The Tories: Conservatives And The Nation State, 1922-1997

Alan Clark

The Tories is Alan Clark's personal account of the modern Conservatives, who for the better part of this century have been the governing political party of Britain. During this period the country has fallen in stature, both comparative and absolute, by virtually every criterion of measurement which can be applied. Yet the Conservative Party's primary objective, or so it claims and its supporters believe, is to advance and protect the interests of the British Nation State. In The Tories he shows how the apparent interest of the Nation State seems often to have been neglected, but that Conservatives, with the sole exception of the first Churchill premiership, perceived its real interest differently as being best served, above all other considerations, by the perpetuation of the party in office. The most conservative states in the U.S. are known for their low tax rates and limited government regulations. Tennessee has no state income tax and some of the lowest property taxes in the nation. The state offsets these low taxes with higher sales taxes, and as a result, a significant percentage of Tennessee's taxes are actually paid by nonresidents. Memphis, Nashville, and Knoxville are all popular tourist areas that help bring in out-of-state dollars. Tennessee is also a right-to-work state, and as of 2018, only 5.7 percent of its workers are members of a union. The state is known for its conservative culture, with 42 percent of residents identifying as conservative (the national average is 3 For the better part of this century the Conservatives have been the governing political party of Britain. During that period the country has fallen in stature by virtually every criterion of measurement which can be applied. Yet the primary objective of the Conservative Party, or so it claims and its supporters believe, is to advance and protect the interests of the British Nation-State. How are we to understand its catastrophic and repetitious failure, over practically the whole of this period, to achieve that objective?