

LABOUR LANDSLIDES TO POWER

The biggest political surprise of forty years was the result of the General Election. Sensing that Britain, with the rest of Europe, had been swinging to the Left, few astute observers expected a large Tory majority; very few indeed thought that when the ballot boxes left the safe keeping of the police stations the count would reveal the most sensational landslide since 1906.

By air from Berlin came the Prime Minister. With Mrs. Churchill ^{to meet him} was Lady Louis Mountbatten,

Lord Louis also being on his way from Potsdam. Most people thought that the Prime Minister's return was no more than a ~~momentary~~ ^{short} interruption in his work at Berlin. What drama was to be enacted in the next few hours! The arrival of Lord Louis was almost the first intimation the public had had that he had been at the Berlin Conference. The Supreme Commander in South East Asia will soon set ^{on} foot new moves against Japan. Unobtrusively came Mr. Attlee, so soon to be ~~elevated to the office of Prime Minister.~~ elevated to the office of Prime Minister.

Mr. Churchill was not able to go to Woodford to hear the result of his own campaign. Even at Woodford there was a surprise; the little known independent candidate polling ten thousand.

(shake) By this time the results were coming in from all over the country. At Lewisham Herbert Morrison was in by the comfortable majority of 15,000.

Gen. Mason Macfarlane was brought from Hospital to hear that he had beaten Brendan Bracken. The general is tipped for office, probably as air minister.

~~Monday~~ At the Central Hall, Westminster, early that evening, the Labour Party held a victory rally. ^{exclusively future of} The news got ~~round~~ ^{by} ~~and long before starting time~~ ^{Parliament} the hall was filled to it's 3,000-capacity. / On the platform was A man whose name figured much in the election ~~campaign~~, Professor Laski.