

CURRENTLY WESTMINSTER BRINGS TO MIND RATS AND SINKING SHIPS

British public opinion, so it has been recently and widely reported, holds the current crop of Parliamentary representatives in extremely low esteem. This reputation would seem to be exceedingly well deserved. The wool of Capitalist exploitation can only be pulled over the eyes of the gazing public for so long before the realisation of socialist truths begins to bring much needed political clarity.

During a lull in the British Civil War years (July 1646), the Leveller, Richard Overton brought out 'The Remonstrance of many thousand Citizens' which had criticisms of Parliament that still seem relevant today. It asserted popular, as distinct from Parliamentary sovereignty. The David Cameron led Parliament gave the British people the final 'say' on membership of the EU and its institutions. The people spoke in June 2016. Since then, an undemocratic Parliament appears to have turned a deaf ear to the result.

The Remonstrance questioned the power of the House of Lords. Today, political parties from across the whole spectrum (including the SLP) are questioning the need for this unelected part of the State apparatus to continue in existence.

Another criticism raised by the Remonstrance was Parliament's ever - increasing oppression of the subject. Today's British working class has now suffered years of unnecessary Parliamentary backed austerity, whilst wealth is diverted to the very rich financiers, bankers and arms manufacturers linked together by their love of exploitation.

The refusal of an Establishment backed Parliament to honour the 2016 EU referendum result has thrown light on all of the shenanigans of the Capitalist political parties. This compares closely with some members of the Parliament of 1646-7 attempting to overturn the result of the British Civil War by reaching a close accommodation with Charles 1, the monarch who had declared war against large sections of his own subjects. Such a member was Oliver Cromwell, who was strongly criticised by the Levellers as shown by the transcripts of the 'Putney debates' of Autumn 1647.

The current undemocratic passing of the Prime Ministerial baton from Tory M.P. to Tory M.P. has highlighted the horrible reactionary views on display from the candidates. Their histories of drug taking has also revealed a totally hypocritical side to their lives when they have considered legislation and imprisonment for drug offending ordinary members of the public. With the British working class enduring huge

austerity and hunger and homelessness becoming even more rife, all that these people can propose are tax gifts and exemptions for the rich.

There is something fundamentally wrong with British Public Schools such as Eton and Charterhouse that produce such defective personalities. Bullying personalities have, of course, been a well-known historic feature of many products of Public Schools. Johnson has his own strange behaviour over many years but it has been recently said of Hunt that he is much nastier than he appears and there are not many smiles from NHS workers (including junior doctors) after he got his privatising teeth into that Institution.

As for the Labour Party, they profess to represent the British working class but there is scant evidence for such claims. The votes for Brexit of large swathes of the British working class who have seen no benefits from membership of the EU, have often been ignored by their Labour representatives in Parliament. This is particularly true of those still adhering to their support for the policies espoused by Blair and Brown. Redistribution of wealth from the poorest to the richest in Britain has been the history of modern Labour regimes.

The mini-me Tories, or Lib-Dems as they call themselves do, at least, come clean about their refusal to accept the democratic EU vote by the British in 2016. Their help in imposing austerity measures as well as their blatant lies about imposing huge tuition fees on the young will, hopefully, prevent any great resurgent support for their brand of capitalism.

As for the Greens, they have several severe drawbacks. European Green Party members gave their support to the violent break-up of Yugoslavia and the particularly vicious campaign against the Serbs. But there is a fundamental flaw in their arguments relating to global warming and consequent climate change.

Unless the Capitalist system, which the Green Party supports, is overturned and replaced by planned Socialism, then any attempts to stop the pollution of the Planet will be totally futile.

It seems that many of these Capitalist Parties have interchangeable views and policies so that one M.P. has managed to flit amongst three different parties within the space of about 2 months without even having a vote amongst his constituents. Similarly, the Labour Shadow Chancellor has claimed that Labour, once in power, will tackle green issues. Here again, the pro Capitalist views of his Party will prevent this from being successful. The overall picture seems to be one of careerists in Parliament working to further their own lifestyles whilst ignoring the needs of the British working class and the vital requirement of a healthy planet earth. The pro EU Capitalist parties have the full support of the

Ultra Capitalist mainstream media (including the BBC). Their backers are, of course, rich financiers, bankers and weapons manufacturers.

The ship of the 'Change.UK' formation in Parliament seems to have sunk before it even got sailing. The Brexit Party has, however, correctly backed the democratic choice of 2016. Unfortunately, its leadership seem to be of the view that an American style implementation of personal health Insurances and the consequent total privatisation of the NHS will be the way forward. Such views as the latter, will not ultimately be acceptable to the British working class.

As is well known, the Palace of Westminster is in need of refurbishment. Being so close to the River Thames, the dampness leaves it in danger of rat infestations. To many of us, looking on from afar, it almost seems like the infestations have already had a significant effect in both the Houses of Parliament.