

- 11 Foster, *Joyce Cary*, p. 363.
 12 Ibid., p. 378.
 13 A. G. Bishop (ed.), *Joyce Cary – Selected Essays* (Michael Joseph, 1976), p. 210.
 14 Cook, *Joyce Cary*, p. 177.
 15 Ibid., p. 230.
 16 Joyce Cary, *Prisoner of Grace* (Michael Joseph, 1952), p. 383.
 17 Andrew Wright, *Joyce Cary, A Preface to His Novels* (Chatto & Windus, 1958), p. 154.
 18 Foster, *Joyce Cary*, p. 479.
 19 Ibid., p. 492.
 20 Cook, *Joyce Cary*, p. 177.
 21 Larsen, *The Dark Descent*, p. 189.
 22 Bishop, *Cary Essays*, p. 231.
 23 ‘Art of Fiction’, p. 5.
 24 Cook, *Joyce Cary*, p. 196.
 25 Ibid., p. 196.
 26 Cary, *Prisoner of Grace*, p. 259.
 27 Jack Wolkenfeld, *Joyce Cary, The Developing Style* (New York University Press, 1968), p. 187.

LETTERS

The 2010 election and the Coalition

Martin Pugh, in his review of K. O. Morgan’s *Ages of Reform: Dawns and Downfalls of the British Left* (*Journal of Liberal History* 73), states that ‘there is scant historical support for [the] view’ that an early second election following May 2010 if the Liberal Democrats had allowed a minority Conservative government to take office, ‘would lead to ... an inevitable government victory’.

Leaving aside the fact that Labour achieved a majority to last for a full term at both the 1966 and October 1974 elections, and his repetition of the error that Labour ‘lost’ the 1951 general election – when it polled its highest ever vote – the problem would have been Cameron’s opportunity to blame the Liberal Democrats’ failure to join a coalition for political instability in the face of economic crisis. Such circumstances would hardly have produced a propitious electoral atmosphere for the Liberal Democrats.

Arguably, every ‘early’ election since 1923, when the Liberal Party benefited from its apparent reunification after the Lloyd George coalition, has seen a diminution of the Liberal vote, on occasion, such as in 1924, 1931 and 1951, catastrophically so. These are not encouraging precedents.

Michael Meadowcroft

Pat Collins

I read with great interest Graham Lippiatt’s comprehensive article on the charismatic Pat Collins, former Liberal MP for Walsall (*Journal of Liberal History* 73). When I was parliamentary

candidate for the Walsall South constituency at the general election of 1987, more than forty years after his death, Pat Collins was vividly remembered by older voters of all persuasions.

One of the local party officers, the late Millicent Gray, recalled Asquith’s visit to Walsall during Collins’s brief reign as MP in 1922–24. She described Collins as being almost illiterate. This often led him into hilarious misunderstandings of vocabulary. When refurbishment of the spacious vestibule of Walsall Town Hall was being discussed, a fellow councillor suggested that a chandelier would make an attractive feature. This was instantly dismissed by Collins on the grounds that ‘We couldn’t afford to employ anyone to play it!’

Incidentally, Miss Gray, though in her eighties, was one of my keenest supporters. She had dissented from the decision of Walsall Liberals to opt for the Liberal National faction after 1931. She remained, with a handful of colleagues, loyal to the independent Liberal Party of Samuel/Sinclair/Davies until the general election of 1951, when the local party at last bravely decided to contest the seat after a lapse of twenty years. The Tory candidate still fought under the Nat-Lib-Con label. Walsall returned a Labour MP from 1945 to 1955 before being split into North and South Divisions.

Lionel King

Punch and cartoons

According to the note on the 1912 cartoon that illustrates Roy Douglas’s article on the

Lloyd George Land Taxes (*Journal of Liberal History* 73), ‘Punch cartoonist Bernard Partridge expected the competition between the Liberal and Labour candidates at the Hanley by-election to deliver the seat to the Unionists’.

Who can say what Partridge thought? The two weekly *Punch* political cartoons were devised by an editorial committee, hence their often ponderous character. The artists drew to order, though they may well have been generally comfortable with the views they portrayed.

From the 1920s and 1930s newspaper political cartoonists like David Low and Vicky were given licence to express their own convictions as forthrightly as they chose; but I don’t think *Punch* ever changed its practice.

Andy Connell

Henry George the socialist

A few comments on three articles in the *Journal of Liberal History* 73 –

Firstly, in his ‘The Lloyd George land taxes’, Roy Douglas stated that it is quite inaccurate to describe the US economist and philosopher Henry George, an early advocate of land value taxation, as a ‘socialist’. However, in George’s most significant electoral venture – as a candidate for Mayor of New York in 1886 – he ran on a Socialist ticket, with the result being Abram Hewitt (Democrat) 90,552, Henry George 68,110 and Theodore Roosevelt (Republican) 60,435.

Secondly, in his ‘Liberal National leader – Charles Kerr, Lord Teviot’, David Dutton referred to the Woolton-Teviot (Tory-Liberal National) pact of

May 1947. However, this pact only applied to England and Wales. A separate pact, between the Scottish Unionist and Liberal National Associations, was not announced until 2 December 1947.

Further, Kellie Castle (about two miles west of Arbroath in Angus (aka Forfarshire) – which was at one time owned by Captain Archibald Ramsay, the crypto-fascist Tory MP imprisoned in 1940–44 under Defence Regulation 18B – was not in Charles Kerr’s former constituency of Montrose Burghs (Montrose, Arbroath, Brechin, Forfar and Inverbervie) but in the then county constituency of Forfarshire.

Thirdly, in her ‘The Liberal election agent in the post-Reform Act era’, Nancy LoPatin-Lummis completely ignored the fact that there were three Reform Acts in 1832: one for England and Wales, one for Scotland and one for Ireland. Indeed, in two respects the Scottish Act was the most significant of the three. Not only did the Scottish electorate increase from about 4,500 to about 65,000 (with the English and Welsh electorate increasing from about 435,000 to about 652,000) but the increase in the number of Scottish MPs from 45 to 53 went a little way to reducing Scotland’s under-representation, on a population basis, in the House of Commons which had existed since 1707. However, such under-representation continued until about 1891 (with Welsh under-representation having continued until about 1861 and Irish under-representation until about 1881).

Dr. Sandy S. Waugh