

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History
Semester II 1971-72

History 364

(Modern Britain, 1870-1960)

Miss Mulvey

The emphasis in this course will be on society, understood in its widest meaning, and on the relationship of society to politics. Historical "facts" there must be, but the purpose of the course is less to "cover" a span of time than to understand the intricate relationships of the individual, society, and politics. How did the England of 1870 become the England of 1960? Some attention will also be given to Wales, Scotland, and Ireland and to their relationship to social change and politics in England. A few lectures will be devoted to the Empire-commonwealth, to British attitudes, rewards, responsibilities, and finally to the readjustments which imperial losses have made necessary. The following topics will serve as a guide for the reading, lectures, and discussions.

- I. Towards a democratic state, 1870-1914
 1. Britain, 1870-1914: An over-all view.
 2. The British state and society in 1870.
The achievements of the mid-Victorians -- a backward look, 1846-1870.
The Reform Bill of 1867 -- Its implications.
 3. Victorian civilization and its critics: Marx, Mill, Matthew Arnold, John Ruskin, etc.
 4. Liberalism: Gladstone; the Ministry of 1868-1873; the Liberal Left -- Joseph Chamberlain.
 5. The Irish Question 1870-1893; the Land Question; British fears of Home Rule; the career of Parnell; Irish nationalism -- some critical reflections.
 6. Some representative social patterns; a) Poverty b) Education
c) The popular press d) Public health e) Religion f) the family
 7. The rise of labor; Socialism in the 1880's -- the Dock Strike (1889) and the new Unionism; -- independent labor representation; the I.L.P. and the Labor Party.
 8. Imperialism; Theories and Motivations; Government Policies.
 9. The demise of Liberal England and the rise of the welfare state. The Liberal Victory of 1906. South Africa: a case study in Imperial History. The House of Lords Crisis, 1909-1911. The Irish Home Rule Issue, 1912-1914; Ulster.
- II. The Two World Wars
 1. The First World War and British Society; the psychological impact.
 2. Labor 1918-1929; the General Strike, 1926.
 3. Ireland 1914-1922; Ireland and the Commonwealth to 1949.
 4. The Twenties: Economy, Society, The Peace Movement; Social Welfare.
 5. The Crisis of 1929-31; The National Government.
 6. The Thirties; Unemployment; the Distressed Areas; Government Economic policies; Ideological Conflicts -- Marxism, Spain, Fascism, Appeasement.
- III. The British State and Society, 1940-1960
 1. The New Welfare State -- Wartime Origins; social, political and economic effects of war 1939-45.
 2. Aims and achievements of the Labor Government, 1945-1951; the future of British socialism; leaders in the Labor Party.
 3. England 1950-60; Society and government. How much a social democracy? Education.
 4. Britain's world position 1947-1960; the loss of empire.

COURSE PROCEDURES:

1. Lectures and discussions

The week's schedule of three meetings will be divided in general into two lectures, and one discussion session. The discussion period will be based on material in the week's reading assignment. Any necessary departure from this plan will be announced in advance.

2. Wide reading is essential to get the spirit of any period. Students should go beyond the texts assigned, and follow, to some extent, lines of enquiry of interest to themselves. Many of the books suggested on the reading list are on library reserve. They represent only some of the possibilities. The weekly assignments, to be announced in class, are a beginning.

3. Examinations and papers

6 weeks, 12 weeks, final

To be based on lectures, discussions and reading assignments.

4. Graduate Students

Graduate students will write a term paper (c. 3000 words) in place of the 12 week examination. Undergraduates who choose may also do this. Students should make early appointments with the instructor to plan suitable topics. Office and conference hours will be announced in class.

BOOKS:

1. Required texts: Bookstore

Harrison, J.F.C. - Society and Politics in England, 1780-1960 (1965) paperback

Mowat, C.L. - Britain Between the Wars 1918-1940 (1955)

Dangerfield, G. - The Strange Death of Liberal England, 1910-1914 (orig. 1935)
paperback

Thomson, D. - England in the 20th Century, Penguin (Penguin Paper)

Pelling, H. - Short History of the Labor Party

2. Recommended (on Library Reserve)

R.C.K. Enser - England, 1870-1914

A.J.P. Taylor - English History, 1914-1945

A.F. Havighurst - Twentieth Century Britain

W.H. Medlicott - Contemporary England, 1914-1964

THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
Department of History

HISTORY 364

(Modern Britain, 1870-1960)

MISS MULVEY
Second term 1971-2

Society and Politics in England, 1870-1960

A Select Reading List

(1) General Works

- A. F. Havighurst, Twentieth Century Britain
H. Pelling, Modern Britain, 1885-1955
G. D. H. Cole & R. W. Postgate, The British Common People
R. C. K. Ensor, England 1870-1914
Pauline Gregg, A Social and Economic History of Britain, 1760-1950
E. Halevy, A History of the English People in the 19th Century, Vols. 4, 5, 6
C. L. Mowat, Britain between the wars, 1918-1940 (Bibliography)
G. P. Jones & A. G. Poole, A hundred years of economic development in Great Britain
W. I. Jennings, British Constitution
W. Ashworth, Economic history of England 1870-1939
R. Graves & A. Hodge, The long weekend
D. C. Somervell, British Politics since 1900
J. H. Clapham, An Economic History of Modern Britain, Vol. 3
New Cambridge Modern History, Vols. XI (1870-1898), XII (1898-1945)
J. F. C. Harrison, Society and Politics in England, 1780-1960
A. J. P. Taylor, English History, 1914-1945
Anthony Sampson, The Anatomy of Britain Today (newest edition)
D. C. Somervell, English Thought in the Nineteenth Century
W. L. Burn, The Age of Equipoise

(2) Books on specific topics

- G. Dangerfield, The Strange Death of Liberal England, 1910-1914
S. MacCoby, English Radicalism, Vols. 4, 5
H. H. Wilson, Pressure Group
C. L. Mowat, The Charity Organisation Society
M. Ginsberg (Ed), Law and Opinion in England in the 20th Century
H. Ausubel, In Hard Times
J. F. C. Harrison, Learning and Living, 1790-1960
G. M. Young, Stanley Baldwin
J. L. Garvin, Life of Joseph Chamberlain
K. Feiling, Life of Neville Chamberlain
P. Snowden, Autobiography
F. A. Iremonger, William Temple
A. Mansbridge, An Adventure in Working Class Education
M. Stocks, The Workers Educational Association
G. A. N. Lowndes, The Silent Social Revolution
R. Jenkins, Mr. Balfour's Poodle
J. Symons, The General Strike
R. Fulford, Votes for Women
H. Pelling, The British Communist Party
H. Pelling, Short History of the Labour Party
R. H. S. Crossman (Ed), New Fabian Essays
R. Lewis & A. Maude, The English Middle Classes
F. Brockway, Inside the Left

(2) Books on specific topics continued

- F. Brockway, Socialism Over Sixty Years
 B. C. Roberts, The Trades Union Congress, 1868-1921
 M. Young, The Rise of the Meritocracy, 1870-2033
 R. Kolf-Cohen, Nationalisation in Britain
 R. A. Brady, Crisis in Britain
 W. E. Robson, Problems of Nationalised Industry
 G. D. H. Cole, Studies in Class Structure
 D. V. Glass, Social Mobility in Britain
 K. Hutchinson, Decline and Fall of British Capitalism
 G. D. H. Cole, Short History of the British Working Class Movement, 1789-1947
 G. D. H. Cole, A Century of Cooperation
 G. Elton, England Arise!
 H. M. Lynd, England in the Eighteen Eighties
 H. Pelling, Origins of the Labor Party
 F. Bealey and H. Pelling, Labour and Politics, 1900-1906
 H. Pelling, The Challenge of Socialism
 E. P. Thompson, William Morris
 F. Owen, Tempestuous Journey - Life of Lloyd George
 T. Jones, Lloyd George
 R. Blake, The Unknown Prime Minister - A Bonar Law
 R. W. Lyman, The First Labour Government, 1924
 R. Bassett, 1931 Political Crisis
 H. Nicholson, King George V
 A. Bullock, Ernest Bevin
 A. M. Carr-Saunders, D.C. Jones and C. A. Moser, Survey of Social Conditions in England . . . (1958 ed.)
 G. D. H. Cole and M. I. Cole, The Condition of Britain
 Mark Abrams, The Condition of the British People, 1911-1945
 Seebohm Rowntree, Poverty: A Study of Town Life
 Seebohm Rowntree, Poverty and Progress
 Seebohm Rowntree, and G. R. Lavers, Poverty and the Welfare State
 Seebohm Rowntree and G. R. Lavers, English Life and Leisure
 R. Hoggart, The Uses of Literacy
 R. Williams, Culture and Society
 R. Williams, The Long Revolution
 R. T. McKenzie, British Political Parties
 W. A. Lewis, Economic Survey 1919-39
 R. M. Titmuss, Essays on the Welfare State
 C. A. R. Crosland, The Future of Socialism
 D. C. Marsh, The Changing Social Structure of England and Wales, 1871-1951
 W. Milne-Bailey (ed.), Trade Union Documents
 H. A. Clegg, A. Fox, and A. F. Thompson, History of British Trade Unions since 1889, Vol. I
 A. J. Youngson, The British Economy, 1920-1957
 J. L. Hammond, Gladstone and the Irish Nation
 Margaret Cole, The Story of Fabian Socialism
 L. Broad, Winston Churchill
 D. E. Butler and J. Freeman, British Political Facts, 1900-1960
 D. E. Butler, Electoral System in Britain Since 1918
 W. S. Churchill, The Second World War (6 Vols)
 S. Pollard, The Development of the British Economy, 1914-1950
 A. M. McBriar, Fabian Socialism and English Politics, 1884-1918
 A. P. Thornton, The Imperial Idea and Its Enemies
 B. Semmel, Imperialism and Social Reform

(2) Books on specific topics continued

- R. Jenkins, Pursuit of Progress
 E. H. Phelps Brown, Growth of British Industrial Relations, 1906-1914
 E. J. Hobsbawm, Labouring Men
 C. F. Brand, The British Labour Party
 S. Nowell-Smith, Edwardian England, 1901-1914
 H. J. Dyos, Victorian Suburb
 D. Newsome, Godliness and Good Learning
 C. Driver, The Disarmers
 E. J. Hobsbawm, Primitive Rebels
 E. P. Thompson, The Making of the English Working Class
 Peter Stansky, Ambitions and Strategies, The Struggle for the Leadership of
 the Liberal Party in the 1890's
 J. M. Keynes, Essays in Persuasion

(3) Some contemporary works

- A. Briggs (Ed), They Saw it Happen, 1897-1940
 Beatrice Webb, My Apprenticeship
 Beatrice Webb, Our Partnership
 Beatrice Webb, Diaries (Ed. Margaret Cole)
 E. M. Forster, Howards End
 G. B. Shaw (Ed), Fabian Essays
 W. Beveridge, Full Employment in a Free Society
 W. Beveridge, Report on Social Insurance
 John Osborne, Look Back in Anger
 Kingsley Amis, Lucky Jim
 G. Orwell, The Road to Wigan Pier
 J. B. Priestley, English Journey
 R. H. Tawney, Equality
 R. H. Tawney, The Acquisitive Society
 C. R. Attlee, Labour Party in Perspective
 Report of the Poor Law Commission, 1909 (Majority and Minority Reports)
 15 to 18: Report of the Central Advisory Council for Education (1959)
 G. Raverat, Period Piece
 Aldous Huxley, Antic Hay
 Evelyn Waugh, Decline and Fall
 George Orwell, Homage to Catalonia
 Robert Graves, Goodby to All That
 J. M. Keynes, Essays in Persuasion
 Arnold Wesker, Chips with Everything
 Arnold Wesker, The Wesker Trilogy

(4) Bibliographies

- C. L. Mowat, British History Since 1926 (British Historical Association)
 H. R. Winkler, Great Britain in the Twentieth Century (American Historical Assoc.)
 J. Clive "British History, 1870-1914, Reconsidered" (A.H.R., July 1963)
 J. F. C. Harrison, "Recent Writing on the History of Victorian England"
Victorian Studies, VIII, 3, March 1965)
 H. F. Mulvey, "Nineteenth Century Ireland, 1800-1914" (Irish Historical Studies
 March, 1970)