

Extract from a speech to be given by Mr. Harold Macmillan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, at a meeting in connection with Barnstaple "Warship Week" about noon on Saturday, March 14. Not to be published before that time and to be checked against delivery.

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MR. HAROLD MACMILLAN AT BARNSTAPLE "WARSHIP WEEK"

Mr. Harold Macmillan, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, speaking at a Barnstaple "Warship Week" meeting today (Saturday March 14) said he had served 21 months at the Ministry of Supply and about a month at the Colonial Office.

"At the Ministry of Supply", he said, "I served three chiefs - Herbert Morrison, Sir Andrew Duncan and Lord Beaverbrook.

"They were all fine chiefs to work under. Men of different types: representative of the whole Empire.

"The first was a Cockney, the second a Lowland Scot, the third a Canadian.

"And you could tell it quite easily by the way they talked.

"Mr. Morrison started work not too early but worked rather late. Sir Andrew started work very early but left off at a reasonable time. Lord Beaverbrook worked all round the clock and you could not call your soul your own.

"The three Ministers differed in tradition, back-ground - language even - and method.

"But they had one thing in common. No politics; while they held their great office at Shell Mex House, while they had the high and inspiring goal of more and more production before them, they left politics behind them.

"They had one similarity. Similarity of purpose.

"The purpose was to get on with the job"

Speaking of production, Mr. Macmillan declared: "The revolution in the output of our commercial concerns has been wide and arresting. Ammunition and components now flow forth from factories once engaged in the peaceful tasks of making kitchen pots and pans. Firstwhile vacuum cleaner manufacturers now make anti-submarine instruments. Bombs, aircraft components and similar products devised to give the enemy a hot time, now come from former makers of refrigerating equipment."

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