

written by Col. Wedgwood

BARLOW, Rt Hon. Sir (Clement Anderson)
Montagu, Bart.
K.B.E.

✓ Who's Who only

BIOGRAPHIES OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT

In 1929 the Prime Minister (The Right Honourable Stanley Baldwin, M.P.) appointed a Committee, presided over by Colonel the Right Honourable Josiah Wedgwood, D.S.O., M.P., to examine the material available for a record of the personnel and politics of members of the House of Commons from A.D. 1264. The Committee reported that the task of preparing and publishing such a record was possible and should be undertaken.

It has been suggested that it would be desirable for Members or their surviving relations to assist in the compilation of these biographies. Below are questions which ought to be dealt with. It would have been useful to have answers to these from our predecessors.

Answers to all these questions are optional. If it is desired that answers be treated as confidential, they should be enclosed in brackets; these will remain unpublished for 100 years.

Please supply also the usual bald facts from "Who's Who" or any other work of reference so as to save the compilers trouble.

Please write your answers in the space provided.

COMMITTEE ON HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT,
1, QUEEN ANNE'S GATE BUILDINGS,
DARTMOUTH STREET, S.W.1.

1. When did you first become interested in national politics? Why?

My father as Vicar of Slington + subsequently Dean Peterboro was much interested in public affairs + was for many years Chairman of the Slington Vestry, his conversation first turned my thoughts to public

2. What influence started you on this line of thought?

also through D. States (at which I was head) + the School Debating Society (of which I was President) also helped. I soon after leaving school was called to the Bar + took an active part in politics on the Conservative side speaking at Jackson etc. were in 1907 I wrote an article on the X Essay

3. What books formed your political views?

(at school) a great stimulus + Pericles great speech in the Red Book of Thucydides. later, at the university, studies in International Law + politics

4. What were your religious convictions?

A strong upholder of Christianity + the Church of England

for the Whewell Scholarship, which I won.

5. Which was then your favourite newspaper?

The Times

6. Why did you want to be an M.P.?

(of arduous) as an interesting way of serving one's country.

7. What or who first led you to think of it as a career?

8. What was your trade, profession or occupation?

First at the Bar then
~~rather lately~~
as Director & Chairman
of Messrs Lottely & Co

9. Annual income, earned and un-earned, when first you stood for Parliament?

10. Had you any experience of public work—if so, what?

Had been Lectr of
in Southamton
Cambridge House: from

11. How did you first get a seat?

1907-1910 On the L.C.C. & was
Vice Chairman of the Rivers C.C.

12. What was your chief political interest?

about 1909 I got in touch with 3 constituencies
Eventually selected South Salford
a poor Industrial Community containing the
Manchester & Salford Docks
where I thought I could be of use

13. On what did you, in fact, concentrate most in Parliament?

↓ All questions relating to
Industry & Labour & the Social
Condition of the Worker

14. What did it cost you then to contest?

↓ about £800 to
£900.

↓ Question of Industry Labour
& Social Reform eg. Insurance
against Sickness
& unemployment
& Housing.

15. Who, at that time, was your ideal statesman of any land?

↓ Being a Tory
Poor area all expenses
fell on the member, which came
from a large room, printing etc. about £500
(a) living British statesman, (b) dead - £600 annually

(a)

(b)

16. How did Parliament modify your views?

17. How did being an M.P. affect your earning capacity? Being h.D. in Norway

18. What did you enjoy most in Parliamentary life? ^{Directorship - + accept diminution of salary in my business}

19. What did you dislike most, apart from getting re-elected?

20. Which speech do you think was your best?

21. What was the greatest speech that you remember hearing?

22. Did speeches affect your vote?

23. What was your best piece of work?

24. If you are no longer in Parliament, why did you leave?

25. What books have you written, and what books have been written about you?

1. Some legal Books when at the Bar e.g. on the Education Act 1902 & on the Port of London Act etc: also on Ecclesiastical matters e.g. The Church & Reform.

2. none that I am aware of.

affected my earning capacity: but on joining the firm I had to give up any other Directorship - + accept diminution of salary in my business

My connection & close relations with my constituents; & my work when in the Government, in promoting

unemployment insurance & other measures for the improvement of social & industrial conditions of the workers.

Difficult for me to say - possibly my first speech as Minister of Labour ~~and~~ at the opening Session of the House of Commons Administration 1922, outlining the Government's policy on unemployment for which I received the public congratulations

of the leaders of the opposition, viz. H. A. Asquith.

7.10 here was selected in Dec 1910

to well

accepted in their substance by the Govt. the day they were made public: and as Party Secty & Minister of Labour, cooperation in passing the Unemployment Insurance Act of 1920 & subsequent similar Act of 1924.