

The first Jewish Baronetcy was conferred by the Liberals on Isaac Lyon Goldsmid, in 1841.

The first Jew to be raised to the Peerage, was, as, already stated, Lord Rothschild.

The first Jew to hold office in a Government was Sir George Jessel, who was appointed Solicitor-General by Mr. Gladstone in 1871.

The first Jew to be admitted to the Privy Council was Sir George Jessel, in 1873, thanks to the Liberals.

The first Jew to be made a judge was Sir George Jessel, who was raised to the position of Master of the Rolls in 1873.

The first Jew to become a Member of the Cabinet was Sir (then Mr.) Herbert Samuel,

in the Liberal Government of 1909.

Lord Reading (who as Sir Rufus Isaacs was the first Jew to be made Attorney-General, 1910) was appointed by Mr. Asquith in 1913 to be Lord Chief Justice.

Many other public distinctions (such as Q.C., Recorder, Stipendiary Magistrate) were first conferred upon Jews by the Liberal Party.

The Right Honourable Sir Herbert Samuel is now Chairman of the Liberal Party organisation, and this pamphlet cannot conclude without a reference to the splendid pioneer work done by Sir Herbert Samuel in Palestine, when he was the first High Commissioner (1920–1925).

The Appeal of Liberalism

The present day appeal of Liberalism to the Jews is at least as great as ever it was. Liberalism is still the only real safeguard of individual liberty, and the Liberal Party stands foremost as the guardian of religious toleration, personal freedom, and equality of opportunity for all. Liberalism resists all tyranny and oppression in every form, whether from Conservatism, which believes in aristocratic rule, or from Socialism, which advocates the ever-widening extension of State interference. Nationalisation and Government control must be resisted, and efforts concentrated upon reforms in towns and country alike which will enlarge the scope of individual

opportunity, and bring greater individual happiness and prosperity.

Liberalism stands for the ideal of partnership in industry, and the fairer distribution of wealth. Liberalism also strives for friendship in international relations, and its first watchword – Peace – is also the greatest ideal of the Jews, for upon it alone can be based justice and well-being for all the peoples of the earth.

** The Earl of Beaconsfield is scarcely to be regarded as an exception, for though Disraeli was born a Jew he was baptised at the age of twelve.*

LIBERAL HISTORY QUIZ 2013

The 2013 Liberal history quiz was a feature of the History Group's exhibition stand at the Liberal Democrat conference in Glasgow last September. The winner was Michael Mullaney, with 18½ marks out of 20. Below we reprint the questions – the answers are on page 25.

1. Which former Liberal prime ministers are buried in Scotland?
2. A Liberal MP who later became a Conservative leader held a Scottish seat during the Great War. Which MP and which seat?
3. Who, at the 1992 election, made history by holding his seat with just 26% of the vote, the lowest percentage ever for a winning candidate?
4. Who was Liberal MP for Orkney & Shetland from 1922 to 1935?
5. What is the full name of Danny Alexander's constituency?
6. Which Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer wrote to which Liberal Secretary of State for War: 'Scotland is a far cry, but then as a compensation it occupies more than half the government, and till we get Home Rule for Scotland it is almost inevitable that Ministers should be occasionally in London'?
7. Who was the leader of the Scottish Liberal Democrats from 2005 to 2008?
8. Whom did a former Liberal leader's wife hope to succeed as a Scottish MP in 1970?
9. In which year did the last Leader of the SDP become an MP, and for which party?
10. In which year did H. H. Asquith return to the House of Commons by winning a by-election, and for which seat?
11. What did Liberal Prime Minister Lord Rosebery share with Harry Potter?
12. Which former Liberal (later Liberal Democrat) MP was the first person to take the oath in Gaelic upon entering the House of Lords in 2001?
13. What was the title of the memoirs published by Judy Steel in 2010?
14. What post did Sir Archibald Sinclair hold in Churchill's wartime coalition government from 1940 to 1945?
15. Augustine Birrell once said: 'What a grateful thought that there is not an acre in this vast and varied landscape that is not represented at Westminster by a London barrister.' In which Scottish county was he standing?
16. Russell Johnston once described his political mentor as 'a Scot of untidy kindness' who once said to him: 'I really don't understand why everyone isn't a Liberal'. Who was he?
17. Which former Liberal Prime Minister died in Downing Street a few days after resigning?
18. A former Lord Provost of Edinburgh, he served as Liberal MP for the city from 1865 to 1881 and was known by the nickname of 'The Member for Scotland'. Who was he?
19. Alexander William Charles Oliphant Murray, Liberal MP from 1900 to 1912, serving as Chief Whip under Asquith, was better known by which courtesy title for most of his political career?
20. Which famous Liverpudlian, of Scottish descent, won an Edinburghshire seat the year after an enormously popular oratorical campaign – and in which year?