman 35
Bing	63	Blyden 29
Tony Benn	59	Gilson 29
		D.T. Jones 17
<del>Young</del>	<del>57</del>	
Storke	59	35-Consider
Younger	57	
McLennan	54	
Edith McArthur	51	
E. Hayles	50	
Bohndy	47	

DIARY.

5/11/53.

Ede fell heavily, too old. So did 7 others of the first 12.  
 Only 4 increased their vote. Sushie (rememberably), Callaghan,  
 I & Beran (now went up to 12<sup>th</sup> place to 9<sup>th</sup>) voting  
 was more concentrated, with fewer candidates. There  
 were more solid votes to 2<sup>nd</sup> 12, though nothing else.  
 except that one behind. Smaller poll this year. Only  
 248 (2 one spots - by a.) - 8 less than in vote of Deputy-  
 leader. Last year only 6 instead more than 50% of  
 vote cast; this year 9 of us. Last year before 260 & 270  
 voted. Not more than 40 Beranites (Graddick's vote.)  
 They will have had difficulty in voting 12.

6/5/11/53

Five Olga a taper.

7/11/53.

Some Hilary 2 amendments (DOLs a taper.  
 Dinner before lunch at T & H's flat, 1st (Dobsoning in.  
 Then we all lunch at Imperial, near S. Ken station.  
 Italian & other food. Gilbert standing at next table.

8/11/53.

DD P.F. at home. Meant from LRT & note.  
 Pleasant feeling after party, etc.

DIARY.

17/11/53

Talked with D. Donnelly, first time for some weeks. Still very free about Bevanite doings.

They've had several meetings lately, one week end at Bristol, & a meeting at Crossman's house, the first before, the second after, the election to the P.M.'s Club, which, of course, were disappointed then.

At the first meeting a group led by John Freeman, now is much the most influential of them all, and including Jennie, Barbara & Miranda wanted to reconstitute the group. A.B. was against, it was agreed to wait till after P. Uke election. At the second meeting J.F. & B.C. didn't turn up (here D.D. did a slight smile) it was put off again. But Jennie said she didn't think Nye would be able to stay on the P. Uke to be made of. Already hunting for some pretext to resign & make vacable.

D.J. told me that Dick Crossman had been saying lately that they "must find a new issue" between the Bevanites & the rest of the Party.

Mollie on 13/11/53 had written a ~~to~~ vacable making article in Tribune (attached) which was brought to notice of P.M.'s Club on 18/11. I sent to the floor should have headed it "The Two Electorates. One One that knows too little and the one that knows too much."

Trying to excite C.P.'s against M.P.'s.

DIARY.

(51)

18/11/53

Paul's Uree. Clear that the whole bloody Beromine  
trouble is being worked up again. Shirewell had a  
silly suggestion that session that he Uree should  
no longer choose Power Bank speakers, but that this  
should be left to the Chairman. Cht. having an  
objection, brought it over, comes down in favour of  
present system. Generally accepted. In 1 hour he needs to  
speak. But says interference to say that present  
system is not satisfactory, since, under it, some of us  
are permanently silenced on a wide range of subjects,  
asked if he means that, wanting to speak on a subject,  
he can't get chosen, he hints that he would  
sometimes want to speak, in addition to selected  
speakers, to put a slightly different point of view. After  
some grants & promises, he says that it is a very difficult  
advantage being a member of Paul's Uree.

Then Mellicham case. Proposed that Chairman (L 2 Stan  
Uree) should see him and point out that his article  
is very objectionable & a breach of discipline not to  
attach colleagues publicly. Says objects to this, says he  
has a "whole dossier" of "vicious attacks" by colleagues  
on himself. I say he should bring them up. He says  
pressing an example, that Stokes at meeting changed  
his mind & talking rubbish. (Stokes afterwards told

DIARY.

(52)

18/11/53(2)

me that he was asked at a meeting of business men  
whether he agreed with H.T.S. ~~that~~ now had said at  
Munich that the U.S. was his cause of the Cold War.  
Stiles said he hadn't seen the report, but that if H.T.S.  
had said that he was talking absolute balderdash. Time  
enough!) Finally all except NYE agree that it  
should be seen. He writes "my dissent to be recorded".

21/11/53

Spectator says of Colonel Peter Hunt "he led an  
expedition into immortality and made some  
sensible remarks about correct behaviour at  
Olympics."

23/11/53.

Debate with Geoffrey Lloyd at Union of King's College  
Strand. Some nice young men. Overwhelming  
Tray majority, more than 2-1. They say it was nearly  
as heavy as University Union last week. Had Swift  
at Oxford & Cambridge. The Labour Party is not  
very exciting to young men & women at Universities.  
Island of dullness & dissension.

DIARY.

25/11/53(2)

Another bloody awful Paul's Cree. We begin with  
with plans for Housing Bill next week. I hope Mr  
Shaw will ~~not~~ more rejection. A speed. Shall 2-wind up.  
Geoffrey de Freitas & Charlie Fisher attend. In Housing  
Cree. Call is very smooth.

Then back to Mallalieu. He has been seen & was  
obnoxious. He said he was discussing party and  
making personal attacks. <sup>He added that</sup> ~~he~~ said, ~~was~~ in reply to  
question that he thought there was a lot to be said  
for holding Cabinet meetings in public. Mr. King  
breaks in & says that Mr. West "will never be made  
official, that Mr. King is making an ex-honour statement, and  
that "I want to listen to an ex-honour statement." Here  
C.P.J. presents. I said "you'll have to listen to it;  
you do you fair share of talking; you must learn  
to listen to others as well." Then discussion -  
want to do next. <sup>Some many m.p.'s</sup> we have one  
very funny. Agreed to take it at 10.15 next week.  
C.P.J. to report. I to issue a warning that if it happens  
again, newspaper may be written down. Mr. West only  
& contrast. <sup>Agree</sup> ~~brother~~ <sup>is</sup> will be "dossier" we  
begin to produce it. Says he has never been in prison  
or disciplinary measures. I has never visited him  
all the time he has been in the party. Speaks

DAILY

(51)

25/11/53 (3)

of "honors of discipline". When H.G. says something of  
 "honors of no discipline". Mye fixes him, straight across  
 his face, with a glare of concentrated hatred, and  
 says "you're still too young in the movement to have  
 want you're talking about." Says that Tribune is  
 the only paper where stands of the primary view which  
 I represent. That's why the rest of us want to  
 suppress it. In my dispute in the Party all the  
 men, Tom Libard, & the "despicable Daily Herald"  
 are on our side apart. "You want unanimity,"  
 You want totalitarianism. Jim Callaghan says  
 "you're trying to find an excuse to resign from the  
 Committee." He indignantly denies. Later, he leaves  
 the room while we are still sitting, saying "whatever  
 you agree to in your present mood, I am  
 against it."

We then discuss more calmly (Stewart, that is,  
 is away today!) next week 17/12/53.  
 C.H. already to report on, to whom, Mallalieu,  
 but to assume M.S.'s that they are not required to  
 answer questions in their constituencies on how  
 they vote of Party line, or at 17/12/53.  
 No doubt that we must take this matter that  
 Johnson great trouble, & other Parties by the  
 to it. They have many more journalists, but some about an attack  
 to Tribune by Kirkwood.

DIARY.

55

2/12/53

Pty Mtg on Mallelian case. I am in bed with enteritis - v. boring, but not v. painful. George Chatfield, by pre-arrangement, rings up to report. And I hear also on phone later from Jim Callaghan & Douglas Jay.

Bevanites were present in force, spaced about the room. In spite very shortly, heard his defence on freedom of press, & to attack on named persons. The debate got in a muddle. ~~There~~ on 'Leary, sharp & well heavy, moved that report be taken away for the Atlantic. C.A.F. had to say this was out of order, because no notice. Woodburn in composed speech proposed 2nd business. This was carried by 110 to 40 (approx). Bites read with majority. Minority was T.V. Richards. That meeting accepted, as it was recorded, C.A.F.'s statements were "Mallelian had broken rule & that if anything like this happened again, it would have to take action about it!"

I find myself, with little enthusiasm, for some of our anti-US. sincerely repelled by H.D. himself, & I am of his supporters. & infuriated by their tactics & infirmities.