CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN AND ASQUITH: AN UNEASY POLITICAL PARTNERSHIP

Science, letter from Herbert Gladstone–A. G. Gardiner, 6 December 1905, and subsequent note by Gardiner of exchange of letters with Campbell-Bannerman.

- 31 See T. Boyle 'The Formation of Campbell-Bannerman's Government in December 1905: a Memorandum by J.A. Spender', Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research, 45 (1972), 283–302.
- 32 For C-B's view of Haldane and Grey, see Herbert Samuel's memorandum on a conversation with Asquith on the formation

of the Campbell-Bannerman government, Herbert Samuel papers, Parliamentary Archives, A155 III ff.99–100. Also see Margot Asquith, *An Autobiography* (London, 1962; originally published 1920 and 1922), p. 236; Margot Asquith diary, 5 December 1905, Bodleian MS. Eng. d.3204 f.85; Haldane *Autobiography* pp. 170–71.

- 33 Ian Packer, Liberal Government and Politics, 1905–1915 (Basingstoke, 2006) pp.157–58.
- 34 Ibid, pp.79–80.35 See *The Times*, 27 June 1907.

- 36 See Asquith-Campbell-Bannerman correspondence, Campbell-Bannerman papers British Library, Add. Ms. 41,210 ff.256-314
- 37 See, for example, Haldane's tribute to C-B in his memoirs: Haldane, Autobiography, p.182.
- 38 Spender and Asquith, Life of Lord Oxford and Asquith, vol. 1, p. 196.
- 39 For Campbell-Bannerman's political outlook, see R. W. Strong, 'Campbell-Bannerman as opposition leader' (unpublished Ulster Polytechnic

PhD thesis, London: Council for National Academic Awards, 1983). For Asquith, see Roland Quinault (1992) 'Asquith's Liberalism', *History* 77 (249), 33–49.

- 40 See Spender and Asquith, Oxford and Asquith, vol. 1, pp. 144-45.
- 41 Hirst, In the Golden Days, p. 252.
- 42 British General Election Manifestos, 1900–1974, compiled and edited by F.W.S. Craig (London: Macmillan, 1975) p. 13.

LIBERAL HISTORY QUIZ 2008

This year's Liberal history quiz attracted a fair amount of attention at the History Group's exhibition stand at the Liberal Democrat conference in Bournemouth in September. The winner was Robin Young, with an impressive 19½ marks out of 20. Below we reprint the questions – the answers, and some observations on what the entrants thought were the answers, are on page 27.

- 1. Which Liberal Democrat leader had been an Olympic athlete?
- 2. Which was the first by-election won by a Liberal Democrat (constituency and year)?
- 3. The Liberal Party was founded in 1859. Where?
- 4. Whose Dimbleby Lecture was instrumental to the foundation of the SDP?
- 5. Who did David Steel beat to become the leader of the Liberal Party?
- 6. Who was the Liberal Leader in the Lords at the end of the Second World War?
- 7. What was the year of the Orpington by-election?
- 8. In which twentieth-century elections did the Liberal Party achieve its:
 - (a) highest share of the poll?
 - (b) lowest share of the poll?
- 9. In 1929, Lloyd George published a pamphlet advocating a programme of public works which formed the basis of the Liberal manifesto in that year's general election. What was its title?
- 10 Which Liberal leader proclaimed, 'I intend to march my troops towards the sound of gunfire'?
- 11. Which Liberal Democrat leader described his party as 'confused, demoralised, starved of money and in the grip of a deep identity crisis'?

- 12. Which Whig Prime Minister had seventeen children?
- 13. In 1905, which three leading Liberal MPs plotted against Campbell-Bannerman in the agreement known as the Relugas Compact?
- 14. At the time of its formation in March 1981, how many MPs formed the SDP's Parliamentary Party?
- 15. In a piece of prose associated with the Liberal Party's presidency, which poet wrote 'Give me the liberty to know, to utter and argue freely according to conscience, above all liberties'?
- 16. In what year did William Beveridge become a Liberal MP?
- 17. For how long, in years and days, was David Lloyd George MP for Caernarfon Boroughs?
- 18. Which Liberal Prime Minister said of which other Liberal premier
 - (a) He is one of the ablest men I have ever known;
 - (b) He is of the highest honour and probity;
 - (c) I do not know whether he really has any common sense?
- 19 Who was the first president of the National Liberal Federation?
- 20. Who wrote: 'I am not aware that any community has a right to force another to be civilised'?

LIBERAL HISTORY QUIZ 2008

See page 19 for the questions; here we print the answers, and a commentary on what our respondents thought the answers were ...

1. Menzies Campbell

Far too easy, this one: everyone got it right!

2. Eastbourne, David Bellotti 18 October 1990

Almost as easy, though a few people put down by-elections in the 1980s, presumably thinking of the SDP.

3. Willis's Rooms, St James, London

This one proved rather surprisingly difficult ('London' and 'UK' were not allowed); quite a few put the Reform Club.

4. Roy Jenkins

Another easy one; several people added the date (1979), and even the title ('Home thoughts from abroad').

5. John Pardoe

Almost everyone got this one right, but a couple thought it was Alan Beith (who Paddy Ashdown beat in 1988).

6. Viscount Samuel (Leader, 1944–1955)

Most people got this one, but a couple thought it was Lloyd George; that would have been tricky, even for him, since he died in March 1945.

7. 1962 (won by Eric Lubbock on 14 March 1962)

Most people got this right.

8. (a) 1906 (49.0 per cent); (b) 1951 (2.6 per cent)

Surprisingly, the first date proved more difficult. Most people got 1906, but 1929 was also suggested, and some, presumably thinking we meant only post-war elections, suggested 1974 or 1983. Almost everyone got 1951, though other dates in the 1950s and '60s were also suggested.

9. We Can Conquer Unemployment

Responses were evenly split between the correct answer and the 'Yellow Book' (*Britain's Industrial Future*), the much longer policy programme on which the manifesto was based.

10 Jo Grimond

Another fairly easy one, particularly for the respondent who claimed to have been there at the time.

11. Paddy Ashdown (looking back, in an interview on 7 September 1991, in *The Independent*)

Another easy one; almost everyone got it right.

12. Earl Grey (seven daughters and ten sons)

Much more difficult: only a handful got it right. One respondent said he thought Grey had sixteen children; in fact both the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* and Wikipedia think it was fifteen, while the figure of seventeen we used comes from the *Dictionary of Liberal Biography*, and includes one known illegitimate child. Whatever the number, though, there was no chance of confusion with any other Whig PM! 13. Asquith, Grey and Haldane

About half the respondents got this one right; most of the others correctly identified Asquith, but a fair few suspected Churchill and Lloyd George too.

14. 14

Almost no one got this one; answers varied between 9 and 29. Fourteen was the number at the formal launch of the SDP on 26 March 1981; it then climbed steadily for the next two years, reaching 29 by the end of 1982.

15. John Milton, in Areopagitica (1644)

Most people knew their Milton – or, possibly, knew the association with the Liberal presidency – and several correctly identified the work as well.

16. 1944

Most got this right too, though a few said 1945 – when in fact Beveridge lost his seat.

17. 54 years 266 days

In fact no one gave this answer, possibly because we might have got it wrong ourselves. Several respondents put 54 years (we gave them a half point), but there was a wide spread of answers for the number of days. On further investigation, it seems that our own answer may have been wrong (it wouldn't have made any difference to the winner, we hasten to add). Lloyd George fought his by-election in Caernarvon Boroughs (thank you to the respondent who pointed out the correct name in 1890) on 10 April 1890, though the result was not announced until 11 April; he took his seat on 17 April. His peerage was announced on 1 January 1945, but he was too ill ever to sit in the Lords, and he died on 26 March. These three possible start dates and two possible end dates gives answers of 54 years and 266, 265, 259, 350, 349 or 343 days. Anyone who knows the real answer should let us know!

18. W. E. Gladstone, of Lord Rosebery

Almost no one got this right, though several suspected it was Gladstone who said it. In fact more thought Asquith was one of the two, with views split between Gladstone of Asquith, Asquith of Lloyd George, and Lloyd George of Asquith.

19 Joseph Chamberlain

Another tricky one; more people said Gladstone than got the correct answer.

20. John Stuart Mill, in On Liberty

And a slightly easier one to end on: possibly thanks to the profile we gave him in the 'Great Liberal' contest last year, most people got Mill, and one (the winner) identified *On Liberty* too. A fair number, however, thought it was probably Gladstone.