

## ELECTION: TORIES TRIUMPH.

To the new Parliament the Conservative Party returns victorious to an extent few experts believed possible. The Government will dominate the House of Commons with the verdict of the people giving them a handsome majority. On the way to work, during the day, and at night, millions made it a heavy poll. Democracy showed itself in a responsible mood; only the incurably apathetic few stayed at home.

The newly enrolled, coloured citizens voted without fear, knowing that in a genuine people's democracy everybody's opinion is sought; all have a right to make a choice. Example from the top came when Lady Dorothy Macmillan and the Prime Minister himself went to vote. All along he was confident his government would be returned to office. Another great House of Commons man, Herbert Morrison, voted for the last time, before he becomes a life peer. Some M.Ps had to vote by post. But not Nye Bevan.

Inconceivable, without Sir Winston Churchill, would be any Parliament today, and with Lady Churchill in active support, the Happy Warrior contested Woodford again. Pity his unfortunate opponent. Up North, contesting Leeds South, was Labour Leader Hugh Gaitskell willing to pay the price for high office.

Biggest optimist of the election was Sir Oswald Mosley, destined to be bottom of the poll and forfeit his deposit, and arouse feeling, in North Kensington. In South Wales, stronghold of Labour, everything was orderly.

There's a strong nationalist movement bent on achieving Welsh Home Rule. Traditions of song and poetry go back long before coal was found in the valleys. They voted heavily in Scotland, too. Everywhere in Great Britain most people had now made up their minds how they stood on the fundamental question: Did Conservative rule satisfy them, or did they want a change? And in the absence of any burning questions the main factor at the polls, all day and evening too, was probably, where your treasure is, there is your heart also. Industrial districts for Labour; the rest Tory. At last the voting was over; the big count began, and by this time nearly all sat up (at home or outside) to learn the results. Tory, Labour Liberal; Liberal, Labour, Tory. It went on hour after hour, as the pattern of the voting was revealed.

Outside more than 600 townhalls, Mayors and officials told the crowds who'd won. People could have found out at home, but there's nothing like the thrill of being on the spot. Preparations for the election-night parties were in full swing, and statistical wizards early predicted a Tory victory. Results were flashed on open-air screens (as here in Trafalgar Square) in all the big cities. Fine weather was ideal for this polling-night jamboree. It was like watching a big sporting event.

Hugh Gaitskell was in at South Leeds, but when his result came through it was becoming clear that Labour was not going to win the election. So no wonder that back in London they had good news for the Prime Minister at Conservative Headquarters. Mac was staying in office, with every prospect of a larger majority. He'd never had it so good!

"I gotta Member".

Let Gaitskell worry; you're all right, Jack.

Next day the crowd in Downing Street gave the Prime Minister a victor's welcome. There was no change at Number Ten. Mr. Macmillan has risked appealing to the country, and with no uncertain voice the people said, Carry on, Mac....