THE INTERNATIONAL CHURCHILL SOCIETY
A non-profit association of scholars, historians, philatelists, collectors and bibliophiles, the Society was founded in 1968 to promote interest in and knowledge of the life and thought of Sir Winston Churchill, and to preserve his memory. ICS is certified as a tax-free charity under Section 501(c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code, is Affiliate #49 of the American Philatelic Society, and is a study unit of the American Topical Association. Finest Hour subscriptions are included in a membership fee, which offers several levels of support in four different currencies. Membership applications and changes of address welcomed at the business office listed on page 3. 

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COVER
Robert Hardy in "Winston Churchill," a 90-minute presentation broadcast over American public television on 18 June. First in a series (to be followed by "Eisenhower" this winter), it was produced by The Susskind Company for WNET/New York, and underwritten by a grant from General Dynamics. This is the fourth time Robert Hardy has appeared in Churchill films: twice as WSC (here and in "The Wilderness Years"); once as the stern headmaster of St. George's School (in "Young Winston"); once as von Ribbentrop (in "The Gathering Storm," starring Richard Burton as WSC). Our three reviews, each written without knowledge of the others, reach remarkable agreement (page 6).

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Thoughts and Adventures

ICS RAISES $11,000 FOR 1986 AND IS STILL GOING

As you will read in detail overleaf, a phenomenal response to our 1986 fund appeal has produced $11,000 for the Churchill Literary Foundation and our autumn recruitment campaign. As author of "The Letter," I can add little here — but I must record my profound thanks to all who contributed.

At the "high end" of the scale we are right on target: we asked for 25 people to contribute a total of $8000 — and as of 26 June that's exactly what we had. Our shortfall is among smaller donors: we need 30, 50 and 100 members to donate, $100, $50 and $25 respectively. The figures to date are 7, 9 and 18 respectively. So we are still about $5000 short of our goal. If you thought that $25 or $50 was insignificant, think again! We appreciate everyone's help, at whatever level they feel able. See p4 — and thank you.

Last Call for Vancouver

This is our last chance to urge you to join us at the Society's Annual General Meeting in Vancouver, to welcome distinguished speakers James Humes and William Manchester. On October 4-6th, with the aspens turning gold, in one of the most beautiful cities in North America, I can't understand how you could miss it. Register now, if you haven't already, for a memorable experience.

Editorial Style (Again)

"There even are places where English completely disappears," quoth Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady — "In America they haven't used it for years." With our editorial content divided 50-50 between copy originating in the USA and the Commonwealth, I always feel as if Professor Higgins is sneering at my unending contretypes: When copy is set, do we use English-English or Yank-English? When we publish a Canadian, do we do so in British or Americanese? Of course I know the Aussies speak Australasian.

Our previous rule was English-English when a Commonwealth person was quoted, but Yank-English otherwise. But this required me, for example, to translate John Plumpton's column into American — for (I finally decided) no good reason. Henceforth, a new rule of style: we typeset what we get! If it comes in English-English, that is what you will read, and vice-versa.

"Churchill: An Uncomfortable Hero"

Secretary Weinberger's moving address is now being sent to all contributors to the 1986 fund drive plus all ICS members, patron and above. See next page for the status of our drive and how you can help put us over the top.

In This Issue

Wallace Johnson is back with Son of "Bibliomania," one of the most popular articles we have ever published. We are equally pleased to present Representative Jim Courter's brilliantly researched paper, "Sir Winston's Wisdom and SDI," which will be followed later this year by a thought-provoking study by Clark Clifford, on the meaning of the 1946 "Sinews of Peace" speech — and another by Professor Raymond Callahan, on the modern tendency to quote Churchill "both to validate and to condemn," not necessarily in context.

Recognizing that these will be controversial topics, we label them as opinions, and welcome for publication the views and comments of readers.

The editor's contributions are always first to be bumped but — so help me - "Churchill and the Baltic" will appear in the next issue.
ONLY $5000 TO GO . . .

Westfield, New Jersey, June 20th — George A. Lewis, general treasurer, reports that, as a result of our 1986 fund appeal sent to all USA members, the International Churchill Society has raised over $11,000.

Proceeds will be set aside to launch the Churchill Literary Foundation, and to finance a $16,000 direct mail campaign for 3000 new ICS members in September.

"The response is wonderful — and still not over," Lewis says. "We are so encouraged by our members' generosity. We have already heard from over 16% of the USA membership; the average gift is $150, and five members have contributed $500 each. All funds are being set aside in a special, high-interest account for these special purposes."

The Churchill Literary Foundation has five goals: (1) encouraging the return of Sir Winston's vanished books to print; (2) helping finance publication of worthwhile Churchill-related works which might otherwise not appear, notably the 1940-1965 Companion (Document) Volumes to the Official Biography; (3) Publication of specialized works of importance, including the newly released "Churchill: An Uncomfortable Hero" by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger; (4) a bequest department to channel important book collections to needy institutions; and (5) a computerized Concordance, indexing all of Churchill's spoken and written words.

Our September membership campaign will target 30,000 potential new members, who will receive materials describing the Society and its activities. If this project is successful, a further 250,000 potential members will be contacted.

The campaign will start in the United States, but a similar effort will follow in the Commonwealth, Canada being the next nation involved. (Canada Office director George Temple says that approval of ICS as a charitable organisation in Canada is now imminent. UK and Australia are to follow.)

The letter of appeal by chairman of the board Richard M. Langworth, was sent mainly to USA members, "because I don't feel comfortable asking for financial support in countries where we do not as yet have tax-deductible status. With similar status published in book form.

(The Weinberger work will be supplied automatically to all ICS honorary, patron and life members.)

Please help us to meet our goal — we are so close! Send your gift to ICS, 268 Canterbury Road, Westfield NJ 07090 (fully deductible from US income tax).

OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE . . . to the following members who have thus far given or pledged their support:

Benefactors: Donald Carmichael, Richard Fisher, Ambassador Paul Robinson, Jr., Wm. Ivès, Wm. R. Schulz.

Supporters: Michael Altenburger, Herbert Benn, Michael Close, Dr. Gordon Cohen, Peter Coombs, Dr. Will Fleming, Jr., Mat Fox, David & Wm. Freeman, Dr. Herbert Goldberg, David Handley, Yvonne Henry, William Ivès, Wallace Johnson, Richard Langworth, John Marek, John David Marshall, Gordon Nettleton, Betty & Joseph Newfield, Jon Richardson, Dr. S.M. Saravay, Dr. Jeffrey Satinover, J. Benedict, Sir Winston S. Churchill Society of Vancouver, Reese Taylor, Tim Terry, Peter Travers.


Pledges Received (Pending Canada Charitable Status): Lt. John Grodzinski, George Temple, F. Bart Watt.

"WILDERNESS YEARS—RERUN 24 AUG."

Boston, Mass., USA, August 24th - Public television station WGBH announces a rerun of "Churchill: The Wilderness Years" starring Robert Hardy on "Masterpiece Theater," commencing Sunday 24 August for eight consecutive Sundays. Favorably
reviewed in *Finest Hour* 38 (p.8), this is one of the most accurate portrayals ever filmed. Those who missed it will want to have their telly (and VCR) at the ready.

"CHURCHILL: A LEGEND IN MUSIC"

Ipswich, Suffolk, UK, June 5th

Member Judith Rogers has sent the Society the majestic score of "A Legend in Music of the Life and Times of Sir Winston," written by her husband under the pseudonym N.H. Rutherlyn. The work was orchestrated by Derek Barnes; it was presented to Lady Churchill, and then into the care of the Churchill Memorial Trust by her in the autumn of 1974. A dramatic portion of this work, the "Churchill March," was selected by Mrs. Thatcher for inclusion in the 8 May 1985 Westminster Abbey services in commemoration of V-E Day. ICS hopes some day to sponsor the presentation of the full symphony, which has never been performed in its entirety. What a dramatic experience it would be to hear it played in the Royal Festival or Albert Halls...

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers emphasize that this work is non-commercial, and that any profit derived therefrom is to be passed to the Forces Benevolent Funds.

The "Churchill March" has been issued as both an LP recording and tape cassette, and is available to ICS members. If you wish to obtain a copy, please send a postcard stating which copies of the "80th Birthday Tribute to Sir Winston Churchill," a limited, morocco-bound edition of the Randolph Churchill/Helmut Gernsheim *Churchill: A Life in Photos* (Redburn 70), bearing WSC's "signature," are probable forgeries. Though "theoretically published here, they were in fact distributed from a London address by a friend of mine who has since disappeared," Lord Montagu writes. "I confess I am very embarrassed by the whole matter, as there is no doubt in my mind that these signatures are faked and it was certainly done without my authority or knowledge."

Two such copies surfaced this year, one bearing the (genuine) signature of Lady Churchill, both bearing a WSC "signature" in what looks suspiciously like felt-tip. The WSC inscription appears to be copied from the facsimile signature in gilt on the book's covers. Lord Montagu and the editor hope that anyone encountering one of these forgeries will advise us.

**STELLA MARKS**

London, 25 November 1985 — Australian-born Stella Marks, whose ivory miniatures included Sir Winston and the Royal Family, died today aged 97. Her first royal miniature was of Princess Patricia of Connaught, painted in 1909. Sir Winston always carried on his wartime journeys a miniature of his daughter Mary, painted by Mrs. Marks in 1941. Stella Marks was made an MVO in 1978.

**LENEHAN TEACHES CHURCHILL**

Philadelphia, 11 November 1985 — Member Jim Lenehan, a prominent Churchill book collector, led two five-week adult education courses last autumn, entitled "World War II" and "Winston Churchill." The courses were taught by Jim at Conestoga High School in Berwyn, Pennsylvania.

"The Churchill course had about 16 people," Jim writes. "They enjoyed it, but it is hard to cover WSC in five 90-minute sessions." The course sketched WSC's career from the late 19th century "little wars" through the Dardanelles and WW2.

**100 CHURCHILL FELLOWSHIPS**

London, February 17th — A deaf and blind motor mechanic, a goat-keeper, a metallurgist and a textile researcher were among 100 successful applicants for 1986 Churchill traveling fellowships. The first-mentioned, Mr. Graham Hicks, 24, will travel in Canada and the U.S. to study services for deaf/blind people. The goat-keeper is Mrs. Mary McCallum of Grampian, Scotland, 46, who will travel to New Zealand to examine the production of mohair from Angora goats. Applicants for the annual awards, now in their 21st year, had to propose study projects related to their profession or interests, and to show that they could make use of their newly acquired experience on their return to Britain.

**V-SIGN ANTECEDENT**

Los Angeles, March 12th — Captain T. Barrett-Archeacon, MBE, MC, President of the British United Services Club, informed newspapers of the origin of WSC's V-sign: "At Agincourt, outnumbering the English, Charles d'Albert, confident of victory, threatened to cut off the first two fingers of the right hand of the English archers (who happened to be Welshmen) so that they would never again be able to draw the string of a longbow.

"After the battle, as Charles led away the remnants of his defeated army, the Welsh archers raised their first two fingers" to taunt the enemy. "It was this defiant gesture that was used by Sir Winston Churchill and was commonly referred to as a victory sign. He was a great student of history."

**LONDON WALKING TOUR**

London, July 1st — Visitors who prefer to see London on foot may like to join one of the walking tours organised by Alex and Peggy Cobban, professional guides. They offer one tour centered around Churchill's life and times, covering most places in central London associated with WSC. The fee is modest, with reduced rates for students and seniors: children under 16 are free, so long as they are supervised. Details are available from Discovering London, 11 Pennyfields, Warley, Brentwood, Essex CM14 5JP, telephone Brentwood (0277) 213704.

—James Bell

**EMANUEL SHINWELL, R.I.P.**


—National Review

**ICS CHAPTER ORGANIZERS . . .**

It is easy and rewarding to organize a local chapter or branch of ICS. The ICS Chapter Plan, available to anyone interested, provides hints on events that most attract people, what to do, when to hold one, and how to notify members. Although the ICS membership list as a whole is confidential, we are always pleased to supply names and addresses of members in your area, either for personal contacts or organizing events.

If you are interested, please contact either USA chapter coordinator David Sampson, 5603 Honey Locust Trail, Arlington Texas 76017. Or, in the UK, Canada or Australia, contact your local office (see directory, p. 3).
Television: An approximate 'Reincarnation

Robert Hardy
As Winston Churchill

THREE REVIEWS, WRITTEN INDEPENDENTLY

ROBERT H. PILPEL: A REASONABLE FACSIMILE?

ANY ACTOR who undertakes to portray a famous historical figure sets himself a formidable task, an all but impossible task if the portrayal takes the form of a one-man show. The line between impersonation and caricature is difficult to tread under the best of circumstances, but when one must tread it alone on a stage for the best part of 90 minutes, and be entertaining into the bargain, authenticity or dramatic effect, or both, will suffer. How much they suffer depends on how finely attuned the actor is to the personality of the historical figure he is portraying. Hal Holbrook's rendition of Mark Twain shows that they need not suffer much. Robert Hardy's rendition of Churchill shows that they can suffer acutely.

I do not wish to "trash" Mr. Hardy's performance; it is a sincere and well-meaning attempt. And Mr. Hardy is by no means an incapable actor. His problem is that he has chosen to focus on Churchill's public persona in the United States to the virtual exclusion of most of the more fascinating aspects of his personality. In Mr. Hardy we see Churchill the puckish, the tenacious, the affectionate, the Anglo-American. What we do not see, nor even glimpse, is the Churchill of "the black dog," the Churchill of Lord Moran's diaries, the Churchill of Chartwell, the Churchill of the Dardanelles. Sir Winston was a great man not only because he rallied the English-speaking Peoples in their hour of greatest peril, but because he rallied himself from depression and repeated defeat in spite of the terrible psychological scars he carried with him from childhood.

To those of us in the Churchill Society, Mr. Hardy's one-dimensional portrayal of the "Finest Hour" Winston, who was but a part of the multifaceted person we venerate, must inevitably prove unsatisfying.

RUSSELL JONES: TOO MANY OLD CHESTNUTS

THE SETTING is a lecture hall somewhere in the United States in the summer of 1946. The live studio audience sees before it on the stage a desk, two chairs, a pitcher of water, glasses and an ashtray. On the wall behind the desk, American (48 star) and British flags flank a portrait of George Washington.

Dressed in a cutaway coat, striped trousers, waistcoat with gold watchchain and polka dot bow tie, carrying cane and hat, Winston Churchill is impersonated by Robert Hardy, who portrayed him in the earlier "Wilderness Years" series (Finest Hour 38). He is on a lecture tour, and has just delivered the famous "Sinews of Peace" speech at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri.

For an hour and a half with one intermission (just after Munich), and three breaks during which he responds to questions submitted by the audience, Hardy/Churchill recounts and reflects on his private life and public career, in phrases extracted from WSC's writings and speeches, and contemporaries' accounts. James Humes, the well-known Churchill impersonator, has extracted the Churchillian passages and linked them with his own narrative. So the audience and television viewers see Hardy impersonating Churchill and hear Churchill's words, selected by Humes and delivered by Hardy. The result, according to the introductory blurb, is "a portrayal of one man's courage and leadership."

Some utterances, delivered in the famous "bulldoggery" style (the word is Lady Soames') do express those values, such as (to Chamberlain after Munich), "You have chosen dishonour, and you will get war;" or from the magnificent speeches of 1940, "... blood, toil, tears and sweat" and "We shall fight on the beaches..." But many, far too many in my view, are WSC's oft-repeated quips: "If I were your husband [Nancy Astor] I'd drink it [poison] ... I do believe that I am a glow worm...Attacking the canvas..." Some

am more like a flying buttress" ... or the call for a Bolshevik Russia (indeed, except for one harangue whiskey); his first, third and fourth visits to the U.S.; the "Black Dog;" his illnesses; his love of Harrovian cant experiences in his public and private life, such as repeated as a remedy for his lisp.

I would have preferred some other quotes, such as: "I shall drag the United States into the war" [to Randolp, 1940] ... or, to Leo Amery on Winston's 1929 voyage to America, that evidence for the existence of Hell is the necessity of a place for Lenin and Trotsky ... or (when asked if he was a pillar of the church), "I am more like a flying buttress" ... or the call for a peacet ime Anglo-American alliance, the real appeal in the "Iron Curtain" speech ... or "the Spanish ships I cannot see for they are out of sight" — a phrase to be repeated as a remedy for his lisp.

"Churchill" ignores what I would regard as significant experiences in his public and private life, such as the "Black Dog;" his illnesses; his love of Harrovian songs; his "buccaneer" friends; the Boer War (here mentioned only as when he learned to appreciate whiskey); his first, third and fourth visits to the U.S.; his ministries before 1911; his "private war" against Bolshevist Russia (indeed, except for one harangue against socialism and the "Iron Curtain," one would never know of Winston's anti-communism); the 1926 General Strike and the British Gazette; writing his histories (his profession as a writer receives scant attention); his wartime meetings with Stalin, FDR and DeGaulle (although the "burden of the Cross of Lor raine" is duly uttered.) In short, the quote selections reinforce the popular stereotype of Churchill.

More seriously, some of Hardy's lines distort the facts. For example, Hardy/Churchill says his despatches from the Sudan were published in the "Morning Telegraph (not Morning Post):" that he and Lloyd George were the "Bobbsey Twins" (not "Heavenly Twins") of social reform; that he "scraped the dreadnoughts" as First Lord of the Admiralty; that his memo of 1910 (not 1911 as stated) accurately foretold the course of the First World War; that Kitchener's delay in sending troops caused the Dardanelles tragedy; that it was Lloyd George (not Free Trade) who "charmed" Winston away from the Conservatives; that he resigned as Chancellor in 1929 because he was "tired of being made a scapegoat for the Depression;" that a fog (not Hitler's order to halt) permitted the miracle of Dunkirk. Finally, a minor but jarring inconsistency: Hardy/Churchill, in 1946, uses words, to describe his feelings between 1937-1945, that he had not yet written.

Like James Whitmore's Harry S. Truman, Hardy/ Churchill will certainly help fix even more securely an historical myth in the popular imagination.

Russell Jones is a Professor of History at Westminster College, Fulton, Missouri.

RICHARD M. LANGWORTH:

IT'S NOT WINSTON, BUT IT'S HUMAN

SIR JOHN GIELGUD, who ought to know better, leads it off, sending me scrambling for a notepad: "Just after the end of World War II, Churchill was voted out of office." (Wrong: the war was still on.) "He found himself without any immediate means." (Wrong: the advances on his war memoirs were enormous, and in August 1946 a group of his friends relieved him of the cost burden of Chartwell.)

"And so he embarked on a lecture tour of America," Gielgud continues. "This is what you might have seen if you were seated in the audience in Los Angeles, Chicago or Kansas City." (Wrong and wrong again. Churchill's final lecture tour was in 1931. In America in 1946, he gave the Iron Curtain speech in Fulton, addressed the Virginia Assembly, made three other short appearances and went home. Seated in an audience in LA or Chicago or Kansas City, you'd have been more likely to have seen the McGuire Sisters.)

I have seen this performance three times now, thanks to an advance tape kindly sent us by the sponsors. The first time I almost got up and left my own TV set. By round three, the edges had blurred and the rough spots had smoothed, and I began enjoying it. It is probable that I am far too close to my subject. Furthermore, all those involved in "Churchill" are such nice people that I hesitate to complain.

As Lady Soames reminded us at Dallas last February, however, the International Churchill Society has a responsibility "to keep the memory green and the record accurate." Finest Hour is better equipped to do that job than any other publication; what is more, our readers expect it.

This reviewer's problem with "Churchill" is twofold: (1) it plants an inaccurate image of WSC in the mind of the average viewer: (2) it is laced with errors that could easily have been avoided, the correction of which would have lost none of the drama and warm humanity which are its most admirable features.

Churchill never "delivered a series of informal talks across America" in 1946, as the press packet baldly states. So why say he did? Why not admit, as writer James Humes carefully said, that this is a composite picture, drawn from WSC's writings? (The latter is one of its problems, however: Churchill did not speak as he wrote.)

Churchill made it a rule, when abroad, never to criticise his political opponents at home. Why then cast him in an ill-suited role as stand-up comic, stump ing America to deliver one-liners about "sheep in sheep's clothing" (which, if he said it at all, was said about Attlee, not Ramsay MacDonald as the performance has it).

Hardy deserves full marks for holding an audience — dressed in 1986 clothes and responding with hearty laughter — as long as he does. (Both he and Humes..."
had wanted only 60 minutes, but the sponsor insisted on 90. One of the problems of public television is that it must rely on sponsors, who have no business determining program lengths.) Hardy has Churchill's mannerisms down to a "T" and of all "Winstons" his is still the most convincing. But the first reaction of anyone moderately steeped in facts is that this Winston is a vulgar caricature, exercising — in 1946 of all years — an inappropriate degree of levity.

Is the truth so boring that it cannot govern the character? Churchill would not have joked about his childhood trauma, his being seen as dunce and wastrel by his father. He would never have claimed that Victorian Britain "ruled all India," or called his Army assignment there "a life sentence . . . east of nowhere." He would not have said that the Coalition lost the 1922 election because of, but in spite of, his work over the Near East and Ireland. He would not have called Jock Colville "Jack," or made the remark about Montgomery ("in victory insufferable") to a public audience. He would not have pronounced the scene of his 1915 political downfall as "Gall-i-PO-li."

Most particularly, he would not have said he resigned as Chancellor of the Exchequer because of the Tory appeasers — because such a thing never happened. Churchill departed as Chancellor, before and not after the Depression, because the Conservatives lost the Spring 1929 election — long before Hitler came to power.

I will not bore you with my two pages of noted inaccuracies, but here are some of the more crucial: At Malakand, Winston says, "the whole company was ambushed — except me." In the Sudan, he says he wrote for the "Morning Telegraph" (accomplishing an attractive but un factual merger between Morning Post and Daily Telegraph), about dervishes nicknamed "whirling" because of the way they twirled their sabres. In Parliament he says, "I made my oath to Queen Victoria and took my seat in October 1900." (He made his oath to King Edward VII and took his seat on 14 February 1901.) He says he proposed to Clementine "in a gazebo;" that he heard the news broadcast about Pearl Harbor in Downing Street. (It was the Temple of Diana and Chequers, respectively.) His famous aside, "Whatever happens at Dunkirk we shall fight on," was delivered in the Cabinet Room at Downing Street, not in a speech to the House of Commons. After Pearl Harbor he says he sailed for New York — what he did was sail to the Chesapeake, and fly into Washington from Hampton Roads. Why couldn't all this have been looked up?

There are certain quotes taken from other people: "Always give the train a sporting chance to get away" was said by Clementine, not Winston. "That dear and excellent woman," was said by Gibbon, whom WSC quoted. "When all save Englishmen despaired of England's life" was said in 1963 by President Kennedy. "Embalm, cremate and bury," referring to taking no chances, was said, as far as I know, to this Society by Anthony Montague Browne at the Savoy last September. (On the same occasion, Anthony said of the alleged remark about the traditions of the Royal Navy, "rum, sodomy and flogging," that WSC "liked it, but he had never said it.")

Many of the quotes that can be traced to Churchill are misplaced. "Shot at without result" was said about Cuba, not Malakand. "Boneless wonder" (singular) was a blast at Ramsay MacDonald, not the Tory appeasers.

Other quotes are vaguely familiar but hopelessly muddled: "They asked what my program would be — I told them Victory" . . . "Give us your faith and your trust" (the word was "blessing"). And some are far wide of the mark: "like a bull who carries his own china shop with him" was said about Dulles in the 1950s, not the State Department in the 1940s. When King George summoned Churchill in 1940 he said, "I want to ask you to form a Government," not "take over the Government" — there is a difference.

Enough is enough: the reader will understand why this reviewer was disappointed. But then I played the tape again, and a third time for the purposes of this review — and began to see a more balanced picture, probably the one drawn by the majority of viewers. With all its flaws and inaccuracies, the performance brings out the greatest characteristic of Winston Churchill: that essential humanity which continues to make him different from other world leaders past and present.

James Humes says it best: "What is important for us to know today is that Churchill told his audiences not what they wanted to hear but what he wanted them to hear." And Sir John Gielgud, making up for his introduction, closes the show with words to remember: "Churchill was as ordinary as any of us — and as extraordinary as any of us can hope to be."
Memories, memories: Forty years on.
Any one who worked for Sir Winston Churchill must have clear memories of that time and that man. Mr. Churchill, as we called him in war days, was one who demanded singleminded devotion to duty from his staff, both of the household and of the office, and in general this was willingly and gladly given. The Master was one who inspired loyalty among his group, and though at times his demands on their time and energies might have seemed unreasonable, a real affection for him made them glad to do their best.

During the years when I was on his staff there was need for the utmost responsibility on the part of all concerned. Documents of the highest secrecy had naturally to be dealt with, and future plans involving many lives discussed. At meals the household staff could have picked up many bits of interesting or secret information, had they been so minded. Hurtful personal remarks could have been made to the wrong quarter. Careless talk could have been most costly to the war. However I do not think any instance of disloyalty, leakage, carelessness or irresponsibility took place. The group surrounding Mr. Churchill were devoted, their loyalty was indisputable, and they worked with all they had to offer, in his interest and for his cause.

Loyalty is a very wonderful quality, and I am sure that such feelings in the staff were reinforced by the loyalty which Mr. Churchill himself always showed toward them. Once accepted as a member of his staff, one would not be pushed off; one's errors might be pointed out with vehemence, but they would soon be forgiven; one's efforts on his behalf were appreciated, in the long run. Indeed I think he became attached to his staff, and in general he greatly disliked changes.

Mr. Churchill's personal detective, Inspector Thompson, had been in his service for many years, since long before war days; had been to America with him; had stayed at his side through good times and bad. During the war, perhaps at the beginning of 1944, he had to leave his post for personal reasons, much to his disappointment. But when the time for Victory in Europe came, Mr. Churchill called him back to service for a week or so, knowing how he would be feeling at that time, and as the Master drove through London amid scenes of great happiness, relief and gratitude, Inspector Thompson rode in the front of his car.

Another instance of Mr. Churchill's loyalty to his staff occurred on V.E. night, 8 May 1945 when, after dinner, we in the office heard that the Prime Minister and various members of his Government would appear on the balcony of the Ministry of Health building, overlooking Whitehall and Parliament Square, to speak to the crowds. I was able to find my way from the Annexe office, through a maze of corridors and steps, to this balcony, where I occupied the smallest scrap of space on the extreme end, and was thus able to witness the quite extraordinary scene of this huge crowd filling the space below, addressed by Mr. Churchill and roaring their delight, joy and thanks to him.

As I was leaving the scene there arrived dear old Mrs. Landemare, the Churchills' cook throughout the war, who had been unable to leave her kitchen sooner and had thus battled her way through those corridors too late to see the fun. Mr. Churchill, full of the moment of triumph, was just going off with his Ministers, but on seeing her he broke away from them, came and shook her hand and thanked her for having looked after him so well through those years. When he had gone she turned to me almost in tears, and said that being spoken to like that meant much more to her than just seeing the crowds.

Mr. Churchill did not let one down — and I have always hoped that those who lived close to him would do the same for him, each in his own way. I think we are fortunate that two writers of the stature and integrity of Martin Gilbert and Sir John Colville should have contributed so significantly to recording his life. I personally feel very grateful to them — and less than grateful to those who have tried to "make interesting books" by "seeing him from all sides" — sometimes through distorting mirrors it seems.

I hate the expression "warts and all." It has sometimes been said to me: "But surely you are just remembering the good things — can't you be more objective about him?" My answer: "When one thinks of what Mr. Churchill did, what he actually achieved, he alone, for his country and for the world, then I think he deserves our loyalty and not our criticism nor our assessments nor our judgments. Let us remember Winston Churchill and be grateful."*

Elizabeth Layton Nel was one of Sir Winston's wartime secretaries, and is author of the charming Mr. Churchill's Secretary (London, H&S; New York, Coward-McCann, 1958, Redburn 280). An ICS member, she resides in Port Elizabeth, South Africa.
Opinion:
Sir Winston's Wisdom and SDI
The "Comber" Always Gets Through

BY REPRESENTATIVE JIM COURTER

PUBLIC MEN and scholars of both American political parties have always thought it impressive to quote Sir Winston Churchill, whose passing we observed for the 21st time last January.

Ongoing debate over the Strategic Defense Initiative provides a good opportunity for asking whether we learned from him, or just honor his name.

Churchill would have taken a keen interest in the way "Star Wars" discussions center on the issue of technical capabilities. Today, almost everyone believes that a 10-year-old ICBM can leap upward at the touch of a button, fly many thousands of miles guided only by its pre-set mechanical directors, and detonate within a few thousand yards of its target. This is readily presumed. Yet many laymen and scientists alike cannot imagine that any means can be found to deflect or destroy an ICBM on its long and very regular flight path.

Five decades ago, Churchill was wrestling with a similar incongruity in British thinking. The European world of the 1930s lived in fear of the bombing plane. Air war was the staggering, incomprehensible new danger. Men's minds were pained by scenarios in which squadrons of long-range flying machines loosed explosives of unprecedented power on whatever urban or military targets they chose from whatever altitude they found convenient.

True, a defender might build fighter planes, but never enough; the attacker could deploy his own fighters to protect his ordnance carriers. Thus did a most terrifying vision become the common assumption of commentators of the 1930s: "the bomber will always get through."

It was Stanley Baldwin, soon to become prime minister of Britain, who made that phrase famous. On 10 November 1932, he spoke to an approving House of Commons: "I think it is well for the man in the street to realise that there is no power on Earth which can protect him from being bombed. Whatever people may tell him, the bomber will always get through. . . . The only defence is in offense, which means that you have to kill more women and children more quickly than the enemy if you want to save yourselves. . . . When the next war comes and European civilisation is wiped out, as it will be . . ."

Here was the precursor of our contemporary doctrine of "Mutual Assured Destruction." The fear was tangible and deep-running; the absence of any defensive military solution was marked. The only answer seemed to be in round after round of disarmament talks carried on year after year in Geneva, just as they are today.

Churchill was troubled by the expectations these meetings of ministers in Switzerland generated. The hope of "poor good people" is unfailing, he said. "The [arms talks] process is apparently endless, and so is the pathetic belief with which it is inevitably greeted."

Disarmament was simply not practicable in Europe then, Churchill believed. Britain had in part already disarmed, with no discernible benefit to the world. France could not possibly risk disarming, nor did the small republics of Central Europe want her to. Germany's interest was in more armament, not less.

What Winston Churchill advocated instead was defense: by fighter aircraft, by anti-aircraft guns, by as yet unconceived ground-based "appliances" — defense by any necessary means and at any necessary price. His arguments, made steadily over many years and in the face of constant ridicule, would ring so true and seem so telling once war began. They are of more than antiquarian interest today in an age of ICBMs:

"The flying peril is not a peril from which one can fly. It is necessary to face it where we stand. We cannot possibly retreat. We cannot move London. We cannot move the vast population. . . . We cannot move the naval bases. . . . [Therefore] it would be a great mistake to neglect the scientific side of . . . purely defensive action. Certainly nothing is more necessary, not only to this country but to all peace-loving and peace-interested powers . . . than that the good old Earth should acquire some means or method of destroying sky marauders."

Churchill, one of the earliest sport-flying enthusiasts, was notably unimpressed by educated
estimations of the improbability of discovering defenses against air attack:

"My experience — and it is somewhat considerable — is that in these matters when the need is clearly explained by military and political authorities science is always able to provide something. 'Seek and ye shall find' has been borne out. We were told that it was impossible to grapple with submarines, but methods were found which enable us to strangle the submarine below the water, a problem not necessarily harder than that of clawing down marauding aeroplanes. Many things which were attempted in the war we were told were technically impossible, but... science responded to the demand."

Churchill commenced a lengthy collaboration with an Oxford professor of experimental science, F.A. Lindemann. "The Prof held that a "defeatist attitude" was scientifically unjustified: "To every mode of attack an antidote has been found," he wrote to Churchill after hearing Baldwin speak. "Why should this be the sole exception?" Dr. Lindemann became an untiring advocate in the face of official reluctance and disbelief. He assisted in the invention of radar, and of aluminum stripping called "window" which could be dropped to deceive radar. He worked on means of "bending" the directional beams that raiding German bombers would use to find their English targets.

Churchill himself urged a rethinking of defensive technologies like anti-aircraft guns. In 1935 he reminded his colleagues in the House that an enormous number of shells had been fired at airplanes without effect during the Great War:

"In consequence, anti-aircraft artillery has been generally discredited, but I think it worthwhile to pursue that study carefully... After all, an aeroplane, though a very formidable engine of war, is also a very fragile structure, and an explosive charge no bigger than a cigar is sufficient to bring down the most powerful aeroplane."

One recommendation Churchill made was to blanket a selected area with a number of shells fired at the same time, which of course is what would soon be done, with success. Prof. Lindemann helped create the proximity fuse and the photoelectric cell which caused a shell to explode as it passed near its objective. In later years and from other hands there would come the guided anti-aircraft missile, a theoretically lethal answer to almost any winged bombing platform. Today, one over harassed civilisation, no one can pretend that by any measures which we could take it would be possible to give absolute protection against an aggressor dropping bombs on this island and killing a great many unarmed men, women, and children. No government can be asked to guarantee absolute immunity... It is certainly in our power, however, if we act in time to guard ourselves, first of all, from a mortal blow which would compel us to capitulate; and, secondly, it is in our power, I firmly believe, to make it extremely unlikely that we should be attacked, or that we should be attacked by this particular method of terrorizing the civil population by the slaughter of non-combatants, which, to the shame of the 20th century, we are now forced to discuss as a practical issue."

So strong was Churchill’s faith in the reasonableness of all nations concentrating on defense against attack from the air that he imagined something nearly as remarkable as that which SDI inspired in President Reagan: the inventor nation could even share the defensive technology with prospective enemies:

"Every single nation in the world has an interest in this. I wonder that the League of Nations at Geneva does not offer an enormous monetary prize to incite inventors of all countries to discover ways of downing the marauding aeroplane... Every country would feel safer... and the haunting fears and suspicions which are leading nations nearer and nearer to the brink of another catastrophe would be abated."

Churchill's conclusion, expressed in a speech on "Air Defense Research" on June 7, 1935, recommends itself to us today as surely as history would demonstrate its truth in 1940:

"This matter should receive and command the vigorous thoughts of the greatest men in our country and in our government, and should be pressed forward by every resource that the science of Britain can apply and the wealth of the country can liberate."

I believe Churchill would have been pleased when, on 6 December last year, Britain signed a formal agreement to participate in continued on page 20
Several years have passed since I first began my correspondence with Churchill bibliophiles to learn about their collections, personalities and peculiarities. "Bibliomania and the Literary Churchill," which appeared in Finest Hour #49, developed from my correspondence with Richard Langworth, Ron Cohen, Tom Thomas, Mat Fox and Bill Schulz. Each shared with me an enthusiasm for book collecting, and a passion for Sir Winston Churchill's memory and work.

I have since discovered what I always suspected: We do not stand alone. Many others from diverse regions in the English-speaking world share our enthusiasm. I was fortunate to develop friendships with many of them, through correspondence resulting from the appearance of that first article.

Much progress has been made during the past year to advance the study of Sir Winston and to perpetuate his literary works. Richard Langworth labors tirelessly to establish the Churchill Literary Foundation. Ron Cohen is indefatigable in moving toward a new Churchill Bibliography (FH51 p. 12).

Other things remain unchanged. Ron Cohen is still making movies. Omaha remains primarily known for cattle, corn and Indians.

Other constants in this changeable world are the thoughts of Sir Winston and the principles that guided his actions. An area of keen interest to me personally is Churchill's analysis of relations with the Soviet Union. Martin Gilbert brilliantly summarized these in "The Origins of the Iron Curtain" speech, the first Crosby Kemper Lecture on 26 April 1981, at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri. Quoting from Sir Winston, he stated:

From what I have seen of our Russian friends and allies during the war, I am convinced that there is nothing they admire so much as strength, and there is nothing for which they have less respect than for weakness, especially military weakness. For that reason the old doctrine of a balance of power is unsound. We cannot afford, if we can help it, to work on narrow margins, offering temptations to a trial of strength. If the Western democracies stand together . . . their influence . . . will be immense, and no one is likely to molest them. If however they become divided or falter in their duty, and if these all-important years are allowed to slip away, then indeed catastrophe may overwhelm us all.

These thoughts bear close scrutiny this year, on the 40th anniversary of Churchill's "Sinews of Peace" speech in Fulton, Missouri, and as relations between the English-speaking world and the USSR evolve during this time of transition in Soviet leadership, and budget-balancing in the United States.

Stimulated by Churchill's charisma and profundity, Ashley Redburn began collecting Churchill books in 1960, with a primary focus on works "about" Sir Winston. He met Churchill personally on Easter Monday in 1940, when Clementine launched the aircraft carrier Indomitable at Barrow-in-Furness. That meeting made Ashley aware of Churchill's genius and inner power: "That really stimulated me to 'follow'
him, and to learn more about him, but the war and my subsequent civilian occupation prevented me from doing much about collecting for some 20 years. A casual reference by 'Peterborough,' the columnist in the *London Daily Telegraph*, directed my attention to the International Churchill Society and subsequent contact with Dal Newfield, who became my inspiration and staunch friend. From then on Churchill really became my life's work, and collecting and study has dominated my existence."

Redburn's bibliographic efforts parallel Ron Cohen's, with Ashley's work appearing in Section 2 of the ICS "Churchill Collectors Handbook." "The compilation of this Bibliography has stimulated me to collect articles about Churchill in periodicals," Ashley says. "There are many hundreds of these, of course, dating from 1900, but often it is possible to obtain only photocopies. I have quite a number of originals, some pre-World War I, and 200-300 in all.

"I suppose, too, that I have about 250 books which contain chapters or sections on Churchill. It may be, of course, that other collectors have neglected this side of Churchilliana — but it is worth pursuing, particularly by 'starters.' The lack of a bibliography so far has deterred those interested."

Tom Goldner, of Clarkston, Michigan, is a collector who has benefited from Redburn's efforts at cataloguing these works. Tom began collecting about ten years ago but, faced with the inevitable obligation to educate his children (a problem I appreciate, supporting as I do three institutions of higher education), has built his collection with a very limited budget. He has capitalized, however, on his visits to Ann Arbor, where his daughter attends the University of Michigan, to scour the bookshops which invariably spring up in most university communities. His collection of Churchill works is about 70 percent complete, but as with most Churchill collections, it can now be expanded significantly by reference to Ashley Redburn's list.

Tom's effort to build a collection on a shoestring is commendable. Few collectors have unlimited resources for book acquisition. I share his excitement when uncovering underpriced treasures. But, it is all too easy to exhaust the resources of your hometown bookstores. Without the opportunity to travel or to establish a working relationship with certain specialized bookdealers, interest in developing a collection will diminish for lack of opportunity to collect.

My own collection this year has benefited from my travels. Recently, in a shop in Ojai, California, I found an excellent copy of *King and Country*, published by Zodiac Books in 1940. It contains Churchill's speech on the return of the *H.M.S. Exeter* after the battle with the *Graf Spee* — which does not appear in the *Complete Speeches* along with other WSC addresses. It cost all of 75 cents! Another bargain was the Heron edition of *My African Journey*, for under $2 in a London shop. I was equally excited (but not about the prices) when I found *Time To be Young* (Lippincott,

George, who spent time on an aircraft carrier during his national service, relates that his interest in Churchill stems from an experience during the Second World War, when he and his mother were billeted during the Blitz — after being evacuated from their home in Glasgow, Scotland — with an amateur phrenologist. This companion, after examining George's cranium, announced it was the same shape as the Prime Minister's! Coupled with his ginger hair, the similarity was complete and, even at this early age, started George on his study of Winston Churchill.

In addition to Churchill's own works, George has concentrated on developing a rounded picture of the man by collecting works written by others in specialized fields, e.g., WSC and the Admirals, the Generals, as a Politician, as a Speaker and so on. He seeks to develop "a statue, rather than a photograph."

Closer to home, and in a region of the United States of which I am very fond, Southern California (Claremont to be exact), is Ray Butterworth — a man of wide literary interests which include many British authors as well as Sir Winston. Ray has reasonably complete collections of R.L. Stevenson, Huxley, E.M. Forster, Iris Murdoch, Muriel Spark, as well as the Americans Thomas Wolfe, Norman Mailer, Gore Vidal, John O'Hara, John Updike and Saul Bellow.

His Churchill collection is modest, however — a decision he claims is both conscious and otherwise. "I always liked books as physical objects — the feel, smell and look of them. When one sets about building an archive as you, Richard and others have done, it strikes me that you might have to watch it self-destruct before your eyes. The process of deacidification becomes current in your vocabulary, and your bookshelves house boxes, envelopes and contrivances to preserve magazines, pamphlets, letters, scraps of this and that. I often am impressed by the wisdom of those who appeased their impulse to collect by fixing upon coins, which appreciate wildly (as in the past few years), rather than deteriorate irresistibly. It is said of a book: three moves is as good as a fire. Some 20 years ago I built in my home in Claremont a library unit with shelves for about 5000 volumes, and its own bath, walk-in closet and storage space.

"Collecting first editions of Winston Churchill I found somewhat difficult and rather costly. I had not started early enough. (Does one ever start collecting an author soon enough, and in enough depth?) There was no adequate bibliography. When I inquired about Sir Winston from British dealers, they didn't appear too interested in my new-found enthusiasm. I soon discovered why — or thought I did. They could more easily find me a copy of T.E. Lawrence's private edition of The Seven Pillars of Wisdom, or Dickens' Pickwick Papers or Bleak House in parts, than they could find a decent copy of Malakand or The River War. I began to develop an idea of which I have never fully freed myself — that scarce titles of certain Churchill items were being put aside for special customers. In time, I found somewhat less-than-great copies of the Malakand and River War, at inflated prices. I tried to impress on two or three dealers that I had "standards," but they would put aside copies that I thought fit to start a blaze in the fireplace.

Ray Butterworth's huge library houses 5000 volumes, contains abundant facilities including a fireplace for those tatty Malakands.

"Thus it has gone. I must admit I haven't pursued Winston Churchill as I have Evelyn Waugh (though here, too, some English gentlemen seemed to have rights de seigneur), though perhaps I should balance the equation by confessing that when I began my Robert Louis Stevenson collection I couldn't seem to get fine letters at auction, or inscribed copies. One day at Yale it all came clear — I was vying for material with that most successful of all Stevenson collections, Beinecke's at Yale.

"By the nature of the beast and as a late-blooming Churchill collector, and also because I had a certain diffidence to empty my purse before the contemptuous (and at the same time pitying) stares of a couple of antiquarian businessmen, I came up empty of first-rate inscribed volumes. From time to time, I would be offered a rather mechanically inscribed Marlborough and others, but I steeled myself to resist.

"Clearly my accumulation of Winston S. Churchill is incomplete and will continue to be, for no Mr.
"Brodrick's Army" is now beckoning me at auction. Also, I collect about 20 authors, some of whom might possibly claim priority.

"I have about as much theory to apply to collecting books as to the stock market — when a dealer offers, either in his catalogue or on his shelves, a book I want at a price suggesting a smidgin of common sense, I try for it. During the stop at Longleat on the 1983 ICS Churchill pilgrimage, the Marquess of Bath (who was showing the group his treasures of the 19th and 20th centuries, and who was reputed to have a fine Churchill collection) asked me what Churchill title I most needed? I made the usual response: *Mr. Brodrick's Army*, and added that I couldn't meet the price, should a copy turn up at Sotheby's or Christie's. Lord Bath responded that if he didn't already have a copy he would have to do without, as he couldn't afford it either. This pleasantry I found most soothing."

Virtually all Churchill collectors are, like Ray Butterworth, people of renaissance interests. A report on these interests would alone make an enjoyable article. Ron Cohen, for example, has a complete "turn of the century" country store assembled in his home. Richard Langworth collects old Lionel trains and automobile license plates. Ray Butterworth is a well-read bookman.

Donald Carmichael, of Buffalo, New York, has likewise broad interests. "My first 'collected' Churchill item is an autograph he sent me dated 1.12.27," Don says, "I was writing to Mr. Churchill for his autograph in connection with a school project, which required seeking the signature of a 'famous' person — reminiscent of the idea expressed by James Boswell speaking to the elder Pitt: 'Honour me now and then with a letter ... to correspond with a Paoli and with a Chatham is enough to keep a young man ever ardent in the pursuit of virtuous fame.' At that time in the middle Twenties, when the project was initiated, I wrote first to Calvin Coolidge at the White House — and received a prompt and courteous reply from him. Without drawing any comparisons, it is interesting to note that the great J. Pierpont Morgan Collection was started when, in 1853, young Morgan wrote to President Millard Fillmore, seeking his autograph.

"As a result of this boyhood project and the fun, knowledge, and enthusiasm that flowed therefrom, I developed a substantial autograph collection of world leaders through direct correspondence. (One chain, lasting for five-plus years on such subjects as the "War Guilt," the Versailles Treaty and the League of Nations, was with the ex-Kaiser, Wilhlem II, in exile at Doom!)

"A nice letter from Governor Franklin D. Roosevelt sparked the start of a major concentration. Around FDR, I have a large collection of books and memorabilia, including several letters to me and many inscribed books written by him; just about everything written about him in English; and 125 items under glass — photographs, caricatures and associated items, still, after 55 years, I continue to add to this regularly.

"I began also dealing with veteran autograph dealers: Thomas Madigan, Forrest Sweet and Mary Benjamin, focusing on the Presidents of the United States, all of whose autographs-in-office I have with the exception of William Henry Harrison.

"During the Thirties, I read Churchill in magazines, biographies, Great Contemporaries — the plant was coming to bud. About 1940 I began to buy Churchill first editions from a New York bookseller named Inman. With my autograph collecting bent, I favored English first editions of his writings, inscribed at a date close to publication, and preferably for someone with whom Churchill was associated in a meaningful way. Later, in London, Sotheran's, Sawyer's and Sotheby's auction rooms helped me greatly.

"Undoubtedly my most interesting Woods 'A' book is my Savrola, inscribed by Churchill to Major General Ian Hamilton and dated 'Ladysmith Mar. 1, 1900.' I have also Ian Hamilton's inscribed copy of My Early Life and Marlborough. My one volume River War is inscribed to Major General G.M. Bullock, Cairo, 6 January 1908. Another item that very neatly meets the test is my copy of The World Crisis. The first
volume inscribed to Nellie Hozier, Churchill's sister-in-law, with marginal comments, corrections and addenda in Churchill's hand throughout the volume. I have also Commander Tommy Thompson's set of the war speeches, inscribed to him in the first and last volumes. Another Churchill "autograph" that I prize highly is WSC's initials on a painting he did in 1925—"Fountain in the Shade"—which belonged to Clementine and subsequently to granddaughter Arabella, from whom I purchased it.

"The important close relationship between FDR and WSC, and my common interest in both, has sent me searching for items inscribed by both, and I have a few of those. For example, I have the enclosure that accompanied FDR's gift of cheese, crackers and cigarettes for each member of the crew of the HMS Prince of Wales at the time of the Atlantic Meeting; and the engrossed copy of the Longfellow poem FDR used in introducing Wendell Wilkie to Churchill."

Don Carmichael continues: "I have gone somewhat afield from 'A' items in the area of bronze and china Churchill memorabilia. I have the ebony walking stick with the ivory rampant lion knob that belonged to Churchill, and the Jacob Epstein and Ivor Roberts-Jones (Parliament Square replica) sculptures.

"A logical question about any collection is, how 'complete' is it? My collection will never be complete, because I am always looking for a better copy, a better inscription, or an item I do not yet have. That is what the fun of collecting is about.

"My library also includes all the 18th Century editions of Thomas Jefferson's Notes on the State of Virginia, except the unpublished inscribed Paris edition; and respectable collections of Robert Frost, Edith Wharton, Samuel Eliot Morison, Joseph C. Lincoln, T.E. Lawrence (an offshoot of my WSC interest; WSC called him 'Lurens', adopting the Arabs' pronunciation) and some choice Samuel Johnson and James Boswell," Don concludes, having described a marvelous and unique collection.

For most of us, Churchill means more than autographs or signed books or Toby mugs. These tangible pieces of evidence satisfy our acquisitive spirit, while allowing us to recognize the contributions of the century's greatest statesman. These are objects which provide us with daily reminders of the debt we owe him.

Yes, protecting our collections is important. But the ravages of age afflict all of us — not just our books. These problems, and finding solutions to them, bind together all of us in England, Australia, Canada, New Zealand and the United States, whether our communication is regular, face-to-face, or by mail.

Most importantly, the network of Churchill bookmen is expanding, reaching always further and binding people of like interest together with a common thread. Now your welcome will extend beyond Montreal, Contoocook and Omaha, to Tasmania, California, England, upstate New York and Michigan. These are all places where persons of like interest gather, to respect the life and work of Winston S. Churchill.*
6 SEPTEMBER/LONDON
Owing to business commitments I have rescheduled the UK AGM to Sunday 6 September at the Barrie Suite, Hospitality Inn, Bayswater (load, London W2, from noon onwards. A finger buffet with wine will be served at 1PM; tea, coffee, and biscuits will be available later, at the inclusive cost of £7.50 per member or guest. We hope to have a guest speaker, and will be showing the 45-minute film "Churchill the Man" at the close of proceedings. Bookings by 1 July please, Geoffrey J. Wheeler, 88A Franklin Ave, Tadley, Basingstoke, Hants RG26 6EU.

AUTUMN/TORONTO
The Toronto, Canada chapter of ICS was organised at a meeting of a dozen members at the National Club on 1 May. Officers were elected as follows: Pat Cassells, President; Murray Milne, Secretary-Treasurer; John Plumptre, Program Consultant. George Temple’s great services saw him named honorary chairman and life member.

John Plumptre reported that an ICS Award in British History will be presented annually to students at both York University and the University of Toronto. (More on this will appear shortly in Finest Hour.) Robert Gillan offered to organise the Spring meeting on 27 May or 5 June. If you wish to join in on our future activities, contact Pat Cassells, 11 Woodmere Court, Islington, Ontario, Canada M9A 3J1.

4-6 OCTOBER/VANCOUVER
The International Churchill Society’s Annual General Meeting occurs at the Harbourside Holiday Inn in Vancouver, B.C., Canada, on Saturday through Monday October 4th-6th. Featured are two noted speakers, a black tie dinner with band, various daytime meetings and events, and time to visit Expo ’86 in Vancouver. For registration send US $98, CAN $135 to the Vancouver Churchill Society (see page 3).

We strongly urge that you book your rooms at the Harbourside Holiday Inn now. Special rates are in force for ICS. See details on page 4 of this issue or contact the hotel at 1133 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, B.C., Canada V6E 3T3, telephone (604) 689-9211.

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ANNOUNCING VOLUME VII OF THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY "ROAD TO VICTORY, 1941-1945" US EDITIONS EXPECTED IN NOVEMBER
Years of crucial interest — from Pearl Harbor to V-E Day — are covered in the seventh volume of this magnificent biography. Drawing on government records, private correspondence and first-person recollections, Martin Gilbert charts WSC’s course through the storms of the Anglo-American-Soviet alliance — and between their clashing ambitions and priorities. Also revealed in unprecendented detail are the links between Churchill’s secret information (Ultra) and the resulting moves by the Allies.

It hardly seems necessary to add that the official biography is the standard of the world, not only for Churchill, but for all biographies ever published.

Orders are welcome at any time. British publishing date September; US publishing date “November.” By past experience, therefore, we do not guarantee arrival of the British edition in time for Christmas at this writing.

• 17/1 The Houghton Mifflin US Edition, bookshop price $40, our price $32 +$1.50 postage, $2 ex-USA.
• 17/2 The Heinemann British Edition, in uniform binding & dj $45, our price $35 + $1.50 postage, $2 ex-USA.
• 17/3 Special: Houghton Mifflin Vols 6\&7 covering 1939-1945 boxed set, uniformly bound, pub’s price $80, our price $65 + $2/$3 postage.

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9/3 WSC/Young Man in a Hurry $23 $15

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Rare, old, out-of-print catalogues available now: No. 16A. Winston S. Churchill (works by and about) updated as of 15 July: No. 1. Modern British History, Biography, Militaria. Each 20 pages. Send $1 postage for either or both. Year’s sub. $5.

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ITEM PRICES: RARE ICS
$7 the pair, postpaid
55. Highlight of this page, describing WSC’s transferral to the Admiralty, is a pair of large (2x3”) labels by J. Townsend & Sons of Exeter — patriotic exhortations to Britain’s trading partners from 1914. With them appears a CR stamp, Italy sgl232/1237, commemorating the WW1 victory. It illustrates WW1 naval vessels. Maldives #426 (sg 537) is a WW2 subject, but a youngish looking WSC and imprecise ships allow its use here.

56. Two Churchill commemoratives associating WSC with air power are now appropriate. Haiti #606 and #C319 (sgl 116 & 1119) show the same flying-boat Churchill is boarding in the photograph. Upper Volta #348 perf and imperf (what are the sg numbers?) portrays WSC after a 1914 flight.

57. An important CR set is Bosnia & Herzegovina #B 13-15 (sg413-15, issued to memorialize the assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand and his Duchess by a Serbian nationalist on 28 June 1914: the event which touched off the Great War. The town of Sarajevo is pictured with the royal personages. Ras al Khaima (Minkus no. 201), shows a WW2 Winston, but was used here because the image is small enough not to disturb the historical validity of the layout. I think...

58. Upper Volta’s 1966 commemorative (Scott #C32, sg 203) obviously refers to World War II. It so happens that the artwork gives Churchill a youthful appearance, making it helpful here. The souvenir sheet is another Ras al Khaima sand dune.

59. Here is an interesting page of Heads of State at mid-WWI, c. 1916. Line 1: George V (GB #159, sg351) and Wilhelm II (Germany #95, sg96); Line 2: Tsar; Ferdinand (Bulgaria #130/33, sg196/9); Victor Emmanuel III (Italy #94/110, sg75/105) and Franz Josef (Austria #81/2, sg 240/41). Line 3: Sultan Mehmet V (Turkey #431/3 or #437/9, sg768/9 or sg913, 924) and Clémenceau (France #371, sg637). Line 4: Franz Josef in his Hungarian crown (Hungary #101/3, sg150/2), Tsar Nicholas II (Russia #92/3, sg130/1) and Peter I (Serbia #87/97, sg 116/26).

60. The Churchill commemoratives are WW2-based, but Tristan da Cunha #19a (sg95) is irresistible to use with WSC’s famous account from The World Crisis: “Like giants bowed in anxious thought... the King’s ships were at sea.” Others are Haiti #602 (sgl 112), and South Georgia #40 (sg40), with WW2 naval scenes fairly appropriate in this context.

A continuing series
THE EVE OF ARMAGEDDON

In late June 1914, British naval units paid call at Kronstadt and Kiel. Dreadnoughts of the Royal and German Navies lay side by side surrounded by liners and pleasure craft. The Emperor greeted his British guests; officers and men strolled arm in arm through hospitable villages. Wrote Churchill: "The world on the verge of catastrophe was very brilliant."

Hoping still to avoid war, Churchill proposed that all the Kings and other Heads of State of Europe meet to resolve the problem that beset the nations. It was a high-minded but impractical scheme. The world was poised on the brink. Peace slipped away.

On 28 July the British Cabinet ended a long, inconclusive session on Irish Home Rule and the disposition of the Counties of Fermanagh and Tyrone. Suddenly, wrote Churchill, "the quiet grave tones of Sir Edward Grey's voice were heard reading a document which had just been brought to him from the Foreign Office. It was the Austrian note to Serbia...

"As darkness fell, 18 miles of warships running at high speed in absolute blackness..."

Long before dawn on 29 July they were safely through the Straits. Wrote WSC, "The King's ships were at sea."
American research for the Strategic Defense Initiative. Certainly one of the pilots who flew for him in the Battle of Britain is. That pilot is now retired British Air Vice Marshal S.W.B. Menaul, former chief of staff of the RAF Bomber Command and an authority on strategic defenses. And he is fully confident that a ballistic missile defense could be ready in 10 years. He points to the American test last June in which a U.S. interceptor missile destroyed a ballistic missile warhead 100 miles above the Earth.

"Defence is now becoming primary," according to the vice marshal. "In purely military terms, it is just as logical to defend against ballistic missiles as it is to develop and deploy defence systems against bombers or any other form of offensive weapons."

That thinking is logical, moral, and optimistic. The great old man would have liked it.

Congressman Courter is a member of the U.S. House of Representatives from New Jersey, and a member of the House Armed Services Committee (and ICS). Coming up in this series: Clark Clifford on the Iron Curtain speech.

Riddles Mysteries Enigmas

I wonder if you can help me trace a portrait of Sir Winston. Back in 1956, Harrison & Sons Ltd., the famous printers of postage stamps, chose for their calendar a portrait by the Dutch artist Max Nauta, and they were good enough to let me have a copy of this superb work, which I presented to the Woodford Conservative Association for display at their headquarters in Ilford.

Unfortunately the picture was lost during a move to new offices, and Harrisons have no copies left. Since Max Nauta was Dutch, I wrote to the Netherlands Embassy, as the original is on display in The Hague, but they did not reply to my letter.

Now that the Ilford headquarters are refurbished I would like to present a framed Nauta portrait again. If anyone can direct me to a source of the print (size was 24x16") I would be most grateful.

—Ralph Tremayne Prout, MBE
4 Denehurst Gardens
Woodford Green, Essex IG8 OPA, UK

I recently found in New York City a book entitled Young Winston Churchill, by Richard Harding Davis, published 1941 but copyrighted in 1906. This I thought odd, as well as the subtitle "Soldier of Fortune," since I never thought of WSC in that role.

Later in a small country town 20 miles away, there was a garage sale. I came upon a pile of 50 "old" books of no particular interest except one: Real Soldiers of Fortune, by Richard Harding Davis. 1906. The title page listed Henry Maclver, Philo McGiffin, Winston Churchill, E.R. Burnam and William Walker.

Now I know what Harding Davis meant by "Soldier of Fortune." But so far as I know, the other four "soldiers" did not emerge, or reemerge, even with two world wars and numerous border scrapes in between. Still, Harding Davis did well: one of his five became Man of the Century.

—Charles Menagh
Basking Ridge, NJ, USA

See Finest Hour 44, page 16, for a photo of the 1906 first edition, which is larger and much scarcer than the intervening Real Soldiers of Fortune (1912, etal.).

—Ed.

Members

NEW MEMBERS
Bahamas
Nassau: Michael Lloyd
UK
Dorset: Bridport, Graham Robson
USA

1985 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

A detailed breakdown of income and expenses is available to any member from any ICS business office. In local currency:

Australi a: Brought forward $446.42 + income $399.81, total receipts $846.23. Less expenses of $55.70, 31 December balance: $790.53.

Canada: Brought forward $2077.00 + income $10,685.38, total receipts $12,762.38. Less expenses of $3472.10, 31 December balance: $9290.28.

United Kingdom: Brought forward £593.50 + income £4139.85, total receipts £4733.35. Less expenses of £3355.62, 31 December balance: £1377.72.

United States: Brought forward $2996.00 + income $22,520.93, total receipts $25,516.93, less expenses of $20,052.63, 31 December balance: $5464.30.

Notes: Net worth in US dollars as of 10 April was $13,472. Finest Hour has been averaging approximately $1600 per issue, but the special issue 50 cost $3019.17. Other major expenses in 1985 included stationery $1300, cards and covers $1500, business office expenses $2500, plus $8500 paid in and $8900 paid out of the Boston AGM. No officers received salaries.

ERRATA

FH48, p12: Lullenden was not owned by the Churchills from spring 1917 through 1922 as stated, but from October 1917 to October 1919, when it was sold to Gen. Ian Hamilton. (Companion Volume part 3 to Bio
graphic Volume V, p. 351.)

FH49, p.8: Our introduction gives 1901 as the years of WSC's second campaign in Oldham; correctly it was autumn 1900, though he did not take his seat until 14 February 1901.

FH51, p8: Contrary to our caption the lady with David Sampson is not Mrs. Sampson, though the embarrassed editor is relieved that Mrs. Sampson has dined out on this one several times.

ICS HELP WANTED

Needed: Someone to update for publication the complete index to Finest Hour. Sue Heffner has done the job through issue 40, but much has been published since. If you can do it, the Society will thank you with a nice piece of Churchilliana. We wish to publish an index before the end of this year. Contact the editor.

Books: D(a) 117/11 Gilbert, Official Biography Vol 3, Challenge of War, 2vol book club edn, VG $10; R29 Bonham Carter, Winston Churchill!! An Intimate Portrait $5; R174 Guedalla, Mr. Churchill/A Portrait (348pp 1941) $5. Add $2 postage. D. Marden, Box 253, Rutland MA 01543 USA.

Classified adverts are free to members. Send to the Editor, PO Box 385, Contoocook, NH 03229 USA.
SUMMER 1886: AGE 11
The defeat of the Home Rule Bill also brought down the Gladstone Government. In the ensuing General Election, the Tories and the Liberal-Unionists gained a clear majority over the Liberals and Irish Nationalists, and The Queen called on the 3rd Marquis of Salisbury to form a government.

Lord Randolph Churchill's contribution to the Tory victory had been significant and, since he was the most popular Tory in the land, he was offered a major post in the new government. However, in the words of one of Randolph's friends, "you know what a creature of impulse he is and how he fancies neglect without cause," and it was necessary for Lord Salisbury to court him assiduously.

Winston observed his father's ascent from school in Brighton; his fascination and admiration for his younger Pitt, he had risen by no man's leave or Parliamentary history had been excelled only by the parent were undiminished. Later he was to write of his father: "With a swiftness which in modern political reform and Germany all vied for Churchill's attention.

Nothwithstanding his father's old position, Winston became an active proponent of a united Ireland. Scions of other great families from the 1880s fight for law and order. This involved him directly in the dockworkers' and transport workers' strikes. His use of troops further alienated organised labour and the Left, which henceforth regarded him as a conservative enemy despite the many reforms passed during his tenure in office.

On the international scene he was reappraising his position. Although he and Lloyd George had led the opposition to increased armaments spending, they now perceived that Germany was an aggressive power. When a German gunboat appeared off Agadir in Morocco to intimidate the French, it unintentionally impressed the two British politicians who would have the greatest impact during the First World War.

Asquith appointed Churchill to the Cabinet's Committee on Imperial Defence. Later he wrote: "Once I got drawn in (to the preparation for war with Germany), it dominated all other interests in my mind."

SUMMER 1911: AGE 36
The record heat of the summer matched the political heat in Parliament. Ireland, labour disputes, Parliamentary reform and Germany all vied for Churchill's attention.

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SUMMER 1916: AGE 86
One of the visitors to Sir Winston's home at Hyde Park Gate was Sir Anthony Eden, who told him that he had been offered and would accept an earldom. In 1895 young Winston had been gazetted to the 4th Hussars. This summer he attended a dinner which revived many memories of those days. The regiment, now known as the Queen's Royal Irish Hussars, hosted their famous colleague at a regimental dinner at Quaglino's. Because the ballroom was below street level, the Hussars had a service elevator converted into an elegant one with brown felt on its walls, red carpet on the floor, and two brass pedestal ashtrays in the corners.

Lord Beaverbrook visited him at Chartwell to congratulate him on a great win by his new horse, High Hat. He reciprocated the visit to Beaverbrook's villa when he and Lady Churchill went to France in August on their way to Monte Carlo.
IT IS a delight to report on this new edition of a famous book of Churchill witticisms and stories about him, since the first (1966) has been long out of print, and is hard to find. Strangely, this is the first edition published in England.

Kay Halle, a longtime friend of the Churchill family — she was ardently wooed by Randolph on his first visit to America but amicably refused to marry him — began to take notes of WSC's remarks and writings from her first meeting with him at Chartwell in 1931: "He was standing in muddy boots on a delicate Adam chair, replacing the candles of a great Waterford crystal chandelier." Her book will give pleasure to all who heard or read of these remarks but may have forgotten some — and to the young, who will realise that this awesome figure of World War II was also human — and humorous.

In a recent letter to Finest Hour, Miss Halle said the new edition had over 100 new witticisms, but a page by page comparison by this reviewer found less than a dozen entirely new stories. However, a number have been reclassified into their proper years and the notes have been amplified and in some instances corrected, so this may have given rise to a bit of confusion. But what matter? The best stories are there: Ramsay MacDonald cast as "the boneless wonder," who possessed "the gift of compressing the largest number of words into the smallest amount of thought" ... Churchill's comment on an interruption by Aneurin Bevan in the House ("I should think it was hardly possible to stave the opposite of the truth with more precision") — and so on!

It is also a pleasure to find reproduced all the original work's cartoons, back to Spy in 1900, which drew WSC in the same hands-on-hips attitude of his father, and the kinder ones of Low, whom Churchill had disliked for his left-wing, anti-Empire views. But Low made up for this in his 80th birthday portrait of Churchill being toasted by 20-odd earlier WSCs from early youth to old age (all wearing different hats, of course), signed, "to Winston, with affectionate birthday greetings from his old castigator, Low."

This is a book that all admirers of Sir Winston will want to have on their library shelves.

—Derek Lukin Johnston

INDEX OF ICS COMMEMORATIVE COVERS
In response to many requests, Dave Marcus offers the following account of every ICS cover since the beginning . . .

1. 95th Anniv Birth, Woodstock, Oxon, 30 November 1969, quantity 50.
5. 30th Anniv UN Conference, Washington DC, 10 May 1974, qty 100.
10. 10th Anniv Last Visit to Commons, London, 27 July 1974, qty 100.
10a. As above, 29 July, qty 170.
11. 100th Anniv Hoover - WSC Births, West Branch IA, 10 Aug 74, qty 336.
11a. As above, London pmk, qty 100.
12. 100th Anniv WSC's Death (FDC), London (2 stations), 9 October 1974, qty 275.


15. 100th Anniv WSC’s Birth, Washington, DC, 30 November 1974, qty 70(uu).

16. 100th Anniv WSC’s Birth, Jersey, C.I., 30 November 1974, qty 250.


20a. As above, Churchill MD, qty 49(uu).


22. 40th Anniv D-Day, Normandy Beach NJ, 6 June 1984, qty 786.


24. 85th Anniv Escape from Boers, S.Africa po’s, Nov 1984, qty 42 (uu,tt).

25. As above, long presentation type cachet map, qty 4.

25a. Same, Dominica, W.I., qty 100 (uu).

25b. Same, Washington, DC, qty 30 (uu).


26a. Same, Washington DC, 2 September 1985, qty 223 (uu,tt).


NOTES
Symbols are FDC (first day cover), "uu" (primarily unaddressed, mailed to members). "t" (stamps related to the event noted). Covers were franked in country of origin with recent and WSC stamps, except for covers 2, 10, 10a, 11 & 26. Covers featuring a special 1-day postmark cancel were 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16 & 17. Forerunner/favor/sample variants exist for many covers, issued in minute quantities. In many cases there are small amounts of "back-up" covers, issued in the event the primary planned cover failed. A few trivial comments:

1. WSC collected stamps in his youth, hence postmark at Philatelic Exhibition, Edinburgh. 
2. Posted House of Commons, addressed to ICS members on a Saturday; "ail pick-up delayed until Monday. Correctly dated unaddressed covers were posted at exhibit.
3. Exact quantity unknown. 


My first meeting with Winston Churchill occurred at Chequers, his country residence, in the fall of 1942. Air Marshall Harris, the R.A.F. Bomber Commander, telephoned me one evening and said the P.M. would like us at a conference at 8:00 p.m.

Shortly after our arrival it was clear that the purpose of the meeting was to brief Harry Hopkins and Gen. Jos. McNamery prior to their flight to Moscow. After the conference we were invited to join the P.M. for a spartan dinner.

At the conclusion of the meal, over brandy and cigars, our host pointed to each of us in turn and called us by the name of his opposite number on Hitler's staff. "You are Hermann Goering," he said to me. He then berated me in typical Hitlerian fashion, concluding, "Your miserable Luftwaffe was not able to defeat the pitiful little package of R.A.F. Spitfires in the Battle of Britain, to clear the way for my cross-Channel invasion." Then he beat his chest and said, "I am Der Fuehrer. Now what do we do?" "Hitler's" pantomime staff spent the next several hours advising him how to win the war. When daylight arrived, the P.M. pushed back his chair and said, "Well, gentlemen, if I have been correctly informed, we now know what the devils will do, the better to circumvent them. Good night, or rather, good morning."

Later, the P.M. invited me to accompany him on a train to Portsmouth to welcome the first U.S. division arriving in Britain, in preparation for OVERLORD. I told him that one of the boldest decisions he had made was to send the last armored division out of England to stop Rommel in Egypt and asked why he took the chance of having only the Home Guard to stop a German invasion. He said he knew the Germans well and that they had an inferiority complex, especially where Britain was concerned. He also had taken the measure of the "boastful house painter" and knew he would never dare invade the island. He then concluded: "I also had complete confidence that when the build-up of landing craft on the French coast reached ominous proportions, your air forces and ours would smash it."

I was once called to Casablanca and told by Gen. Hap Arnold that Churchill convinced FDR to let the Eighth Air Force stop daylight bombing and join the R.A.F. in night bombing. I was convinced this was an error and an appointment was made for me to see Churchill. Although he was concerned about the tragic losses of our gallant crews, I was able to convince him we should continue to bomb round the clock.

The last time I saw Britain's great wartime leader was when he last visited the United States as a guest of President Eisenhower. During dinner Churchill seemed listless and very tired but, after the President's toast, he rose and delivered an eloquent response. It was then obvious that he had conserved his waning strength for his final, brilliant effort.

My kingdom for an extra page: JGP's column concludes next issue. Ed.
IMMORTAL WORDS

DUNKIRK

The German eruption swept like a sharp scythe around the right and rear of the Armies of the north. This armoured scythe stroke almost reached Dunkirk — almost, but not quite. Thus it was that the port of Dunkirk was kept open. A miracle of deliverance, achieved by valour, by perseverance, by perfect discipline, by faultless service, by resource, by skill, by unconquerable fidelity, is manifest to us all.

We must be very careful, not to assign to this deliverance the attributes of a victory. Wars are not won by evacuations . . . Our thankfulness at the escape of our Army, and so many men, whose loved ones have passed through an agonizing week, must not blind us to the fact that what has happened in France and Belgium is a colossal military disaster.

We are told that Herr Hitler has a plan for invading the British Isles. This has often been thought of before. When Napoleon lay at Boulogne for a year with his flat-bottomed boats and his Grand Army, he was told by someone: "There are bitter weeds in England." There are certainly a great many more of them since the British Expeditionary Force returned.

I have, myself, full confidence that if all do their duty, if nothing is neglected, and if the best arrangements are made — as they are being made — we shall prove ourselves once again able to defend our Island home, and to outlive the menace of tyranny, if necessary for years — if necessary alone. At any rate, that is what we are going to try to do . . .

We shall go on to the end. We shall fight in France. We shall fight on the seas and oceans. We shall fight with growing confidence and growing strength in the air. We shall defend our Island, whatever the cost may be. We shall fight on the beaches. We shall fight on the landing grounds. We shall fight in the fields, and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender!

And even if — which I do not for a moment believe — this Island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our Empire beyond the seas, armed and guarded by the British Fleet, would carry on the struggle until, in God's good time, the New World, with all its power and might, steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the old.

House of Commons, 4 June 1940