

BRITAIN

L.T. - ~~Wells~~, Fisher. Tues. Oct. 6 - '64.

The other night I suggested that this British election is rather un-Victorian. The sound and fury - not to mention the egg throwing - more like the Eighteenth Century. The ~~many~~ rowdy days - of "Tom Jones."

Tonight, we have a different opinion - from the British themselves. London pundits, observing - that British elections are going Twentieth Century. With - American overtones.

To begin with, polls have never been taken - so extensively before. And they are having - the same effect as over here. The candidates who are behind in the polls - trying desperately to catch up. Using every argument - they can think of. Including - a choice array of epithets. Old Briticisms - like "cad, bounder." Plus a few - new ones. "Do-gooder, atomic wild man" - and so on.

If the Tories appear to have the larger dictionary of epithets - ~~that's~~ that's because of the polls, which show the Laborites - in the lead. A substantial lead - judging by the London bookmakers. Who ^{now} have pegged the odds - at thirteen to eight.

What does it all - mean? It means that British politicians - like their American opposite numbers - are out to win this election.

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As for the campaign, the President is to deliver a political speech tomorrow, concerning the main points on which he differs -- from his Republican opponent.

JOHNSON

President Johnson must have enjoyed -- two of today's meetings. The titles of the groups in question tell the story. "Scientists and Engineers -- for Johnson." And -- "Businessmen for Johnson." L B J couldn't have had much criticism for -- the scientists, engineers and businessmen. Not when they are backing him -- in the election.

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GOLDWATER

Barry Goldwater chose "minority groups" for his subject-
in a state that has a lot of them. Pennsylvania - the state to
which waves of immigrants came - around the turn of the century,
looking for jobs - in ~~the~~ coal mines and steel mills, ~~in the~~
factories - and on the railroads. ^{Tens of} Thousands of Americans -
are the descendants of these immigrants.

^{Today} ~~Barry~~ Goldwater was talking about them - and to them -
during his swing through the Keystone State. His theme - they
should all be treated simply as Americans, ~~Not~~ - as minority
groups. Which Goldwater considers - "pigeon holing," ^{all} ~~leading~~
to lobbying in Washington - in favor of ethnic sub-divisions
of our population.

Said the Republican candidate - "I think Americans
are sick and tired of it."

DIPLOMATS

To nobody's surprise, Moscow has rejected - the latest Western note. Subject - the British and American diplomats who were harassed in ^{that} a Siberian ^{Kabharovsk} hotel. Held in their room - while Soviet agents ransacked it for evidence of espionage. The evidence was not forthcoming - but Khrushchev's bully boys confiscated the cameras and radios they found.

As the diplomats were merely on their way to the Olympic Games in Tokyo - London and Washington registered a stiff protest in the Soviet capital. The Kremlin reply - is just what ^{the} two Western governments must have expected. Namely - the charge that the four men were spies. Quite properly searched - by the Soviet Secret Police. Even though - nothing worth reporting was found in their hotel room ^{at Kabharovsk}.

VIET NAM

The war in South Viet Nam - may last another decade.

So says the Royal Institute for International Affairs - in a special report on Southeast Asia.

The report bases its judgment on - the post-war history of the area. The fact that it took over ten years - to pacify the Philippines and Malaya. The guerrillas in both places - holding out in the jungle. Not surrendering - until the local people turned against them. And this did not happen - until the government showed that it could protect them.

The Royal Institute argues - that Saigon must first defeat the Red guerrillas in the jungle. Then think about rolling them back - and clearing the soil of South Viet Nam. Since the real work still has to be done - the London experts believe that the Americans had better be prepared for a long haul. Another ten years - of the Vietnamese problem.

ENLISTMENT FOLLOW VIET NAM

Having quoted the British experts on South Viet Nam - what about the American soldiers out there? Are they - discouraged? Answer - an unequivocal "no!" Proof - the rate of reenlistment ^{is} ~~is~~ about - fifty per cent. Far above the average ^{elsewhere which is} ~~is~~ some twenty per cent.

Why do our soldiers in South Viet Nam - sign up for another hitch? Various reasons are mentioned - in Saigon, ~~of~~ ^{of} the most interesting - is this:- The Americans assigned to duty with the Loyalist troops - feel that their mission is being accomplished. They are confident of winning - even though victory is not yet in sight, ^{and} ~~of~~ ^{and} many ~~of them~~ prefer to stick to the job - until it's done. No pessimism among Uncle Sam's soldiers - in South Viet Nam.

ATOMIC

Many powers will possess atomic bombs - in a decade or two.

We've heard that before. But now the Secretary of Defense - makes it official. Robert McNamara, referring to - "tens of nations", and giving - the reason, which is a matter of economics.

He says the know-how of the bomb - is no secret. That nearly all so-called advanced nations have atomic physicists - capable of building one; if provided with - the equipment, plus - the enriched uranium.

Right now - that involves terrific expense. But Secretary McNamara points out that the cost will, in his words - "fall dramatically." Meaning - nations that can't afford to build an atomic bomb now - will be able to afford it ten years from now. And some of them - are sure to begin a nuclear arsenal of their own.

QUEEN

When the Head of the Commonwealth rode in a motorcade through Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island -- the disturbing element was not political. It was - meteorological. But despite a drizzle all Charlottetown turned out -- to cheer the Queen.

Few residents of Prince Edward Island -- mentioned separatism today. Not with the Queen there -- to dedicate the Confederation Memorial Building. A reminder that the Charlottetown Conference of eighteen sixty-four -- led to the formation of the modern Canadian nation. The union of British Canada-- with French Canada.

FIRST LADY

The First Lady on a train ride -- through the South. Places -- with an emotional appeal -- beginning with Virginia -- Fredricksburg, Richmond, Alexandria. All with overtones of the ^{Confederacy} ~~Confederacy~~ - the Civil War, or as they say in the South -- the War between the States.

Ladybird, a Southerner herself-- is making the most of these historical associations. Referring repeatedly -- to the gallantry of the South -- Dick -- and to General Robert E. Lee!

SPACE

The latest American satellite - is another hush-hush affair. All the Air Force will say - is that the launching took place at Vandenberg Air Force Base in California. With the payload carried into orbit - by a Thor-Able rocket.

But we know that as a general rule - the Thor-Able rocket is assigned to communication satellites. Which leads to the inference that this satellite - is sending messages from outer space. Messages relayed - to communications headquarters on the ground. Perhaps part of a warning system - assigned to watch for incoming missiles.