

The Honorable Harold Wilson to UCSD

December 27, 1972

The Honorable Harold Wilson, former Prime Minister of Great Britain, and Washington columnist Jack Anderson are scheduled to give the first two talks in the 1972-73 Mandeville Lecture Series presented by the University of California, San Diego.

Wilson, Prime Minister of Britain from October 1964 to June 1970, will speak at 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, January 9, in the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Anderson, winner of the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for National Reporting, is scheduled to speak three days later at 8:00 p.m. Friday, January 12, at the Casa del Prado.

Both lectures are free and open to the public. The Mandeville Lectures are part of a public lecture series sponsored by the Mandeville Foundation of New York and presented through the UCSD Office of Arts and Lectures. The series began in 1966 with a talk by Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas and has continued as one of the top events of the UCSD academic year.

The first lecture in the current series, originally scheduled for November, was cancelled when the speaker, economist Milton Friedman, was taken ill.

Wilson is currently Leader of the Parliamentary Labour Party and as such Leader of the Opposition in Parliament. He has been a member of the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party since 1952 and was its Chairman during 1961-62.

During the Second World War, Wilson served the government in various ministries including the Ministry of Fuel and Power and as Director of Economics and Statistics. He was an acknowledged expert on the coal industry and in 1945, just before the general election, published a book "New Deal for Coal," which outlined the Labour policy for nationalization.

Following his election to Parliament in July, 1945, he was named Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works. The next year he headed the British delegation to the Preparatory Commission of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Washington, D.C.

During his first years in Parliament, Wilson worked to increase Britain's export trade, both by talks with trade delegations from all over the world and through a coast to coast tour of Canada.

In February 1950, he was re-elected to Parliament from the new Lancashire division of Huyton, the seat he has represented ever since. From 1955 to 1961 Wilson was responsible for shaping his party's financial and economic policy and was its chief spokesman on such matters in the House of Commons until he succeeded the late Hugh Gaitskell as Leader of the Opposition in 1963.

The years during which Wilson was Prime Minister saw the resumption of negotiations for Britain's entry into the Common Market, Britain's reappraisal of her military responsibilities overseas, the Rhodesian crisis, the issues concerning the balance of payments, and, at home, measures to strengthen and modernize the country's economy through advanced technology and increased exports.

Anderson, a former Mormon missionary, took over "The Washington Merry-Go-Round" column after its founder, Drew Pearson, died in 1969. He joined Pearson's staff in 1947 following Army service in China. Today, Anderson, who is married and lives with his wife and nine children in Bethesda, Maryland, heads a staff of three full-time reporters and two secretaries. The staff produces seven columns a week for some 700 newspapers.

Anderson is described by his colleagues as "easy-going, affable, almost jolly." He is a teetotaler and nonsmoker and a lover of good food. In addition to his column he has a share in a Washington restaurant specializing in Mandarin cooking.

He is credited with doing most of the work for Pearson's columns revealing that the late Senator Thomas Dodd of Connecticut had diverted campaign funds to his personal use. Dodd was eventually censured by the Senate. Anderson's columns showing the relationship of former Senator George Murphy with Technicolor were considered a factor in Murphy's defeat by Senator John Tunney in California.

Anderson began his journalistic career at the age of 12 as a Boy Scout reporter for a Salt Lake City newspaper. He was named winner of the 1972 Pulitzer Prize for national reporting for his disclosures of the Nixon administration policymaking during the India-Pakistan war.

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