

SCHOOL...ADMISSION....H.I.G.W.....

Name....Sarah Daniel.....

Form....V.....

Subject....History.....

Division.....

IV Oct 1924 - General Election

- a) Much Cons. propaganda
- b) Lab. wouldn't have won anyway : people were worried.

V Zinoviev letter

- a) Letter published in Daily Mail by head of Comintern. He sent letter to Communists in Brit. to suggest acts to spread rebellion.
- b) Daily Mail went on to suggest that Lab. liked Communists
- c) Printed 4 days before Elect. but many had made up their minds.
- d) Lab. blamed the letter
- e) Believed to be true but 1967 found to be forgery.

VI Results

- a) Cons. won election

3. 2nd Baldwin Ministry - Cons 1924-1929

Stanley Baldwin

- a) Wealthy, owned iron factory foundry in Midlands, had many business man qualities.
- b) Common sense, practical, sound sense of money, stubborn + determined, gd. negotiator, disliked war : didn't face war realities, disliked trade unions which disrupted industry by strikes.
- c) Appeared indifferent about war, but he wanted reform but saw drawbacks of money. Solid, fatherly, calm image : gained popularity. Smoked pipe giving air of solidarity.
- d) Pleasures - playing patience, crossword puzzles + simple pleasure. Lazy + admitted it, bored at cabinet meetings.
- e) No policy + admitted it saying it was gd. to be flexible. In acute crisis he went to bed e.g. G.S.

II Social Reforms

1. a) Reduced unemployment pay but extended no. of people & length of time.
2. a) lowered age of old age pensions from 70 - 65
3. a) 1926 - gave B.B.C. monopoly of broadcasting.
b) Commission sent to U.S.A. to see how commercial radio was
c) No commercial radio.
4. a) 5th Reform Act - all women over 21

III THE GENERAL STRIKE

A. Causes of the G.S.

- 1918 → a) 15,000 colliery owners
b) No mechanisation, bd. conditions.
c) Serious competition from foreign countries, oil etc. But all the coal owners decreased wages.
d) Natural basis during war ∵ no unrest; conditions not harsh.
e) 1921 - Gov. wanted to economise ∵ wanted to hand it back v. Sankey Commission + workers.
f) 1921 - owners extended hrs. + cut wages. Wages varied from district to district.
g) Strike backed by railwaymen + dockers but broke after last except miners. July - they went back with lower wages.
h) Miners v. bitter at this.
i) 1921 - 1924 - boom in coal industry ∵ of Ger. difficulties
∴ miners didn't suffer too badly
j) 1924 → decline set in + markets shrunk. 1925 crisis.

THE GENERAL STRIKE

I Causes of the General Strike.

- a) From mid- (1914 onwards) many small trade unions had tried to improve working conditions, especially in the mines.
- b) Pay too was very low though the trade unions had tried to fight.
- c) Many people were killed in mines and by dangerous machinery in 1,500 colliery owners factories.
- d) The end of the war in 1918 left many ill and wounded, and there was vast unemployment. Wages became lower so there were many strikes in 1919 and 1920.
- e) During the war the entire coal industry had been nationalised by the State:- regional differences in wages and conditions broke down. Also high wartime prices of coal benefited the miners.
- f) In 1919 after the demand to keep nationalization by the R.F.G.B. a Royal Commission was set up to find out the conditions of the coal industry. It recommended nationalization and a wage increase. Wages were increased? hours reduced to 7 daily? but nationalization was not to continue.
- g) 1920 - 1921 - bad trade slump esp. affecting the coal industry. So the govt. gave up handling the industry 5 months earlier.

Surely
not?

than expected. Many other strikes too 1919-20. If many workers were unsatisfied. Miners held out 3 months on strike pay but no longer - caused gr. hardship.

Immediate causes:

- a) 1925 - coal prices slumped.
- b) ∵ owners were to reduce wages and extend working day on July 31st 1925.
- c) M.F.G.B. did not agree and wanted the re-birth of Triple Alliance (unity of 3 unions). Other unions agreed & this time didn't break.
- d) P.M. Stanley prevented strike by offering a subsidy of £4,000,000 for 9 months till May 1st 1926. This only put off strike for 9 months.
gave Govt time to prepare for a General Strike
- e) March 1926 gov. + colliery owners agreed to re-organize coal industry but reduce wages & end gov. subsidy. M.F.G.B. didn't agree. Slogan "Not a minute on the day; not a penny off the pay."

B.

C. 19

II Events leading up to the General Strike.

- A 1925 a) Coal prices slumped.
- b) Owners + gov. reduced wages + extended working day to 8 hrs.
- c) This to be enforced on Friday 31st July 1925 (Red Friday)
- Jul. 1925 a) Miners' Federation prepared for battle with gov.:
(i) Transport workers agreed not to handle coal

- a) P.M. Stanley Baldwin offered M.F.G.B. a subsidy of £25,000,000 for 9 months till 1st May 1926.
- b) Sep. 1925 O.M.S. - Organization for the Maintenance of Supplies formed to organize volunteers to maintain vital services in the event of a General Strike.
- 1926
- a) March - Royal Commission recommended reorganization of coal industry, reduction in wages + end of gov. subsidy:-
Gov. agreed
Coal owners agreed
Miners Federation rejected it.
- b) 13th April - coal owners announced 12/- to 15/- cut in wages a/wk from 1st May.
- c) ∵ T.U.C. backed miners for a Gen. Strike.
- d) 30th April P.M. announced final offer - 30% reduction of wages + extension of working day for 3 yrs. trial.
- e) 1st May T.U.C. members voted for G.S.
- f) 2nd May dispute in Daily Mail over article 'For King & Country'
stopped possibility of last minute agreement. → explain T.U.C.
negotiating with Govt. to prevent general strike - Govt. ended negotiations
- Not clear -
- g) 4th May 1926 G.S. began.

III Events of the General Strike.

- a) Major industries stopped ("smaller ones depended on them +") would have to stop work.
- b) 1st out: railwaymen, transport workers, builders, chemical workers + gas + electricity workers.

Later joined by engineers + shipyard workers

May 6th - taxi drivers on strike.

- c) Workers engaged in health, sanitary and food services allowed to continue. Soldiers accompanied food convoys and other troops used to keep docks and power stations active.
- d) May 5th D.R.S. began work: - small bus train and bus service, help in docks etc.

- e) Gov. + T.U.C. both printed newspapers to gain support from the public. Gov. - ~~Mining~~ The British Gazette

T.U.C. - The British Worker.

Neither newspaper had many readers

- D Gov. used radio to broadcast reports. T.U.C. were not allowed to broadcast. ✓ nor labour party.

IV The End of the General Strike.

- a) 12th May - T.U.C. representatives informed P.M. Baldwin that the strike would end that day. Ipm
i) They could afford to go, showed no signs of yielding
ii) public divided but many against
iii) End. Bald. offered probable conditions
- b) Work was not resumed in major industries the following day esp. miners.
- c) 15th May - wages ~~were~~ reduced
Railwaymen moved
threatened ^{v. much against it} more on strike. But some desperately needed work.
- d) Baldwin, discouraged victimization ^{v. many returned to work on reasonable terms. Railwaymen 25% sacked}
- e) Though a £3,000,000 subsidy was given to the miners nothing was settled & the miners continued alone.

V The Miners Alone.

- a) Gr. hardship in mining areas:- Poor Relief introduced:-
12/- a wk. women
✓ 6/- a wk. child
But many areas gave much less.
- b) Women's Committee for the Relief of Miners' Wives & Children was formed, lwk. after the G.S. ended. Money was raised by many different means - concerts, exhibiting signed pictures bars etc.
- c) July - Gov. had to import coal though it was usually one of Britain's main exports.
- d) Sep. & Oct. miners in the Midlands went back to work.

Sep. 5% of miners were back.

Nov. 29th - all except S. Wales, Yorkshire + Durham were back

~~November~~

~~→~~

Dec. 1st - all miners back.

- c) They had to accept district wages, which were reduced, + the working day was incr. to 8 hrs.
½ never got their jobs back.

VI Results:

- a) Many smaller pits forced to close down.
- b) Incr. unemployment.
- c) Output of coal less ∴ export trade suffered.
- d) Markets lost during the strike were not all regained.
- e) Conditions declined + many left the mining areas to join other industries.

P 1927 - Trades Disputes Act made T.G. illegal + most sympathetic strikes illegal.

Those who wanted to pay political levy had to contract in - to reduce power of that party

- g) Many people began to support labour party ∴ 1929

✓ General Election lab. party won a majority for the 1st time.

- N Apart from miners + employers there was a friendlier atmosphere in industries.

B? +

- (i) T.C. suffered greatly + many resigned.