

# PARTY STANDINGS LITTLE DIFFERENT IN PARLIAMENT

## Electoral Truce Has a Bearing On Membership But Political Activity Flares Anew With Victory in Sight

By JOHN DAUPHINEE  
(Canadian Press Staff Writer)

LONDON, Dec. 20 (CP)—The structure of party membership in Britain's House of Commons, bolstered by a war-time electoral truce which soon will end, has retained much of its original shape in the 10 years since the nation's voters chose their parliament. Deaths, appointments and elevations to the peerage removed some 200 of the Commons' original 615 members from the lower chamber, but the standing of major parties is still strikingly similar to what it was when the House was elected in 1935.

Now there is a resurgence of party political activity as the war against the Germans nears an end, and Prime Minister Churchill has said: "I have a clear view that it would be wrong to continue this parliament beyond the period of the German war." The indication is that the election, when it is held, will be contested by each party independently.

During 1944 the trend of parliamentary debates changed. Instead of emphasizing the prosecution of the war they turned to the problems of the peace to come. The legislation passed dealt almost exclusively with reconstruction—housing, national insurance, education and the restoration of bomb damage.

### Churchill's Travels

But for the administration the war has been the primary responsibility. It was Mr. Churchill's year of greatest travel. He met President Roosevelt at Quebec, went to Moscow, Cairo and Italy, and twice to France after its liberation.

An unofficial survey of Commons membership shows a gain of 25 seats for the Labor party in the last 10 years and a loss of 15 for the Conservatives. Liberal Nationals lost five seats, Liberals gained two and miscellaneous and independent parties gained 13.

This table gives the picture:

	1935	1944
Conservative	387	362
Labor	154	169
Liberal National	33	28
Liberal	17	19
Miscellaneous	24	37

On the basis of the 199 by-elections since 1935, it would appear the public's choice of members is much as it was when the last election was held; but by-elections are not a fair criterion for there has been no recognized party warfare since the war began.

The major parties agreed, following formation of the National government which still continues, not to contest one another's seats as they became vacant. The result is that none of Labor's new seats has been

won in wartime and Conservative losses during the five war years have been to independents.

Government candidates were successful in every by-election of the first 2½ war years and in many cases they won their seats by acclamation. The electoral truce has many faults but it symbolized the nation's unity and was honestly, if not always happily, observed.

The early months of 1942 were dark ones in the war theatres and at home considerable dissatisfaction was expressed with the Churchill government and especially with its Conservative majority. But with improvement in the war situation opposition has not been so serious and, although independent candidates and members of the war-born Commonwealth party received considerable vote support, the Conservatives have lost only two by-elections since 1942, both to Commonwealth.

A point of interest in connection with by-elections is that three members of the present war cabinet and three other senior ministers have come into the Commons since the last election.

The war cabinet members are Sir John Anderson, chancellor of the exchequer; Labor Minister Bevin and Production Minister Lyttelton. The other trio are Sir James Grigg, war secretary; Sir William Jowitt, minister-designate of national insurance; and Sir Andrew Duncan, supply minister.

### EXPECT TOURIST TRADE

PORT OF SPAIN. — Trinidad is looking forward to an important tourist trade after the war. The chamber of commerce has asked the government to investigate the possibilities without delay and the tourist board suggests advertising campaigns supplemented by West Indian information bureaux in Canada and the United States.

### FOOL PENNY HOLDERS

LONDON. — New pennies, the first minted since 1940, are being circulated in Britain but the coins are being darkened artificially by chemicals to make them look older. If this weren't done people would hoard them to put into Christmas stockings.



TINY TOTS BUILD "HOUSES" AT NAVAL WELL-BABY CLINIC — First day of Navy week marked the opening of the first nursery for children of ratings of the Royal Canadian Navy at the Naval Well-Baby Clinic, H.M.C.S. "Stadacona," Halifax. Building houses at the pastel blue work table are Genevieve Reichert and Susan Bell. They are the daughters of Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Ernest Bell, 20 Macara St., Halifax and Chief Petty Officer and Mrs. Philip Reichert, of Winnipeg, now living at 31 Philip St., Halifax. (Photo by Lieut. Arless, R.C.N.V.R.)

## PRIORITY IN AIR TRAVEL

War Correspondent Tells of "On Again, Off Again" Adventures

By DOUG HOW  
War Correspondent

ATHENS, Dec. 20 — We type this Athens dateline with an air of triumph because there is a certain moral conquest in getting here. Let, therefore, be told a tale of ensnared adventure involving jeeps and airplanes, an ambition to get here and methods of defeating that malevolent mark of our time, the system of priorities, to do so.

The priority is an essential. Its outward expression is that of a number pencilled on the ticket that will take you places aboard one of the Dakota aircraft which amble across the Mediterranean. From the front to Rome is a relatively simple journey. You accept the jeep as transport. If it happens to rain with an autumn intensity, as it did, you spend somewhere around 10 hours huddled amidst its protective inadequacies. You reach Rome and there you are thrown into the great game of chance and priorities.

You will go, you are told, on Thursday, with a priority three. You report Thursday and are told the flight is weathered out. You will go tomorrow, same flight. But you decide to beat the first rap and jeep to Naples. That's another six hours in rain-harried jeep. But you're one up

in the game of priorities.

In Naples they say there's not a chance until Saturday. On Saturday you fly into Bari. You find the British officers' hotel, jammed with people, many of them involved in priorities because Bari is one of the great gateways to the Balkans and the Middle East.

### More Priority Twos

Until 5 o'clock Saturday you're to travel on Sunday's plane for Athens. Then three priority twos sally in and you're out. Until late Sunday the opportunities for Monday hold high. Then a load of machinery comes from somewhere bound for Athens with the fateful priority two. You're out again.

From a fellow priority three, a fast-sinking English major, comes the information that a cluster of priority two brigadiers is now at hand. Then suddenly, the clouds lift.

There is a special plane heading for Athens. Four of you three clamber aboard with heightening ego. You have the passengers' compartment almost

to yourselves. This, you chortle, is certainly a triumph for the three.

Then you land at another Italian airdrome and you shudder slightly with reawakened inferiority. The trip, you find, has the primary purpose of carrying a dismembered artillery spotter plane to Greece. You will occupy the room that's left. The ground crews toil for hours, shoving, squeezing the little spotter inside the Dakota.

Then you climb into the room that's left, possessed by a satisfied humility and marked, you think, forever with the indelible imprint of a priority three.

Classified Ads in The Daily News get results.



### SAILINGS FOR VANCOUVER and Way Points

Tuesday—SS Catala.  
Friday Evening—SS Cardena

Sailings for Queen Charlotte Islands every ten days.

Further Information, Tickets and Reservations  
FRANK J. SKINNER  
Prince Rupert Agent  
Third Ave. Phone 568

## PLEASING CHRISTMAS GIFTS

### Shoes, Slippers, and Purses



Now On Sale at  
**FASHION FOOTWEAR**  
518 3rd Ave. W.



We desire to extend to our many patrons and friends the  
**Compliments of the Season**

**BULKLEY MARKET**  
(Bob McKay and Frank Ellison).

**ELIO'S FURNITURE STORE**  
Closing  
NOVEMBER 30

Reopening  
JANUARY 2  
Third Avenue, Prince Rupert

## BENEFIT BOXING SHOW

Staff House Dining Hall  
Seventh Ave. East  
Tuesday, December 26th at 8 p.m.

MAIN EVENT — 5 ROUNDS  
W. PORAYKO —vs.— W. WALL  
B.A.C. U.S. Army

10 SUPPORTING BOUTS

TICKETS:  
Ringside \$1.50 General Admission  
Tickets on sale at the Grotto

## for HIM

A gift easy to give and practical please him most.

WE HAVE

- Signet and fraternal rings
- Fine sterling silver Identification bracelets
- Pen and Pencil cases
- Cigarette cases
- Watches
- Wallets

**JOHN BULGER LIMITED**  
Jewelers  
Third Avenue — Opposite Post Office

## Have a "Coke" = Merry Christmas



... adding refreshment to holiday cheer

The spirit of good will rules the Christmas season. It's a time to get together with friends and family. There's a whole story of hospitality in the three words *Have a "Coke"*—three words that express a friendly spirit the whole year 'round. Yes, Coca-Cola and the pause that refreshes are everyday symbols of a way of living that takes friendliness for granted.



NORTH STAR BOTTLING WORKS  
Authorized Bottler of "Coca-Cola" PRINCE RUPERT

"Coke" = Coca-Cola  
It's natural for popular names to acquire friendly abbreviations. That's why you hear Coca-Cola called "Coke". 517



## Paper is Still Rationed

## THE DAILY NEWS

Will be glad to receive subscription orders as

\$7.00 Per Year, Delivered in City

\$4 Per Year, Anywhere by Mail

## Christmas GIFTS

(We regret that postal regulations make it impossible to solicit subscriptions for men overseas in the forces at less than regular rates).

USE THIS ORDER FORM IF YOU CANNOT CALL AT OFFICE.

Enclosed please find \$..... for which please send the DAILY NEWS for the coming year to:

Ordered by .....

## EVENING SHOES...

WHITE, BLUE AND BLACK ...  
SATIN SANDALS  
Silver and Gold Sandals  
IN HIGH AND LOW HEELS

TO OUR CUSTOMERS ...  
**SEASON'S BEST WISHES**  
*Family Shoe Store Limited*  
"THE HOME OF GOOD SHOES"

## POULSEN'S LUNCH

6th AVE. E., BESIDE P.O. STATION "B"  
As Good as the Best  
Better than the Rest

POULSEN'S GROCERY  
Our stock fresh and complete, prices right  
Courtesy and Service—Free Delivery—Red 441

EARLY ADVERTISING COPY WILL BE APPRECIATED