

Papers of Hugh Dalton:
Original Manuscript Diary

Volume 16:
23 January 1935 - 27 July 1936
(102pp)

Reduction Ratio:

8 x

✓ checked, ✓

[1934 - 1936]

Dalton

May 16

1934-35.

Keeping a diary is a bore. In 1934 I dropped it. But, on the year runs, I make a note or two.

From June till the eve of Christmas Eve I was a slave to Practical Socialism for Norway, - nearly all the time at W.L., but only able to garden for an hour or two a day! R 21 box felt but I ought never to write another real book. It eats too much of life. Only snippets in future!

But a wonderful summer was a wonderful drought. One thing, both a lack of water (I have to fetch it in two buckets, by hand from the Shepherds)

1934

Commit on hospitality very severely.

Uncle is out of the Party
secretly. But he had managed
to be pushed out! He is losing
his tactical sense, once so
acute, pretty badly. He first
offered to resign, trying the question
up awkwardly with the heavy
cross verdict, which he didn't
like. Putting his resignation on
the ground of health and suggesting
a mutually convenient date.

Clydes & two or three more were
deputed to see him, & left him two
dissatisfied.

When they found that, in spite
of his health, & a solemn
doctor's report, he wanted to
stay on till his second elect.

1934.

devolving some of the work. They
had to insist, in the interest of
his health & the Party, that the
change over should come at the
turn of the year. He was very
sure at last.

Then he set himself to work
Middleton with the succession, in
spite of all he had said & thought
of him in the past, & will judge
the succession to Middleton. (The idea
that in the office he violently resisted.)
In the process he just
succeeded: in the latter he failed.

Middleton having ^{been} chosen
(in December by 13 to 10 over
Arthur Woodburn, the runner
up. (First vote. Middleton 10,
Woodburn 7, Green 5,
Shepherd 1.) It was an awfully

1934

poor list. Cliff & William were away. Both would have voted against Middleton.

It was decided in Jan 1935 to close down the Assistant Secretary & fire Lach Hunt Scott & Middleton as Municipal Assistant. Uncle Samper took two decisions violently. He thought he would stay in his own room, as Hon Treasurer, (he had declined any pension or payment), with Scott & Miss Steel (7500 a year) to look after him. He had to be literally pushed up to a room on the 5th floor, keeping Miss Steel. Tenacity! Yes. Now, now in his decline at the expense of dignity as well as

1934.

wisdom.

The Socialist Conference was very good indeed. For Socialism & Peace near triumph with no substantial change. The Socialist League amendments were voted down by overwhelming majority. Cliff, on the other hand, did badly, & behaved in conference. Heller did better. Herbert Morrison did nearly all the fighting for the platform, & did it very effectively. His success, following on the L.C.C. win in March, gave him a big boost, & he was increasingly tipped as our next leader. He came out top in our poll for the

1934

with

Nat'l Exec, the second, followed
by Atlee. Duller & Cripps (the
two & Trevelyan just off.)
Cripps in his last place is
in his next place. His
oratorical gaps have continued,
at intervals, throughout his
year. He looks that he does,
with his little S.L. Clipse, is of
his true faith.

Our conference also ~~re-established~~ ^{had done}
his Parliamentary Year onto
new Secretaryship. In ^{the} ~~the~~
his is next, & I voted for it, as
the Executive before hand, when
it was lost by a narrow
majority.

Our Peace Policy went
through by a large majority, &

1934.

great triumph for Uncle, who, as
always shows best, had a
wonderful oration upon his
~~the~~ international policy
speech. But S.L., who
didn't speak at all in the conference
drew some at not being asked,
(he was asked on Peace, but
bached out) is opposed to the
policy. He always slips back
into the old non-resistance
attitude.

If we won a majority at the
next election, we should be
in awful mess! Our old
men must fade out &
relative positions be readjusted
among the next generation, before
we can make an effective fist.

1955.

We move back into our flat in January. That R. Frattner has with, with disabilities, has for weeks, & delays in details of the clean up work we are now making in the flat.

Jan 23rd. Nat' E.C. Cliffs at luncheon interval. "I can't come back this afternoon. It's cost me £120 to be here this morning & I might just as well have sent my typist."
 on the way
 Blackburn Michael Mulholland, who is due

Feb 12th. Accompany Anthony Morrison. When we call the Red Indian, to call on Sir Ronald Waterhouse. This has been suggested via a certain Captain Beer, a

Low fellow, I judge, mixed up with Northman, Tony Dickson, & possibly Jeffrey; apparently he met W in his secret service.

W, it was said, wd like to return to No 10 as Principal Private Secretary to the next Labour P.M. He is acting, I feel, in a rather suspicious & undignified fashion in being presenting himself before the notice of small size intermediaries like been a linked Indian, to whom he appears to have been in some manner, declared himself to with constitutional authority, & claimed intimacy with many, from the King downwards.

That I see no objection to

eager to help and smash the party & Labour Govt.
--

1935

meeting him. He has a scriptural
flat at the Albany. The Red
Indian withdraws after 20 minutes.
W & I then talk for 2 1/2 hours.
He makes no positive offer of
assistance, nor do I receive one.
But the whole trend of the talk,
from his side, is to emphasize
his expectation that I will
to serve another political master.
Much chatter about the King,
"rather a difficult person to
handle" - Stamfordham, an old
fashioned ^{conservative} ~~conservative~~ stickler
~~with~~ ^{with} etiquette, - Wilson.
Very different, much easier, much
more democratic. W says that
not having been an official
civil servant, he had been

1935

freedom to do good work of his
political chief. A long story
about how he went to Willyden
in Canada when Baldwin was
going over, & secured Canadian
Govt hospitality & a free
passage on the C.P.R. line.
He showed me the bill,
chiefly tips, which he sent in
after the trip to the Treasury.
J.R.M. going to U.S. in 1929, (after
W had left No 10) was less well
looked after. Net trip cost
£1200.
Much talk about the dissolution
of 1924. "The Spurr, on chief
trip, was" all in the air." W
had to arrange the dissolution
with Stamfordham. He showed me

1955

a Memorandum addressed to the
Chief Whip, reporting the negotiations.
He also showed me a letter,
drafted for Baldwin to send to
Stamfordham in July 1925, when
his letter, writing, nominally
on the King's behalf, but in
his own really on his own
initiative, had proposed that
the Speaker should be informed
that the King was displeased
at the last manner of the
during an all night sitting.

This letter, rejecting the
King's right to intervene, was
not sent, because it
permitted it to withdraw the
first letter.

etc.---

1938.

Baldwin, he said, advised J. H. M.
to make him an ex officio
Minister Secretary in 1924. That
in his presence, in No 10
Baldwin told J. H. M. that he
would let him stay in, but
for less than a year!

He recognized that G. L. is a
leader, who would be sent for, if
we were next time. That he
knew, in view of G. L.'s age, &
the King's experience when
Kronau resigned, & he was
"left without a P.M. for 3
days", that he would want
to know how was Deputy
leader. I say little is not.
He may, or may not be, after the
election. From Parliamentary Party

1935

makes such choices. He says he
wants to have our Shadow Cabinet
ready. I say this is ~~difficult~~
not easy to measure. I
also say I want his chance as
opponent on winning a clear
majority next time. He picked
to disagree. An odd evening!
But he may be a useful
intermediary one day, though
his eagerness stands in need of
explanation. What is he up to?
I want to try to draw Van ~~on~~
~~day~~ about him.

Feb 15th. Meeting on priorities.
Poor old S.L. now reminded
that we shall speak things
too fast, & do things too

1935

spirit of Parliament. Cripps, Lengua,
Civitan & I form an unusual
combination ^{on} the other side. I
get them to agree to having
heads of bills drafted. I hope
this will leave off.

Feb 23rd. Finish reading Lockhart's
Retreat from Glory. Very good
& appreciative on the Czechs. Has
a love of beautiful country
everywhere. But a want of
peace, dissonance, spirals,
spencer! Such opportunity of
power & experience, & still a
boiling apostrophic tale of debts
& night life!

He knows Cripps not only on
the Czechs, but on M. Morrison

2 main Central European "policy". A group of banks, some in each of the Central European countries, supported by the U.S. They would all "work together for the common good of Central Europe under the control of a central inst." of which the U.S. would be the chief shareholder. It was to be a miniature financial league of nations, with the Norman in the role of President Wilson.

(p 161) Warton asked by L.F.O. in Central Europe "there was the new English kindergarten composed of admirable young men straight from the streets of London & Oxford & Cambridge. They were just like the Montana Normans - Spencer Smith's dream. They were to learn

continental banking & finance. They were to form the vanguard of the new army of British bankers now were to unify central European banking & incidentally, to extend the sphere of British banking influence. One idea was excellently conceived. Unfortunately it didn't work (p 186)

"Henry Siepmann, ... a former official of the British Treasury ... later the U.S.'s representative in the Hungarian National Bank ... He was engaged in elaborating the Norman's latest scheme for closer cooperation between the Central Bank of the world. ... later appointed head of the new foreign section of the Bank. Today, his brilliant

1935

young man, ... a sum acceptable
for secrets than any safe, presiding
over the coming & going of the
Mr. Norman's private diplomatic
crafts." Compare Guizot.

Lochhart's interview with Strossmann,
in April 1929, six months before
his death. Strossmann said,
"It is five years since we signed
Locarno. If you had given me
one concession I could have
convinced my people. I could still do
it today. But you have given
nothing ... Can they (the
English) not see that the ground here
is slipping away under my feet? ...
Sir Austen is a gentleman. I know
he means well. But for the lost

1935

ten years Europe has been suffering
from gentlemen who mean well.
... well, nothing remaining now
except brute force. The future
is in the hands of the new generation.
And the youth of Germany, which
we might have won for peace and
for the new Europe, we both have
lost. That is my tragedy & your
crime." (p. 361-3)

Lochhart ends. "My ideal has failed.
Were the Mussolinis & the
biologists right now and that
war was a physical necessity of
man about alternating periods
of war & peace were a natural
sequence in man's history! Or
was it merely that I betrayed to
a lost generation? In my doubts
from which I can only say that my
generation has failed."

1935.

In Czechoslovakia from March 26th
to April 16th. Recorded elsewhere
at Home till April 30th. Every day
speaking! Then reluctantly to London
May. We are in a bad political
recession. Three by-elections in
Scotland have gone badly, all below
the 1929 level. Combination of
the Jubilee, Hitler's poor leadership
in the House of Commons.

Hitler's Air Force, now greater than
ours, is helping the Govt. The past
few years' errors in foreign policy
are apt to be seen secondary.
The primary question reads to be
"Are you, or are you not, in favour
of Hitler having 4 or 5 aeroplanes
to you one?" If one opposes the
Govt's foreign policy, one is

1935.

in a difficult position, an indefensible
one. Disarmament by example. If one
does not oppose it, one loses one's
initiative of attack on the Govt.
On May 21st & 22nd a consultation
between P.L.P., N.E. & S.C. On
the first day I speak vigorously
against Hitler, & state the position
but one can't vote against an
increase in our air force w/out penalty.
Citrine, Woulton & Herwin agree.
Atlee reads an essay which he
intends to deliver as a speech.
Next day the meeting is optimistic,
- undoubtedly, I think, - on Hitler's
speech. And the P.L.P. announces
that it has decided to vote w/ot
the Govt but w/out. This is the
result of a "consultation" for w/out

They had asked in at the least discomfort.

My view is in a minority at the meeting, but strongly supported by the G.C. & by a large section of the N.E. Uncle is stuck in his eternal rut of the Disarmament Conference, and dislikes any altitude.

The way in which Hitler is not disturbed is disturbing.

May 27th. Charles Latimer to lunch ^{at the end} ^{of the} ^{meeting} ^{with} ^{him} ^{and} ^{the} ^{other} ^{members} ^{of} ^{the} ^{committee} ^{and} ^{discuss} ^{the} ^{future}.
 I say I am quite ready, but that H.M. always seems to wear armor. I hint that I am not willing to be a rival of H.M. in the leadership, & that all those now in leading positions in the H.C. are impossible. I hope

his may lead to something.

May 31st. The political cripples of the P.L.P. get nothing over. That is one reason why our political stock has fallen. ~~There~~
 "The public" realises our weakness. "There can be no response to nothing," said Robert Wilson, whom I met today in St James' Park. And Charles Latimer this morning said that Attlee came to speak at Southwick last week, when they expected an important pronouncement on current issues. And he talked about — "the Sino-Jap dispute"! (Squeezed, & infinitely remote from the audience

1935

both in time & space. Little man,
little head, little speech, little
essay!

Compare, - says R. Hilser - to
London County Council.

June 3rd.

Shocking news in the morning
paper. Kaiser heads of Citrine.

Prof. C. Edwards, Sp. C. of
Atlee, C. B. E. of D. Penfell,
Arthur Shaw, Sp. C. of Annie
Langford & 3 or 4 more N.

Officials.

To take those bloody titles
at all (I except to Sp. C.) is
bad enough. Not to take them
from MacDonald!! R is
about in year, says we had
better join the communists! What

1935

We hell will defeat people in
the movement kind! Citrine
is by far the worst case!

International Studies Conference.
Meet Liddell Hart at lunch at
the School. Very interesting on
air danger, vulnerability (I
England more vulnerable, than
Germany, Italy, France, S-U. in last
order). Diffusion of industry &
population diminishes vulnerability.

Speak with Maisky. He is married by
Labour Party although in Parliament on
rearmament. He says "by all
means talk with Hitler, & come to
agreements & commitments. Not talk to
him with a rifle in your hand, or he will

1955

pay no regard to your wishes. We ^{know} ~~know~~
 live with Japan." He suggests that
 L.P. should agree to let us of
 large amounts for transport. We
 could get more non-agreement
 readily with S.V. A little too simple!

Most of the summer at W.L., ~~lovely~~
 from end of July onwards, lovely,
 hot days. Working on revised
 version of P.F. An asia just
 when P.S.B. last year.

Italy - Myriam's birthday.
 T.P.C. at Mandy at beginning
 of Sept. 3 E.C. is after our
 declaration. Cripps makes
 a perfunctory speech in opposition
 to sanction & an "unfair" Mi

1955.

Wm". This to put himself right
 hereafter; not to persuade. Don't
 wait till second day, but go
 back to Sully Islands.

On second day only 3
 birds. P. on song, mainly L
 Sully old Sanderson (Simpson's)
 in opposition. Declaration
 goes through the Council by 2,900,000
 to 170,000.

Sept 19th-20th. Walking towards
 N. West Woods. Pensey.

Great Yews. Bowachalle.
 The Yews are wonderful. We
 found under one like a sub-agony
 monster. The Bell at
 Bowachalle reached after much
 walking & missing the way, is a nice

1955

Little place.

on the 20th, back in Salisbury at
midday, I read in the paper
that Ponsbury has resigned his
leadership in the L.S.D. Cripps has
resigned from the Nat. C.C. & a
special meeting has been called
for this afternoon. Catching
the next train I arrive at
4 o'clock & find a discussion
proceeding on G. L.'s "position".
He won't resign & is asking us to
settle it for him. Every day he
rushes about speaking against
the Party's international policy.
However, we decide to leave it
to him & the P.C.P. we don't want
the onus of pushing him out.

Sept 27th - Oct 4th

At Brighton for the conference.
I have a great triumph with
my speech in the International
Debate, opening it, & in
the G.C. vote, coming out on
top in my section with
2,096,000 showing Morrison
2,011,000, Attlee 1,964,000,
Dallen 1,641,000 & Trade
888,000. The latter is
substituted by Cripps resigned, &
run away. Now I am elected
vice chairman.

International Debate very
tense & well sustained. I suppose
my opening word for word. Allowed
30 minutes, I take only 28. Cripps
allowed 10, takes 27. The heavy guns

1935.

of the General Council - Manchester.
 Duke, Kevin - road. Cliffs
 in a wily abstract ... "the worker...
 capitulation ---- imperialism... the
 worker ----" road of his good
 of spending money on education!
 E.H. "But he's a jolly good fellow"
 at the start. Moderate applause
 at the end. Then Kevin sta-
 mmering him.

I was much disappointed
 on my speed. Many thought
 it very fast even.

After Herbert's wind up next day,
 after travelling via 2,160,000
 to 102,000, the rest was flat.
 But, behind the scenes, very
 strong mind & sense. The day
 after our vote, the Italian

1935.

attached to Maximilian.

Oct 5-6.

Herbert Morrison & his pretty
 little wife, at last, in W.L.
 At last, but not so soon.
 Molly had prepared the way at
 Whitton by telling H.M. that I
 had told her I wasn't after the
 leadership, & would prefer he
 had it. She said that a
 remark she wanted to make
 began to develop. Previously
 he had been tepid.

I took him out for a walk
 & between Dadman & Woodson
 on the morning of Saturday, Oct
 5th. She says as follows.
 "I am not consciously a candidate

1955

for the leadership; I am not going after it. This doesn't mean that if, at some later stage, there was a strong demand that I should take it, I should necessarily refuse. That I have other duties. I feel, though it isn't a job one would hold out good hands for in the present state of the world, that I could do the P.O. better than anyone else in the Party; if the external world was just what it is I could do something good on the Home Front. That, in for the leadership, I think it should go to someone who has not had exceptional opportunities. Very strongly, left

1955

A Alexandra must be avoided.
 C has now looked his
 form. A is incredibly vain,
 wants no big changes, & has
 the outlook of a grocer who
 has been to sea. These are
 the two in our all round group
 whom I would put all my
 reliance. For the rest, I
 would prefer him (H.M.).
 H.M. is very small, & (I learned
 has hurt his mind by drinking.
 - - - - -
 He is a good deal taken
 about, I think. He says little.
 "Thank you.... I wish there
 was something to be said for the
 leader being a juristarian.
 - - - - - with the rest
 I don't let my mind dwell on it much
 as it is one of the disappointments, and may be
 called

1955.

... with the available material,
the natural place for you would
I should think, be either the
F.O. or the Treasury."

So that ice is broken.

Oct 10th - 13th

Brussels. With Dalton, Compton,
Gillies, - Hills, Walden.
L.S.I. & I.F.T.U. Very sound
& limited on sanctions. Silly
waste of time in L.S.I. on
Univ's front with Communists.
We all weigh in. (S.D., J.C.L.)
& assert our point of view.
Dutch, Sweds, Danes & Czechs,
- the real parties - rally
around us. Bauer says that

1935

there is, he thinks, a majority for
negotiation & common action
with the Communists. I say, with
emphasis, ("taking the British
Navy in my pocket" - filling
aprons but it), that, if we,
with our democratic responsibilities,
should be put in a minority
by a majority largely composed
of empire parties, we should
regard such a majority as
artificial, should refuse to
accept their decision, & that
the British Labour Party would
then be forced to reconsider
its relationship to an international
in which voting powers
distributed as at present. This
quieten them.

1935.

On the train back Wednesday,
so mild & once so captivated,
democracy Clifton his own
initiative. "This man Crapp's,
he ain't been Done It Again!"

"Done what?" I ask. "Talked
about 'working class sandbag'," he
says. ... "Strikes" ...

Oct 15th.

Speak with John Wilmer at
Fulham Town Hall. He'll have
a hard & difficult fight against
the Astor money.

A woman at the back is
heard to say "I shall vote for
either of them & then I shall be
all right."

1935-

Oct 19th. To N. A., the dissolution
being on foot in settled report
on trip to conference & address
a meeting in the Town Hall.

Oct 20th. On the leave, & speak
for the cause. Headline is urgent
here. At 8 o'clock, write I am
speaking of "The 2 of Peace". Uncle
Arthur dies. More too soon.

"Now he is gone to join Keir
Hardie and All the Saints
now fronted in Labour ext."
He stuck it to the end.

~~Oct 22nd~~ ^{memorandum on} National Executive.

Rough draft of Election Manifesto
by Greenwood. Refused to
small drafting committee,

1935.

Greenwood, Morrison, Hille, 2/11/35,
 Jennie Adams, Middleton.
 We improve it - good deal. I
 am left to draft the final
 part. This is much better
 than putting it out to the
 like of little last year.

Oct 23rd.

Settle draft of Election Manifesto
 in the morning.

Open Joint Meeting of 3 E.C.'s
 & Parliamentary Party. Making
 much comment.

Open National Executive, & the
 pilot through Election Manifesto.
 No serious damage done, but
 fatiguing. Open A.B. & C
 finally clean it up.

1935.

Red Indian to see me - at
 my request, Morgan Jones
 having bleated out something
 in the large meeting on
 Congruity - & he produces
 a statement by Beer on a
 resolution wrongly known otherwise

Oct 24th.

To Uncle's funeral, at the Methodist
 Church, & Golden's free-
 crematorium. The Methodist
 Service is horribly ugly &
 undistinguished. But I suppose
 would have liked it.

Take H.M. back to lunch
 & talk about the Red Indian
 Document. Cautious & doubtful
 but interested. I shall

1935.

leave him to handle it with I'm
in his work.

Oct 25th.

Memorial Service to Uncle in
Westminster Abbey. Very beautifully
done. I sit by Cecil in the
stalls. Van Buren R just
beneath us. He weeps a good
deal, as do I.

Speak at Braintree for
Troybee.

Oct 26th.

Red Indian to see me in the
morning. Sir John Beckett.
Dein father-in-law, is the
missing man.

Speak at Wellingborough for Dallen.

1935.

Row to leave Warrington on
my return. to find out about
the G. B. Not much known.
say it's G. W. & Bob from
in the secret.

Oct 27th.

To Sheffield, on the road north,
to speak in City Hall with
New Union, - good leader.

Sheffield has done well under
Labour rule.

Oct 28th.

Arrive at K. A. for the
duration. much we can't
lose this time!

Adopted in the evening.

My estimate is that we shall

1935.

have, ~~apart from~~ if we can't
use the Red Indian's boat,
neither ²⁴⁰ 250 than 200. The
Liberals less than 20.

If we can use the boat,
we shall be nearer 275 than
250. Any way we were
optimistic, forget that we
reached our high water mark
of 289 in 1929 with a number
of real Δ jobs. This time
~~many~~ Δ jobs will be a good
deal fewer & many will be
merely nominal. Liberals
polling too few to affect the
result.

I assume that the Tories have
no first class boat against
us.

Oct 29th.

Baldwin last night at W. S. W. W. W. W.
has made our boat much less
effective. Gordon Macdonald
has given him his chance.

Damned fool!

(P.S. The boat was never exploded.
H.M. gave it to Hankin & Keir, &
they smelt round & found nothing,
and, at a \square conf. with Stevenson
& Vallance, it was decided 250
nothing. Too cautious!)

Nov 1st.

R arrives.

Nov 3rd.

My left leg and back increasingly
painful. I speak in pain &
with D. B. Campbell, & prop myself
up, while speaking, against a chair.

1935

And climbing into and out of the car is painful. So, in the afternoon, after a meeting in London Picture Palace, I go to see Will's Black Doctor Cherry. He says I have sciatica & a touch of lumbago, & gives me some medicine and some instructions to rest in, & advises me to take some loosening exercises, swinging my body round, on & bending over to touch my toes.

In the evening motor to Salisbury, & make a good, speaking speech, free from pain, to large audience for Jimmy Wilson. Then back home in good spirits. When going to bed, do my prescribed exercises, and suddenly, as I am bending down, something seems to

1935

crack in my left backside, & I flop on to the bed in a state of acute pain.....
This turns out to be a ~~few~~ few years in the presence of a muscle.

NOV 4th.

Dress with very great difficulty & horrible pain. Cherry summons. Puts me back to back bed. I have a sharp attack of lumbago & have, with pain, to stay in bed for a week. In the early days much pain, & completely immobile. Cherry calls several times daily. The District Nurse is invited. I have to use a bed pan. R has to make speeches at all

1955-

meetings & affairs. Mrs. t
 runs her! Mrs. t. See to Mrs.
 & wife daily. Gazette & N. Echo, to
 give men advances. She is a
 heroine!

I can't attend nominations, &
 Sue & Stan & Middlewood for. Stan
 very much on the spot, & looks up
 his law in a book. Curry &
 Higgins call & console. So do
 many other people.

Fortunately I have had a week's
 free campaigning, & touched all
 the more important places. And
 Curry is a week late in starting, &
 we have a T. race all day on
 a very nice day. Some outside
 speakers appear. a. S. C. Clay,
 E. J. Williams & D. L. Davis, in

1955

last two, with no effort returning, are
 a great success.

But what a way of conducting
 an election! Curry thinks it
 must have been coming on me
 for some time. He does his
 job of getting me up again, in
 time for the last two days of
 the campaign. Very assiduous in
 his attendance.

1. Lie in bed, getting very flabby,
 2. Taking a daily Scidate powder.
 My only contribution is to
 compose a leaflet on Curry's
 voting record, work, however, is
 pretty devastating. He missed
 4/3rd of the divisions, & voted in
 a smaller proportion each
 succeeding session.

Nov 11th. 1935.
 Sat. 2.00 down to street. Very kind
 Nov 12th.

By car to Guildon Railway
 Station, 2 address meeting from
 the car. In the evening address
 meeting to B.A. Hippodrome
 sitting in a chair. round with some
 to some of the smaller places
 to some of the smaller places
 to some of the smaller places

Nov 13th.
 Sun. Poll. Address two
 meetings at Guildon & one in
 B.A. Town Hall. All enthusiastic.
 Sit on table at first. Stand
 stiffly leaning on stick at second
 & third. Program sharp to Ven.

Nov 14th.

Polling Day. Rain in morning;
 clear later. By car with
 Stan in morning to polling
 station & committee rooms.
 Set out at a number but

rather an effort. R for road
 in afternoon in my place. I
 go round again after tea.

We have more cars than ever
 before. About 12 at the feet.
 Now Weymouth is showing for
 them at each committee room.
 Our organisation & canvass are
 better than ever before, especially
 at Guildon. We are certainly
 in. Curry has put up a
 very neat front. He started
 late, seems to desire to conceal
 the fact that he is a Liberal,
 has asked for Tony Safford,
 & nominally, has put it, but
 they seem to do very little
 for him. He has practically
 no speakers except himself &

1955.

Wrightland. Next door in
 Wainman Castle, the Liberals
 are splitting. Headline says and
 I suspect that this has made
 the Tories previous in the area.
 I hear that Thompson, on behalf of
 the Tories, revised Curry's election
 address, so that he should get
 the (nominal) Tory support.

Letter in, at will Davis, to
 the election results. Very
 disappointing, though, of course, he
 never had a number of Jan.

Nov 15th.

At the lower. Curry tells me
 that he estimates I am in by
 2,300. My own hopes are for
 a 4,000 majority. The Tory
 supporters in the area of 3,000: some of

1955

5,000, but his seems an excessive
 optimism. When we're nearly
 through, I send, in the morning
 office, in surprise, say it
 looks like 8,000. I am
 unwilling to believe his. That it
 runs out true.

Dalton	20,481
Curry.	<u>12,395</u>
Majority.	8,086.

We shake hands, with a side
 2 on the Dalway, 2 I refer,
 with a little sarcasm, to his
 silly story, ^{sedulously} kept alive in
 the Division of Lifford, but
 I refused to shake hands with
 Curry in 1931. (He has
 dealt with his at several
 meetings, & ~~then~~ C has had

1935

to deny it at a meeting, in answer to a question.)

Comparison with 1931 figures,
C 17,551, D 16,796, -

I have added 3,685 and
he has dropped 5,156. On

of SU was 82% to 100% & is 79%
his view, still high. The Means
Test was the biggest issue. The
UN conditional issue was small.

Ash for police protection to
prevent me from being smacked
into bath. Speak in ^{Committee} Committee

Room; then ball to 40 Ash in
Terrace for lunch; then to Sheldon,
& lunch on workers' line. Then
by car to Duntlington. Back in
London 10 Jan.

1935.

Nearly everyone I feared for
in the young generation is
broken. John Pugh is about
the only exception.

.... ~~Phil~~ Phil, John
Wilkin, John Morgan, George
Wainwright, ~~Walter~~ Walter Yraka, Hugh
Jainshell, Dublin --- would
be coming out! And George
Dallan & others as well.

One Midland & Low country
were awfully bad. London only
moderate. Scotland pretty
near. One ~~Walter~~ N.E. Burgess
very ^{very} disappointing. ~~Walter~~ Walter
Country Division of Durham
came back with a bang &
in London, to my surprise, with
Redfern & Brannard Castle,

1955-

both were very ordinary candidates.
And Yoshida (W. Kiding) did
well.

Nov 154 is a poor total,
being almost 14 were in
with our split votes. A transfer
to us of 5% of the women's
votes would have given us 50
more seats, a transfer of 10%
90 more seats. Nov even
that would only have made us
244. Still it's a better
front than, at least.

Now focus on the leadership,
the feeling of his physical
unfitness. At the organization
by Miss Wickstead. At the,
many activities!

See Hubert, at my own
Nov 155

1955-

suggestion,
 report, is to flat. We go through
 the list. It seems hopeful. If
 Clynos doesn't run, Atlee is
 the most dangerous. I shall see
 Clynos. He'll take him. If Clynos
 will move him, but will
 practically settle it. Atlee now
 dangerous, simply on grounds
 of sentiment & inertia.
 Nov 155.

See Clynos at his home at
 Putney. 1 1/2 hours talk. I
 put the result in a letter to
 him, of course I left a copy.
 J.R.C. is Watson's keeper. Little
 gentleman. Dunder it showed
 got a young man. Had
 his part of the, me & Aug.,
 with Alexander in possible

1955.

consider. Not at all. He
 himself, at 67, isn't able to
 undertake it. I say I'm not
 a candidate. He says, often
 further talk, that he prefers
 Stuart. I get his authority
 to say that (1) he wishes a
 younger man should have it, &
 (2) he prefers HM. I try to
 press him to undertake to move
 HM, but he wants to bring
 him over. He says I am
 the first to speak to him about
 him. I say to myself that all
 his rest have ^{been} bloody slow. I
 have been trying to see him for
 2 days, unsuccessfully, & have
 taken conscious of losing time.

1955.

Nov 1956.

See Newidge at the School, &
 arrange to re-visit my
 connection at the end of the
 session. Very cordial! For
 about 6 months I shall
 draw School Salary + Parliamentary
 Salary & reduce my overdraft!
 Open a lump sum to wife over
 all debt, & have a small
 balance over - for W. L. etc.
 Convan bears smile of HM.
 Successful.

Nov 20 56

Convan Peter of HM.
 Successful.

write a number of letters to
 M.P.'s, mention HM to
 Writely & A. Jenkins.

1935.

Party in the evening to meet Zilly.
He acts in corner. To dine
F. Watkins, Fletcher, Bellanca
(Lois found out she a mistake!)
Parker.

Came in afternoon. Kelly, Vicar,
Crech Jones, Chuter Ed. Ellen,
John Wilmer (only one - M.P.)
Frankel, &
perhaps a few other women I forgot.

Zilly had asked to meet new M.P.'s.
He wasn't in very good form, but
talked disjointedly. Of course, the
leadership came up, & we were
nearly all for H.M. Bellanca
talked disconnected not in a
firmer way, but didn't commit
himself. Crech Jones kept on

1935.

saying "would H.M. work now?"
I knew it was a good question,
but couldn't say so. (Tracy,
on behalf of Greenwood, had
been spreading his tale in
Transport House & its publication
H.M. couldn't give up his London
Labour Party.) Ellen pretended
not to be keen. She wrote to me
afterwards but she was very
keen on H.M. but feared
Kellera Habbing. She
found out the night. He is a
wretched little tyke.

A heavy evening. Ratten
fired & discontinued.
Nov 21st.

See Scott Lindsay. Against
Atlee, but for Greenwood

1935

rather than H.M. One letter
"a bit too ambitious", H.B. "such
a nice self-effacing chap."

See Latham.

For H.M. if he'll stand. I say
"see him & see Upton"

One to R.C.A. v. v. v. are safe, &
they have cancelled a meeting
next Tuesday with the Railway
Manager, so not be at the
Party meeting.

Nov 22nd.

See (also) Jones. Very small
all right of H.M. For a part -
word & skillful part is
N. Hurdless.

Nov 23rd. (Saturday)

Our Daily Express & Evening
Standard have news of my

1935-

meeting here of 20th on
Wednesday. I am not named,
but fairly clearly identified.

Mr. H. anti-Lab. has been
H.H. continued - obviously.
Belleger has reacted!

Nov + Betty to dine. They
don't know it has done much
harm. Either one must
remain inactive or one
must run risks.

Nov 24th (Sunday)

A number of references to
Sunday Press. In one I am
named. But so is Herington
working on behalf of H.B.

Great activity by enemy press
on behalf of H.H.

H.M. says up (in Daily
occasionally)

1935

slightly bothered about the degree of press. But I persuaded him that the least said is soonest mended.

But I guess that the press have been trying to get at me. Now I'm not in the telephone book, & am recorded in Labour Party publications as living in Wilshire!

But this up to him being to say that he has put through a ^{strong} leader in the D.H., saying that anti-Labour press stories are designed to hurt us, but all 3 candidates have been liable to damage by these tales, & that vote on Tuesday should be, without

1935:

outside interference and on grounds of merit alone. He also spoke to Ayles on the telephone, was said, for publication, that he did not feel able to accept the leadership, & inevitably, that he would do his best to help to secure a wise choice. There cheer for Ayles! I hope his mission that he will now return on Tuesday.

I agree with it but I won't accept nomination of Deputy leader, ~~even~~ if justified. Nov 26th.

Down early to have to do a final canvass for H.M. After running round with a few slightly nervous girls.

1935.

eagerly meeting everyone. Greenfall
with him. I find a great
difficulties to move HM.
Clymer has evidently run back
into neutrality, some of his
views favoring Greenwood. He
is a little coward. I try
Walker, now hesitant, will
talk about it, and regrets that
it can't be by ballot.

At the Party Meeting there
an undercurrent of passion.
Atlee takes the Chair. After
preliminary business, nominations
of leaders are invited. Walker
moves Greenwood & Compton
seconds; Tom Williams moves
Atlee and Greenfall seconds;
Naylor moves Morrison &

1935.

David Adams seconds. Hollins,
by arrangement with me, asks
whether all of these, if elected,
will give their full time to
his job. Then some backchat
on procedure in voting, &
a little confusion. Then
someone says what about
Hollins' question. Atlee says
"If I'm elected, I shall carry
on as before." HM gets
up at the back of the meeting
& says, - rather heavily, at
the great length - but if
elected, he will place
himself in the hands of the
Party. If they wish, he
should give up leadership at
County Hall, he will. If

1935.

They think some accommodation can be found, at least till the next L.C.C. election. he will fall in with both groups, while H.M. is speaking.

"Very slick!" "It's not fair."

Then he votes, & the result is

Atlee 58

Morrison 44

Greenwood 33.

(Atlee's vote is very near that of the Party in his last work. They are heading 2/3rds against the new Comms!)

Greenwood falls out 2 times wh.

Atlee 88

Morrison 48.

The Greenwood ^{vote} is practically all going to Atlee. Clearly his was concentrated beforehand.

1935.

Morrison 67
very strong view on both
H.M.

Partly I am conscious of a strong prejudice, surprisingly strong & widespread, against H.M. Partly this is a feeling, I think, but if he got it, he would keep it, but but if Atlee gets it, there may be a change later.

Then H.M. & A.G. were 2 & seemed to be very unanimous, & poor little Atlee, returning to under 50% of the vote, it's only for one session & if they want a change later, he won't complain.

A wretched, disheartening result! "And a little more shall lead him!"

H.M. declines to defect, head rest of 2 numbers & H.M. gets it multiplied.

1955. Saw [unclear] said I'd
 back then [unclear] me [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
 I am conscious of having suffered
 a personal setback, since my
 participation has been so wide
 known. (Nov 29th - Dec 1st, W.E.R.
 in B.A. "Victory Society"
 Dec 2nd)

Apparently I was too strong! I
 came out second in the vote for
 Parliamentary Executive, which
 holds its first meeting tonight.

Chapman 114
 Dalton 104
 Johnston 100
 Morrison 100
 Spence 95
 Alexander 89
 Williams 89
 P. Lawrence 86
 Lees Smith 81
 M. Jones 76
 L. [unclear] 68
 N. Madden 64

(unsuccessful
 Hicks 56
 Kennedy 53
 P. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
 R. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
 Shirewell 47
 Leonard 40
 Lathan 36
 B. Smith 32
 Milne 30
 Charleton 29
 Hayday 26
 Sir R. Young 21
 M. [unclear] 16)

This is a fair blend of old &
 "new" - as good as could be
 hoped for in the circumstances.
 A slow but sensible Executive,
 I expect. Landed Edinburgh & met
 Liddell Hunt to meet
 Dec 5th (Sir Ian & Lady Hamilton. Dined
 with Reg. Alcock)
 I make my first speech in
 the Parliament, opening the

1935

Second main day's debate on the
address on foreign affairs. I
have prepared it with a good
deal of labor, & don't do too
badly - though I don't love
speaking in the House ^{much}
more than I used to do. I

go on for 45 minutes, & leave a
lot of ground. Most of our
people seem to like it. And at
least I give the impression of
knowing something about the
subject, - a new sensation
for the House after 1931-5!
For East - Egypt - Abyssinia -
Oil Sanctions - Sanctions in
General - Disarmament.

Govt supporters don't like
it much. They hate it too

1935

Superior to Sanctions. But why
not? Gigg very shocked because
I comment rather on Laval.
But what's the use of being in
opposition if one can't speak
one's mind more freely than
when one's in Govt? I have
some fun with Eden, - the
Young St George - and his
troubles with his old folks
at home.

Dec 7th.

Ken Mendelsohn & two Delahayes
to lunch. A good looking 3.
Ken Delahaye full of IT!
He very solemn, but shrewd
& very anxious to be used.
Dec 19th.

My second speech in the House,

1935.

Winding up on our run of course
on the Home - Land property. I
want to practice the art of
winding up. Pretty successful;
a good deal of box-banging.
Comrade pleased, though two
times I went rather far in
calling Mussolini a Communist.
But two Tories bravely told
me they thought his was good.

We have been having days
of drizzle - for poor old
Warrington. Home rising.
Baldwin much shaken personally.
An amazing mail bag of letters
protesting against the proposed
"cutting a half an Empire
for a corridor for camels."
Very exciting while it lasted.

1935.

December 20th.

To W.L. & Jim R now has
planted 71 ~~of~~ subjects, including
hay & hundreds more between
along the road, in 2 days, all
by herself!

Peace. Snow. Two days
clear blue sky & sunshine.
Then snow & sleet, & too
little gardening possible.

December 28th - 30th.

Bob & Betty for the weekend
we find them rather heavy,
boring & irritating. He
thinks the Labour Party is really
pretty ill, & won't win any
great confidence for years, or
power for 3 elections, perhaps.
~~Consequently~~ then to what purpose.

1935.

When are we wasting our lives!

1936.

man Hitler into
the Reichstag

Feb 19th.

Parliament, ... Committee ...

Committee ... Committee ...

Today at Party meeting I make
a rather house speed on
Naval Supplementary Estimate
next week. 90% is

consequential on Sanctions. I
read the Budget on Resolutions.

... "firm & consistent support
for any action" ... and the
vote 2,165,500 to 103,500.

to our friends us. He can't
honestly vote against these
estimates. If the Party

does, I shall claim the
Conscience Clause & vote
the other way. (Slip
nummun & glorification.)

1936.

In fact, I should be there next Monday. This is quite separate from the talks for the Reannancement. But we can discuss when it comes.

Attended by A. Khan, & others, but supported by some. Final decision. More red in color, carry his to a Divⁿ, & then abstain on main pt. It has been recommended to support my position further further, on Nat'l Ec. & W.C.L. Rumours that Govt will approach T.V.C. direct on Reannmt.

2 Liddell-Harts, Delegation
 ↳ John Fairbairn to lunch.
 L.H. says that vocabulary

1936

Planes now have a radius of 450 miles (~~with~~ + 450 return). New type "P-40" have a radius of 1000 miles. Reannmt. programme won't be complete till 1939. 1937 will be a dangerous year for us.
 Feb 21st - 23rd.

With R. & Oxford. Stay with Parkhead. Talk to Lindemann on air defence. Adrian Laker down at lunch, ~~was~~ independent at night. Meet Crossman at lunch. Lots of energy & interest. Pleasant impression of young Oxford in landing young down, ^{with interest} ~~with~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} south with life on Cambridge!

1936.

Feb 27th.

Talk to Mackelt, Wil-Lees
Smith. He agrees with Lindeman
on air defence.

Feb 28th - March 1st

At W.L. Blessedly remote.
March 2nd

More Censure Motion on
Distressed Areas. Rates, Location
of industry, etc. Kallen's good
speech. Glad to speak for once,
with good press, on constituency
problem.

March 2nd, 3rd, 4th.

I attend 14 meetings in less
3 days - N.C.L., Nat'l E.C.,
Part's E.C., Party Meeting,
Nat'l Sat of 'Nat'l E.C. & Friends
Jamboree - to settle on

1936.

altitude 2 amendment to
White Paper. Awfully
wreakisome. We are unfit to
govern! "He was darkened
counsel, by words without
knowledge." Everyone jealous
of everyone else's status. Party
won't face up to realities. Still
much more anti-amendment
sentiment, 2 more again on our
part than after Hitler. Pretty
desperate.

March 9th - 10th.

Debate in House on W.P. on
Defence. Over to West end
Hitler goes with the Rheinland.
Everyone talking 2 hrs in King's
Hall. I wind up for the
party on Monday night.
March 9th.

1936.

Raise air defence, I hope discreetly,
 from point of view of scientific.
 Also on Hitler. Must talk to him.
 H.M. writes up well on Munich to be
 competently, but not much
 knowledge of detail.
 March 11th.

Slight easing of strain. Locarno
 Powers & League Council coming to
 London. Lunch with Coates.

Kagan & H.M. Soviet pressing
 for "firm stand." "Hitler must
 be humiliated." "No negotiation
 will be taken in Munich." "Sanctions if he refuses."

H.M. & I see the British papers,
 including the Labour Party, with
 stand for this.

Later Beethley tells me that
 he has heard from Paris that

1936.

France, S.V., C-S and Poland
 are determined to "go through
 with it," even if we won't join.
 They speak of air demonstrations
 over Germany. This is madness,
 if true.

At lunch I told Kagan that
 the right tactics were to begin
 by asking for "strong measures"
 & when we refused, to press
 for an explicit All European
 pact of mutual assistance,
 inviting Germany to join.

Beethley said Olive Stanley
 told him that O. Stanley had
 said that the Cabinet's policy
 was "peace with as little
 dishonour as possible."

The strain of these days is terrible.
 H.M. when said to me "Aren't you
 glad you aren't back in Germany?"

1936.

March 12th.

1 Give an expose to the Parliament
 re. certain international situations,
 which is much approved. Don't
 condone Hitler. It is a very
 serious shock to confidence. Can
 be going to P.C.I.J. Germany
 freely signed O.C. in 1928 &
 Hitler freely renewed in 1933.
 Versailles (Treaty) a bit
 flimsy by now. See Munich
 occupⁿ zone. Reparations zone,
 Viretial treatment in Disarmament
 zone. Only remain
 Territorial provisions in Europe,
 which are insubstantial, and
 Colonial provisions which
 might be met by mandating,
 etc., not by transferring

1936.

Colonial people from one
 Imperialism to another.
 There are 5 Treaties Locarno;
 not one. Meanwhile no
 military, 2 probably no
 economic. Sanctions can
 be justified, or would be
 supported by public opinion,
 or by League Party, which
 is particularly against Germany,
 unless she has actually
 attacked anyone. We
 should, however, in view of
 the danger of this situation,
 have for an all-European
 part of mutual assistance
 against aggression, first
 reparation Disarmament Disarmament,
 & have League or wide

1956

agenda, on Swines, markets, etc
March 13th.

Distribute prizes at N.A.
grammar school, 2 speak in
praise of short words &
little English.

March 15th.

Tom Johnston & Moller to
Lund. Reminiscence 1929-31,
especially 1931. And of SD
with Adams, who spoke out
at final cabinet, "I've never
voted against the party &
I can't now." MacDonell used
his seat after Amulree, who
"agreed with the party".
March 16th.

Zilber & me, with Phil,
(both not present), H.M. &

1956.

Greenfell. Latta & Tom
Williamson are 1 each being
educated by the Soviet Embassy
& against D.H. (Ewa)

Attlee & I had lunch with
half with Stevenson & Ewa
this evening. Disagreeable
& unprofitable. Stevenson
not there, except when I
emphasize how L. was - U.S. will
carry French socialist
majority, & D.H. now. Ewa
says, "I'm not sure," "I'm not
pro-Communist." I replied "I
haven't said for me. I'll
tell him I have complaints from
the Soviet Embassy but
he doesn't meet in French, he
even put this stuff in the

1936.

Says his is impatience. He keeps drawing the subject away from his conduct to his general situation.

When we part, he quite impatiently says "well, we shall have to explain to a lot of our friends, from abroad to the next few days that we have not a Labour paper." He is very angry at his own replies and many of the Parliamentary leaders don't follow a Labour policy."

Bob tells me he said later "well, at least Dalton's idea - that Atlee's just a bloody fool."

~~What night with HM.~~

1956.

2 Zilly St. - Speech at Kingsley Hall in ^{Eden} Moscow line. Very charming, & talks well. Naturally impressed by his experience in Berlin. He had to run for his life after "Germany puts us back." Mrs Toller, Lockburn, etc. Very much on Soviet line. Then come down to Park of George of Olympic Games.

March 17th

Lunch with Atlee & Jellwood at Soviet Embassy. Litvinov,

Mansky & ~~the~~ Noskenberg - says he is O.C.P.V., now Assistant

S.S. at Geneva, - a small. ^{staying} month back few, wife a ^{Colonel} month. Gives me a

1956

Wink early. Zilly had told him
 of ^{me} ~~the~~ - Litvinov is impressive.
 He has been quite attractive,
 without losing his twinkles.
 But they are pitching it less
 high now than last week.

Electric Sub. We decide to
 let Siskin rip in Peckham.
 March 18th.

Party Meeting. Atlee & I
 state case, with general
 acceptance, under international
 situation.

N.C.L. in way. General line
 agreed. Kevin & I to speak
 Delegation tomorrow in Joint
 International League I.F.T.U.
 & L.S.P.

Singapore in flat. Lindstrom,

1956.

Albarda, Worsink, Roskaty,
 Kowen, Dallen, Greenfell,
 R. Stamp & his Secretary.

Pretty good. Lindstrom
 says Swedes are drawing nearer
 to go. Albarda, very

eloquent & moving, tells how
 Dutch have no justification
 in frontiers, & feel that by
 building roads & bridges
 they have facilitated entry
 of German merchants from
 north could cross their

country in half an hour.
 Socialists need to work against
 all war credits. That not new.
 They need to work of liberty
 as a national & eternal
 thing. Like the first year of leave
 to them - now

1936

all threatened & their cities
 may be bombed without warning.
 Mussolini Hitler, if he attacked,
 they would fight, & die if need
 be. Moscow still trying
 to gee us all up. Moscow
 says French are threatening
 to fall up and go home. He
 doesn't blame them. They feel
 in Britain have let them down.
 They mediate instead of carrying
 out their Treaty obligations.
 March 19th

International League begins. Litvin
 makes an opening speech to the
 League. ^{Dr. Kowalev} ^{or Kowalev} ^{or Kowalev}
 & then a speech before League.
 begins in the afternoon.
 Denounces Hitler, demands refer

1936

to the League. British opinion wait
 stands of Sanctions at present,
 more for All-European Pact
 of mutual assistance, no
 attack on SU, L. be permitted,
 being both discussion on
 limitation of armaments,
 importance of common sense
 over them. Over Berlin.
 Drafting U.S. - Litvin
 1, de Kowalev & A. W. St.
 We sit till 11 pm, not
 a bad draft mostly over.
 March 20th
 Conference goes on. Guizot's
 speech for much & for long.
 criticism draft.
~~then~~ many discussion in
 British deleg. T.O. Delegates

1936.

Good 2 sound, as usual.

I have to leave for those to hear Edou's statement on the negotiations at 3.30. Had nothing to own knowledge. Messing her face to Berlin. It looks as though they will spit in our face. What then?

Debate next Tuesday.

Over half to conf. Confabs with the French. Finally settled from a word. Still talking, when I catch 7.55 West leave. Very tired. Citrine is fast with.

March 21st - 23rd.

M-W-L. Big holes, & real chance 2 become myself & in.

1936

July 27th.

I leave tomorrow for Sweden, following R. Aker with Partz. It has been a tiring and unproductive session. Apart from the Dabig by-election, which has brought back Phil, there is no evidence of any movement in our favour in the country. Our leadership is small & uninspiring. One fact you are doing badly, but we do not appear as an alternative. We made a very silly decision, by 57 to 39 (to either abstain or not voting) to vote against all Service Estimates under the name of Supply. Only Menanda, Lees Smith (not

1936.

very emphatically, & I was afraid
 his in his Parliamentary E.C. (Clyde
 was away, or usual, or might have
 supported us.) In his Party Meeting
 our support was proportionately
 greater. One other view was to
~~not~~ more amendments to reduce
 by small sums, & then to
 abstain on his main vote. I
 shall exercise his conscience
 Clause & abstain tonight. So
 will an uncertain number
 of others. A "come-get-out"
 statement has been issued
 in press, saying that a vote
 against his Estimates doesn't
 mean a vote of unilateral
 Disarmament, "stupider!"
 We shall be out for his

1936

rest of our lifetimes, while
 his coming was may
 shorten or render even more
 unimportant & unhappy than
 today. Will it come?
 I have been through deep
 glooms. The Hitler
 Rearmament race on. Few
 people in the Labour Party
 seem to know or care anything
 about it. The general public
 is preoccupied, or vacant, &
 utterly unaware. The Nazis
 look like getting away with
 it everywhere. Perhaps, since
 collective security is off the
 map, since the Abyssinian
 affair. Collective surrender
 will seem better than collective

1936

suicide. What year we live in!

One Blum got 2/3 before
radically well. Will they keep
it up? One Czechs are working
the hours till they are stretched
up. The Belgians ~~are~~
neutrality. Schacht has pulled over
all S.E. Europe by economic
deals. One Poles, who would
have beaten Germany in a bilateral
war in 1930, have been outbuilt
by us. The Italians are
knuffed up with national pride.
They have beaten his League, - and
the British Empire.

Our Defence then has had a
series of meetings. If emerges
that London can't be defended,
anyway at all, even by reprisals.

1936

against air attack. An
airman named Jones told us,
very vividly, how if he were German
Commander, he would succeed.

Successive raids at hourly
intervals with several hundred
planes in each. -

- | | |
|-------|------------------|
| 8 am, | Incidinary Bombs |
| 9 | Gas (sprayed) |
| 10 | H.E. |
| 11 | Gas |
| 12 | Incidinary |

Minor raids on other large
cities.

The British Empire can't be
defended against Germany + Japan,
much less Germany + Italy + Japan.

Better begin to dismantle &
distribute it!

1936.

Home Front. Unemployment
 regulations have stirred up passion
 in S. Wales, where a labour protest
 led by G. L. Jones in the Llanelli, S. Wales
 area manufacturing & campaign
 against recruiting. That's the
 way to win the masses!!

Unemployment in S. Wales must
 people will probably be better off.
 O hell, why did I ever
 "go into politics"?! Perhaps
 I've missed the spirit of
 even more food by with some
 pleasure, & part of the mortgage
 on West Heaze.

Special Note

**All of the pages between
the two shown here are
blank and have not been
filmed**

Special Note

**Material in this volume
has been filmed in
reverso**

- 28.11.36. Workington. W. Cumberland Confce. Saw
Workington withham & Permit & Lockwood
representatives. No formal complaints
presented.
- 5.12.36. Cardiff. S. Wales Confce. No private talks.
- 12.12.36. Dublin. D.A. Confce.
- 13.12.36. Leeds. Private talk with ref of City
L.P. & 6. D.L.P.'. No ref to Party Const. D.L.P.'
hardly with City Party - was W.C. Talk
on membership. Candidates. Leadership. Lists etc.
K/M. Delegate Confce; short for names.
- 18.12.36. ^{Doncaster} ~~Stackley~~. Met representatives of 3
D.L.P.'s afterwards. Very successful. Points
on policy etc. ^{only Benson visited}
_{Constitution & Party.}
- 19.12.36. Glasgow. Good Conference. No private talks.

Prague was TV. was sealed down to about 1/4.
They struck large financial loss of L.P.'s,
on a TV. I said they were exceptional.
They also wanted financial help to start
in Oct. It meant they lost on all
members recruited in last quarter, & to some
discouraged from recruiting in Oct, to
last quarter of the year.

They had a list of members with H.P. 2
one asked if he kept a Black list &
if working from it. I said No. Influence
with these means of new & active people
from 1 year London.

George Gillies, M.P. suggested that we
should members of League - M.P.'s &
adopted candidates - should be eligible to
run for G.C. This meant that Tom Williams,
M.P. now wasn't out as delegate for G.C.P.
11.11.36. E.B. to lunch. UK card vote seldom. Unchecked
E.C.

13.11.36. Deptford. Met officers L 3 or 4 others.
No special discussion or proposal. Asked
for report (Stimpson) some about conference.
I felt this case was unfortunately
precluded. Others don't give this much
support. A very loyal party; some a
little doubtful about leadership.

19.11.36. Preston (G) - Spain
25.11.36. Mile End. (met long ago. Learning facts (probably) Spain)

The TV. Block vote shd be abolished. Seven delegates,
- one for M.F.G.'s. & one for S. Kensington - shd
have one vote at L.P. Conf. It was being
for Romford D.L.P. & cost 7,000. This
Card was obviously eccentric & disturbed.
One other member tried to stop her.
One said "You'll never convince her, because
you talk to her all night." In the
next room several delegates were
knocking God for the TV vote! They could
never get a L.Y. going in Gordon.

6.11.36. Romford. Upminster. Met D.L.P.
officers & L.P. reps. A militant &
rebellious lot. Got good material!
Criticism of TV. Block vote & Nat'l ex. elect.
wanted TV's to affiliate locally. Parker
suggested unsectionalized E.C. election
by postal ballot. I suggested how they
shd think about this. They were rather impressed.
I also suggested County Fedⁿ delegate
carrying cards of D.L.P.'s not represented
at Conf. They rather liked this - but
wanted change in time table to give
more time for considering resolutions at
Conf. ~~one~~ of County Fedⁿ delegate was
not instructed.

Chairman visits during year
1 office

19.10.36 Eadington. (B4)

22.10.36 Clay Cross (B4)

23.10.36. B.A. E.C.; G.C.; G.M.P.; etc.

- 27.10.36. No Compt' prints sent.

25.10.36. Blyden. E.C. No Compt' prs.
Talk on Spine & Mnts. Cape Mts. and
secte elect to Nat'l C. & double weight in
voting in Compt' to Compt' Party. What
was was an individual Mts. made
in car.

27.10.36. Sedgfield. Billingham. Meeting with
Guild.

30.10.36. Cambridge. Peasants - G.F.S. Suffolk
to Union Union & National strike; none for
Pro-Non-Resistance.

1.11.36. Manchester. Winton. ^{Saw Agent &} a few others. No
Compt' prints.

Manchester. G.M.P. Saw about 20
people at the meeting. Copies of L.P.
pamphlets still more attractive. More
attention to Domestic questions, esp
Pensions. Show N. Zealand achievement
home G.M.P. T.C. & L.P. Compt' in it.

(3 days since last attempt.) 201
One woman very vaguely - excitedly. Said
we'd make G.L. resign. Soldiers were kind
wonderful. We should offer recruiting.