

POLITICAL CARTOONISTS OF MODERN WORLD HISTORY

1. Bernard Partridge: The conservative



Who was he?

- In 1901 Partridge replaced John Tenniel as the chief cartoonist at Punch. He died in 1945. "I believe a cartoon needs a simple statement of theme, with a corresponding treatment making an instant and direct appeal to the reader; a sense of drama and of humour"

What were his cartoons about?

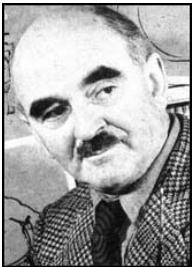
- They often commented on British domestic affairs: the social reforms, the women's campaign for the vote, the impact of the war upon Britain.

What were his personal views?

- Partridge was a Conservative: he was knighted by the Conservative Prime Minister, in 1925.
- He was very suspicious of the social reform programme, thinking the Liberals were creating a nanny state.
- He was also against female suffrage, and particularly disliked the Women's Social and Political Union (suffragettes)



2. David Low: The radical



Who was he?

David Low was born in New Zealand in 1891. His father's family had originally come from Fifeshire in Scotland. In 1927 Low joined the Evening Standard. He died in 1963.

What were his cartoons about?

- They often comment on international affairs: appeasement, the rise of the dictators, the League of Nations.

What were his personal views?

- Low had radical political views. In the 1930s he complained about Britain's foreign policy of appeasement, leading to accusations that he was a "war-monger".
- Low's cartoons criticizing Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini resulted in his work being banned in Germany and Italy.
- After the war it was revealed that in 1937 the German government asked the British government to have "discussions with the notorious Low" in an effort to "bring influence to bear on him" to stop his cartoons attacking appeasement.

