

The British Elector's Dilemma

Seventeen years ago an election was fought on the issue of Protection in Britain, and the Free Traders were overwhelmingly triumphant.

Once again Protection—or Tariff Reform as it is called in the Old Country—is an issue at the polls, and no man can predict the result with any degree of certainty.

Britain is traditionally a Free Trade country; to buy raw materials abroad and import them duty free, to employ labor that could work for low wages because of the low cost of living, to sell the manufactured products abroad: This has long been Britain's policy, this is the Free Trade theory.

Of the English people it has been said that it would take two hard winters to convert them to Protection—and two hard winters the British have suffered. Unemployment has been widespread, and it was this state of stagnation in which many British industries were suffering that caused the Right Hon. Stanley Baldwin, to declare himself in favor of Protection.

The Prime Minister, however, was bound by Mr. Bonar Law's pledge to the country that no alteration would be made to the tariff during the life of the present Parliament. Speculation became rife, therefore, as to the probable date of the elections, but Mr. Baldwin surprised most of his political foes by deciding upon an immediate appeal to the country.

Seventeen years ago Joe Chamberlain led the fight for Tariff Reform, but Protection was hopelessly lost; since then, however, a new generation of voters has come to maturity, millions of women have been enfranchised, a great war has been fought, serious unemployment has been suffered, the Englishman has seen foreign goods dumped on to his markets, he has seen his own manufacturers kept out of foreign markets by high tariff fences. Whether these factors will make for Tariff Reform or for Free Trade no one knows.

Three main policies confront the British elector. There is the Conservative policy of Protection, the Liberal doctrine of Free Trade—both these two he knows—there is also the Labor Party's theory of the Capital Levy.

"Unemployment is rife, our industries are stagnant," cry the Conservatives, "Protection is the proper and real remedy!"

"Unutterable, unintelligible folly," retorts the Liberal Lloyd George. "It is an insult to the intelligence of the nation to offer to feed the starving industry with mislabeled straw of the last century, with every grain of state-manship broken out of it."

"Your food will cost you more!" is the Labor Party's slogan, and this party offers the capital levy as a cure for unemployment and the means of raising the necessary funds to pay the debt to the United States.

Taxation of food would probably destroy any chance of victory that Protection may have in England, but Mr. Baldwin has expressly stated that he does not propose to tax wheat or meat.

Mr. Baldwin who, to use his own phrase, "takes his political life in his hands," became Prime Minister of Great Britain in May, 1923, upon Mr. Bonar Law's resignation. He is more of a business man than a politician, not having entered Parliament until 1908, representing the Bewdley division of Worcestershire. His greatest achievement was his share in the work of funding the British debt to the United States.

Seated opposite the Treasury Bench in the role of Leader of his Majesty's Loyal Opposition in the last Parliament was James Ramsay MacDonald, leader of the Labor Party. Mr. MacDonald's career is an example of the fact that it is still possible for a man to rise to great heights in Britain, even although handicapped by lack of wealth and influence. Born in Scotland and educated at a board school Mr. MacDonald went to London and by sheer hard work raised himself to the highest position he now occupies not only in Parliament and his own party, but in general esteem.

Another man who owes his advancement to his own ability is that meteoric figure, the Right Hon. David Lloyd George, O.M., D.C.L., LL.D. His career is well known. Born of Welsh parents in Manchester he was brought up by his uncle and educated to the law. In 1899 when 27 years old, he entered Parliament as Liberal member for Carnarvon and soon made a name for himself as an able debater. In 1916, following his rupture with his chief, H. H. Asquith, Mr. Lloyd George became Prime Minister and in 1918 was returned to power as the "man who won the war." In the last elections his party went down to defeat.

One of the dramatic events of the present election is the rivalry that has been brought about between Mr. Lloyd George and his former chief, the Right Hon. Herbert Henry Asquith. When Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman died, Mr. Asquith became Prime Minister and remained in that office from 1908 until his quarrel with Mr. Lloyd George in 1916. Mr. Asquith's parliamentary experience coupled with Mr. Lloyd George's or-

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London, New York and Paris Assoc. of Fashion

atorical ability make the Liberal a formidable power in the coming election.

The following are the candidates in the field, including 30 women. The Conservative Liberal parties will each nominate about 480 candidates and the Party about 320.

For the total of 415 seats in the House of Commons there will be about 1000 candidates in the field, including 30 women. The Conservative Liberal parties will each nominate about 480 candidates and the Party about 320.

New Paris Fashion
SUIT ONLY WOMEN OF SYMMETRY

PARIS—The official winter openings are now a thing of the past and it would seem that the new lines put all but slim women at an advantage; a veritable cult of nees has been developed.

While there is the greatest freedom in the matter of detail, and one followed the circular or the pleated, embroidered or the unembroidered, the fundamental principle of "straight line" remains supreme.

For street and traffic wear classic tailleur has the call, and many women have remained loyal to it despite the changing times. The great textile manufacturers of northern France are now producing fabrics designed especially for the new lines.

The kasha, marokkelline and de Smyrne, particularly the latter, the materials used by most of the Parisian dressmakers for tailleur coats. The velours de Smyrne, in plaids and stripes, with a very velvet surface, and all the qualities of wool, is the most popular fabric among the fashionables of the Bois de Boulogne and the Champs Elysees, seen green being the color most in demand.

Simplicity is the keynote. Braid, braided, or without adornment, these garments for morning and evening wear all retain a snug, easy which is causing despair among men who admit they are some plump. Slim women, on the other hand, have no fault to find.

As a rule the coats of the 1923-24 season are longer than they have for several seasons, in many cases about three-quarters or more to the knee, and are often the wrap-around style, extremely smart and very dainty. Braided coats with fur collars and cuffs, worn over simple straight-line dresses are a trend.

A tailored dress of tulle, the velours de Smyrne, recently seen Longchamp, has buttons for the collar and button holes of dull leather. A dull blue leather belt pleated, the rather striking ensemble.

Models made of knitted goods, coming into the latest fashion, all the fashionable features of the cloth article, were also ushered in with the first chill of autumn. Some of these knitted suits have borders woven into them, which give the same as embroidery.

But whether made of velvet, or knitted goods, the tailor suits of the 1923-24 season, with straight lines and snug fitting of the body, make the coming season a period of despair for women who are plump.

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Just Folks.
By EDGAR A GUEST

AGE AND YOUTH
Youth and age in conflict are And will be to the end of time. Age has no wish to journey far. Age has no strength or will to climb.

Age to the old will fondly cling. But youth demands the newest thing. Assist the new old age is set. New tricks are hard for him to get. Yet gruff old age should not forget. The time was when his dream was new.

When strength was his, then was he bold. And scorned the preachings of the old. What though you cannot run as youth. What though you cannot climb as youth.

You need not blind your eyes to truth. Muscles, of course, must bow. But still the mind can keep abreast. With what is new and what is best.

Youth does not scorn your lack of strength. It merely scorns your narrow view. Your vain attempt to hold at least. All that it undertakes to do. The blustering waves young hearts will stem. If we will but play fair with them.

Fads and Fashions.
In hose nude-colored chiffon still leads. Boies and nude shades are favored in gloves, as in stockings. Novel sandals of black leather are piped with white silk. The most charming of the pump has a charming detail of cut steel. Fans have not the stamp of being a revival upon the gay Russian hand. A circular founce lengthens the arch of a frock of black satin. For the daytime pump or evening patent leather or cinnamon suede are in favor.

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