

You touched upon another point that has worried me a great deal. The extent to which the present Government is able to advance its Socialistic views makes it improbable that any future action can be taken to reverse Socialistic action.

I share your fear and I adopt your very striking sentence-- "That Britain which deserves the best fate of all Nations is to be a guinea-pig which will teach mankind the lunacy of Socialism." You are entirely right in your estimate of Morrison. He was a conscientious objector in the last war, was responsible for the abolition of the Cadet Movement in the London schools and generally speaking, his influence was steadily against the Empire. I was at a luncheon where he was a few days ago and I now seriously doubt his sincerity. He wants power which he loves. He organized the great mass of the people associated with Trade Unions to support the Labour candidates in the last election. I think to some extent he is losing his grip but nevertheless he is a force to be reckoned with.

Bevin is in bad health. I doubt if he is able to continue as Foreign Secretary for a year and I am told that Dalton wants that position, which would be a very evil day for this country, although as a son of a Canon who was a tutor to George V, he has a position enjoyed by very few Members of the Socialist Government.

We have a very interesting situation developing out of the abandonment by the American sailors of the "American Farmer" and the effort to salvage the ship by the British ship. It is almost incredible that any power other than a pirate power should have done what was done in driving the salvage Captain off the ship so that he could not be said to have taken her to Port.

A strong Anti-Semitic feeling is developing in this country although a leading politician of Jewish ancestry has designs upon the Premiership. I do not think he has the slightest chance of succeeding. It is Hore-Belisha. Woolton has taken over the organization of the Conservative Party and already they are pointing out that his name was "Marquis" and that he too is of Jewish ancestry. I do not think it is correct. Amery is the best informed man in public life with respect to the Empire and trade and commerce generally, but as he points out, he is about 70, and cruel though it is, he suffers somewhat from the actions of his boy, who showed great courage on the day of his execution. When his father said to him that he was very pleased to see him show such courage and fortitude, he remarked--"You should not show such surprise--I am your son." I think perhaps in some respects it is one of the very saddest events of the war. Mrs. Amery as you probably remember is Hamer-Greenwood's sister and has been completely prostrated.

Beaverbrooke is a very great power but he is also critical which increases the respect the masses of the people have for his views and causes corresponding criticism by the Members of the Party. I understand that Ilsley is going to retire. He is a very good chap and in my judgment he has not been responsible for the taxation features of his budgets, which represent the views of three men from the Finance Department, whose motto I think is--"Soak the Rich."

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